

# South Perth Junior Football Club Inc.



## 2008 Year Book



(14's Gold – on the final siren – securing a Grand Final victory)

(The 17's bonding with the 9's)



(AFL Legend Kevin Sheedy inspiring our young guns)



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## From the President

The Club has experienced a steady year in terms of player numbers with 524 registered players plus approximately 20 unregistered five year olds. We had 375 players comprising 13 teams playing in the Perth Junior Council and 149 Auskick players. This number is slightly down on last year and may be as a result of the growth experienced by the Manning Rippers football club. There is evidence that the Manning Ripper's are successfully recruiting Auskick players from the primary schools in the Manning area and this is expected to continue as their club strengthens. The 2009 Committee will need to decide how aggressively the SPJFC wants to defend this traditional recruitment area. It should be noted that the Perth JCC is a strong supporter of the Manning Rippers and in fact has some reservations when it comes to the optimal size of Junior Football Clubs. The Perth JCC categorises South Perth and Thornlie as super clubs.

South Perth is still the largest and oldest Junior Football Club within the Perth District and we expect to be able to maintain the current levels of player participation for at least the next few years.

The benefit to the Club with the increasing numbers, now drawing from all local primary schools, with its emphasis on skill development and fun is obvious to all who have watched previous Auskickers progress through the age teams. This year we presented a record number of boys (15) with 100 game trophies and two players with 150 games. All of these recipients started their football in Auskick at South Perth.

There were many highlights during 2008 with some of the main ones being:

- The Club having teams in the finals of all age groups;
- The 13s Green and 14s Gold teams winning the grand finals;
- The 17s team playing in the grand final but going down by 1 point;
- Launch of the club sporting bags;
- Awarding of Life membership for service to the club to Stephen Smith; and
- Sprint coaching and Physical Presence coaching for all 13s to 17s teams

The Club remains in a very strong financial position with sufficient reserves thanks to the support shown by all members at the social events and in supporting the raffle organised by Simon Wardman. Sponsors again made an important contribution to the Club in 2008. Our major sponsor RWR Real Estate continues to play a very important part in our plans for the future of the Club and we hope that this partnership can continue in the years ahead.

I would like to thank all members of the committee who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to maintain the success of the Club. They continually work to improve all facets of running the Club to ensure that the solid foundation laid by previous committees is built upon and that the future is well secured.

I recognise and thank all the coaches, assistant coaches and managers of all the teams and I would also like to pass on a special thanks to all of the parents who contribute each week in helping and supporting the teams.



Special mention is due to Noel Heather and Fran Smith who have continued their partnership in running the canteen despite the challenge of having to operate at two separate venues.

The year has also seen some significant challenges caused by the unavailability of the main oval at Ernest Johnston. This required investment in additional equipment and negatively impacted on the social side of our

weekend home games.

We have been fortunate to have past and present plays selected in almost all representative levels of football this year:

- Sharrod Wellingham made his AFL debut for Collingwood on ANZAC day;
- Aaron Zucconi was selected in the state WAFL squad;
- Bernard Sneeuwjagt and Tim Bruce made their League debut for Perth;
- Three boys make the state under 18's squad – Kane Goodwin, Michael Mather and Ben Power;
- Two boys made the state 16's squad – Kane Gatty and Casey York; and
- Kane Goodwin and Zac Zucconi have been invited to the State AFL draft camp.

The development of our players and their continuing career path has never been stronger and along with all those already mentioned we also had 10 players join the Perth Colts team this year further testimony of the work we are doing and a great credit to all our coaches.

Looking forward to next season there is a very strong chance that we will have a separate 16s and 17s Competition next year. This should be made clear within a couple of months and effected players will be notified as soon as we are. Also with a bit of luck we will have online registrations next year which will significantly help the committee and in particular the registrars.

The end of this season will mark the end of an era for the SPJFC as it will be the last year of direct involvement for Paul Crock, Simon Wardman, Noel Heather, Steve and Fran Smith. Collectively this group of people have spent over 70 years in official or major support roles in our club and on behalf of all of our players and parents over the last 10 years I thank them for this contribution to this football club.



Garry Itzstein  
President

## 2008 Committee

President	Garry Itzstein
Vice President	Mark Goodwin
Secretary	Tony Power
Treasurer	Grant Edmunds
Registrar (13's – 17's)	Nigel Fleming
Registrar (9's – 12's)	Jo John
Coaching Coordinator	Darryl Sinclair
Property	Frank Arrangio
Auskick	Sandy Johnson
Committee Members	Craig Butler
	Gino Stefani
	Chris Loughnan



(Left to right - Chris Loughnan, Tony Power, Grant Edmunds, Frank Arrangio, Shane Rodan, Garry Itzstein, Paul Crock)

## Treasurers' Report

The Club has returned a \$26,536 loss this year. This is a significant reduction on the \$7,496 profit made in 2007. This loss is attributed to several significant factors:

- Approximately \$22,000 less in sponsorship – noting that in 2007 the Club received a grant for \$24,000 for the redevelopment of the lights.
- An increase in expenditure on property and equipment. Major items purchased this season include:
  - Jumpers \$16,744\*
  - Auskick jumpers \$1,155
  - Footballs \$6,000 (approx)
  - Scoreboard at Morris Mundy \$900
- It should be noted that the Club received sponsorship for two sets of jumpers. No sponsors were obtained for the 'clash jumpers' purchased and three sets of jumpers were purchased for the 2009 season in advance of sponsorship being received. A new set of jumpers is now about \$2,600 with numbers and sponsors patch.

Registrations received were slightly more than in 2007.

The movement to Morris Mundy had a very detrimental effect on the canteen with income from sales down \$9,589 on 2007 which was partially offset by a smaller reduction in supplies and after allowing for some 2007 invoices paid this year, a small profit for the year of \$954 was achieved.

Sponsorships and Grants totalling \$18,000 were received from the following:

RWR Real Estate	\$7,500
All Asset Finance	\$2,500
Frontline Retail	\$2,500
Dept of Attorney General	\$5,500

Photographic expenses are higher this year as the Club paid for three Grand Finals to be professionally recorded onto DVD (\$450 each) with income received from the sale to parents and players at \$20 per copy. Income is progressively being received and shown against t-shirts -jackets.

The decision to not have as many auction items at the annual social night and the reduced capacity of the hall resulted in a profit on the night of \$8,184, some \$2,000 less than in 2007. It still remains a highlight of the year.

## Summary and Cash Availability

Opening Balance	\$38,273
Plus Income	\$102,780
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$141,053</b>
Less Expenses	\$128,720
Closing Balance	\$12,333

Finally, the Club now has a new cash management account into which funds can be transferred into to achieve a higher interest rate (currently 5%) on a minimum balance of \$5,000.

**Grant Edmunds (B.Bus., Grad. Cert. Mgt., MBA)**  
**Hon Treasurer**



(Marissa Goodwin, Mark Goodwin and Penny Wardman enjoy the social night)



## From the 17's Captain

It has been my honour this year to be the representative leader of both this great team (17's) and this great club.

At the beginning of the season the coaches, players and officials of the club were all optimistic about the future for the 17s. On the back of two successive premierships the season to begin was ripe with expectation. Much like last years group, these expectations were not initially met by the players, and looked likely to yet again be a wasted season. It looked to be a team full of individuals rather than an individual team. Fortunately, under the traditional South Perth spirit that we all know so well, the boys and the team as a group rallied to finish in top spot at the end of the home and away games and drive us into our third consecutive grand final appearance. It was also the third consecutive South Perth 17s team to make it through.

I cannot explain the emotion of winning a premiership, nor can I explain how losing one feels, both are just one of those things in life that highlight the ups and downs, which luckily enough for me, I was able to experience on many occasions during my team here. On that note, I would have liked to finish my and the boys careers at South Perth with a premiership. Unfortunately it was not to be, going down by 1 point was both heart breaking and gut wrenching. Despite this, I have had the opportunity over the past 3 seasons to play in consecutive grand finals, an extremely rare opportunity. Being captain of 2 of these 3 highly successful teams has allowed me to watch the boys grow into men from a far more formal and perspective position than just being their mate. The parallel between life and football is only as close as you want it to be, but in this group particularly they are extremely related in terms of their growth as individuals and as footballers. On the back of this, I wish to send condolences for all the players in the team as well as the coaching staff, and I was proud the way you handled the loss.

To Grant Edmunds and the under 14s, and Craig Butler and the under 13s, congratulations on your success, you've done your parents, your club, and all the players proud.

I extend the gratitude on behalf of the playing group towards the parents, friends, officials and the club as a whole for the past 10 or so

years. For many of the boys this is our 11<sup>th</sup> and final season of football at the Stingrays, and this club has proved somewhat a home away from home. Personally, I like to characterise a home as a place of support, of welcome, of care and love, of friendship and of guidance. In this manner, the club has done nothing less than present us a home. The club has provided



both a means to turn away from personal conflicts and just enjoy playing footy with mates, but also a centre of support and encourage – essential to the development of children and particularly adolescents. No matter where I go or what I do, or for anyone in the team, South Perth Stingrays Junior Football Club will always be “home”.

During my time at the club, the names of Noel Heather, Jeff Car, Paul Crock, Simon Wardman, Gary Itzstein, Jack Kennedy, Stephen Smith, Grant Edmunds and the likes were heroes to kids exactly like me and everybody in the team what only seems yesterday but was in fact several years ago. Now they belong in our hearts as friends, mates, and to an extent, fatherly figures, watching over us. For this and for many other things we as a playing group are eternally grateful. Our development from kids to men would have not been the same without you.

Football clubs are often conveyed as a place for young men to be distracted from drugs and other such activities and attract them to a life of enjoyment, team sports, happiness and a sense of belonging. I can honestly say that in both the last two 17s groups I have been involved with, the team and the club have both been much more than that. For a lot of us, the club has provided friends and life



companions we wouldn't have dreamed of making in other journeys and walks of life had we not chosen to get involved with a club such as this. The bond between player and coach and player and club has become resolute and irreversible.

In my eyes, it is not nearly close enough to establish the South Perth footy club as merely that: just a football club. The more appropriate term I would use, is an empire. In the past 5 years the club has turned itself around and hit the ground running, both in on field success with premierships and off field success with strong growth in subscriptions, and the development of the canteen, much to the effort of my Nana, Fran Smith. It is a wonderful story of the struggling club 10 years ago that often could not field a 17s team, to the empire it has built today on the foundations of “having a go” and “fair play” with success a regular occurrence.

As the retiring players of 2008 and the older band of brothers, wish to thank our parents, our coaches and the club for, well, everything. Without you we would have never built the friendships we have, and had the success we've had. We cannot describe our gratitude, but we as a group are in debt to you.

The past 10 or so years of our lives at this club have been some, if not the best, years of our lives, with memorable moments. The majority of the group standing in front of you is the same group that held the cup together in under 11s - this is what this club brings to the table; longevity, friendship and sense of sticking together no matter what. As a whole, I would describe my time here as simply, 'fun'. And essentially, I think that's what footy should be about when it gets down to the basics.

I would like to wish the best of luck to Noel Heather, Jack Kennedy and Stephen Smith. The term legends is not lightly used, but these guys truly are legends of the club, and forever they will be remembered in that way as they also move on to different and exciting paths in their lives. This will be the last official involvement of these legends in the club, and their service and contribution does not go un-noticed.

Lastly, to the younger brothers of the team and to next year's leaders, it has been my pleasure to lead you this year, and the older brother's pleasure to be part of a team with you. I hope next year you embrace the opportunity of being the senior players of the club, and I wish you all the success in the world. Do your team mates and your club proud.

Braden Smith  
Captain 17's



The 9's put the 17's through their paces at the annual joint training session. Following the training all participated in a players tea with the 9's invited to attend the 17's game on the Sunday.

The season included a very memorable father's versus son's game for the 15's side. From all reports the dad's won convincingly on the scoreboard, but they are still recovering.



## Significant Achievements 2008

### Sponsorships

During the year the Club received the benefits from several key sponsors. Major sponsorships were received from the following proudly local companies:

Principal Sponsor

RWR Real Estate



Jumper Sponsors

All Asset Finance  
Frontline Retail

### Ernest Johnson Oval (EJ's)

In early 2008 the City of South Perth commenced a rehabilitation process for EJ's. This program saw the City remove the top few centimetres of lawn and soil. Significant works were also undertaken to reduce the size of the turf cricket wicket area.

During February - March the oval was unusable with senior sides having to relocate to other grounds for pre season training. The unavailability of the oval for the start of the season at the end of April resulted in home games for the 13's and up having to be played at Morris Mundy oval. This created several issues for the club including the requirement for two canteens; the need for a second scoreboard; whiteboards for the change rooms and an additional oval to mark.

Unfortunately, EJ's was not safe for any games during the year. This impacted on the club financially with the canteen taking \$10,000 less than the previous year; \$850 for a temporary scoreboard and \$150 for whiteboards.

The 17's side was also denied the opportunity to play their final year of junior football at the ground which had been their second home for the past 11 years.



## Life Memberships

Life membership is awarded to players who achieve 150 games of junior football (from 9's and up) with the Club. This year this tremendous feat was achieved by the Captain of the clubs 17's side, Braden Smith.



(Braden Smith receiving his Life Membership Certificate from Noel Heather)

The Club also recognised 150 games played as a junior by Steve Whittleston, who coached 13's green during the year.





Perth, with several others currently playing colts for Perth, with more likely to follow in 2009.

The Club Committee has the authority to also award life membership to members of the club who have contributed significantly to the development of the club and or players over an extended period of time. This year the Club recognised the 15 year contribution of Steve Smith by awarding him Life Membership. Steve has been a past Treasurer; long term coach and has the proud record of having seven of his past players now playing league for Perth, with more likely to follow in

## Coaching Development

The Club recognises the importance of having appropriately qualified coaches at all age groups. This year the following coaches participated in formal accredited coaching programs:

### Level 1

David Fare  
Geoff Jonson  
Mark Hobbs  
Phil Lloyd  
Matthew Loughnan  
Sandy Johnson  
Michael Weir  
Gary Napier

### Level 2

Beau Wardman  
Craig Butler

Additionally, two long term Level 2 coaches - Stephen Smith and Grant Edmunds, were nominated for WAFL coaching awards. The Club nominated Stephen for the Youth Coach of the Year, whilst the Perth Football Club nominated Grant in the Greg Brehaut Scholarship category. The WAFL hosted an awards night at Fremantle Oval at which Steven was selected as the winner and awarded the Youth Coach of the Year. A significant achievement and is an excellent culmination to his outstanding contribution over many years.

## Game Milestones

### 50 Games

Chris BUTCHER  
Alex DAWES  
Ronan DOIG  
Michael LAMPARD  
Matt RODAN  
Tom WARD

Jacob BYRNE  
Zac DE GRAAF  
Callum HUDSON  
Michael POTTS  
Richard WALLEY  
Lionel VELLHO

### 100 Games

Thomas BEVAN  
William CASE  
Joe COOMBES  
Matthew FANCOTE  
Alex HARDIE  
Merwan KASSEM  
Joel KALAJZIC

Tim LLOYD  
Luke MANN  
Liam MONDY  
Michael RAINONE  
Simon RINGROSE  
Kyle SINCLAIR  
Brad SWEENEY  
Daniel WHITTLESTON



## Perth Development Squad Players

The Club was well represented in the 14's and 15's Perth Development squads which participated in the WAFL carnivals during the October School Holidays.



14's	15's
Aldersea, Brandon	Bevan, Tom
Arrangio, Daniel	Butcher, Chris
Brunner, Nicholas	Case, William
Cork, Cody	Elder, Jack
Edmunds, Kieran	Gorman, Jack
Howes, Jake	Itzstein, Tyler
Leeson, Jordan	Kalajzic, Joel
McAndrew, Mark	Lloyd, Tim
Mettam, Harry	McInnes, Fraser
Nile, Jerra	Mondy, Liam
Rodan Matt	Stefani, Aaron
Sinclair, Kyle	Stefani, Callen
Sinclair, Michael	Whittleston, Daniel
York, Lewis	

South Perth Players are also an integral part of the Perth Colts side with 11 representatives as shown below:

(Back Row left to right – Ben Clarke, Dom Stearne; middle row left to right – Chris Rogers, Drew Maddock, Braden Smith, Michael Mather, Luke Della Bosca, Zac Zucconi; front row left to right – Kane Goodwin, Matt Blackburn – Absent: Ben Power)



## On Field Success

### Finals and Grand Finals

The 2008 season culminated with the finals in August following the completion of 16 weeks of home and away matches.

The following sides are congratulated for making the finals:

- 13's Green;
- 14's Green;
- 14's Gold;
- 15's; and
- 17's.

Of these five talented sides the 15's fought injury to key players all year and making the Preliminary Final was a tremendous effort. Similarly, 14's Green were competitive all year and qualified for the Elimination Final going down against Grand Finalist Thornlie in a high standard game.

The 17's side which comprises both 16's and 17's were on top of the ladder for most of the season and played off in the Grand Final against Vic Park. Having won the 2007 Grand Final by two points, the 17's unfortunately could not repeat that effort, going down by one point in one of the best and closest grand finals in many years (Vic Park 6.6. 42 South Perth 6.5. 41).

13's Green with a squad of 30 boys provided the Coaching panel with the dilemma of having to select five players who could not play in the Grand Final. In a tight Grand Final against Thornlie, South Perth Green was victorious, winning the Grand Final 6.9 45 to 5.6 36.

In what can only be described as the perfect season, 14's Gold completed the home and away season undefeated. Taking this good form into the final series, they won their first final which led to a Grand Final appearance. The game plan which stood them so well during the home and away games also carried forward into the Grand Final against Thornlie, with 14's Gold winning by 31 points (8.13 61 – 4.6. 30).

Well done!



(14's Gold celebrating their Premiership win)

Below: - The victorious 13's following their Grand Final win.



## Vote Based Trophies

For sides aged 13's and up the Club has a voting system in which three people are provided with the opportunity to cast votes for the best players for each game on a 6,5,4,3,2,1 basis. Maximum votes for any round is 18.

Votes are normally cast by the Coaching panel and one other parent on an individual basis ensuring a wide view of the game. All votes are retained by each Coach under lock and key and winners are announced at the annual count night.

The count night was another tremendous night and due to the ever increasing numbers of players and parents attending was held at the Perth Football Club on Friday 20 September 2008.

Congratulations to the following trophy winners.

### Fairest and Best

13's Gold	Sam Long
13's Green	Jordan Richards
14's Gold	Tom Curtin
14's Green	Nick Brunner
15's	Jack Elder
17's	Braden Smith



## Runner Up to Fairest and Best

13's Gold	Robbie Dawson
13's Green	Jack Nichol & Dylan Biggs
14's Gold	Jerra Nile
14's Green	Brendon Aldersea
15's	Matthew Jupp
17's	Matt Andrews

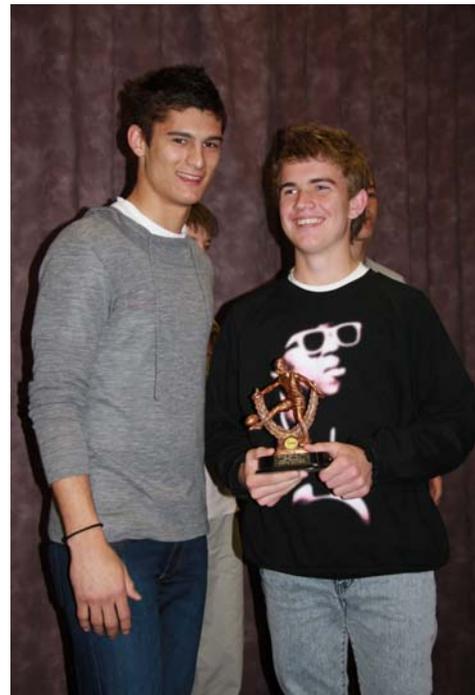
(Jerra Nile receives his Trophy from Sharrod Wellingham)

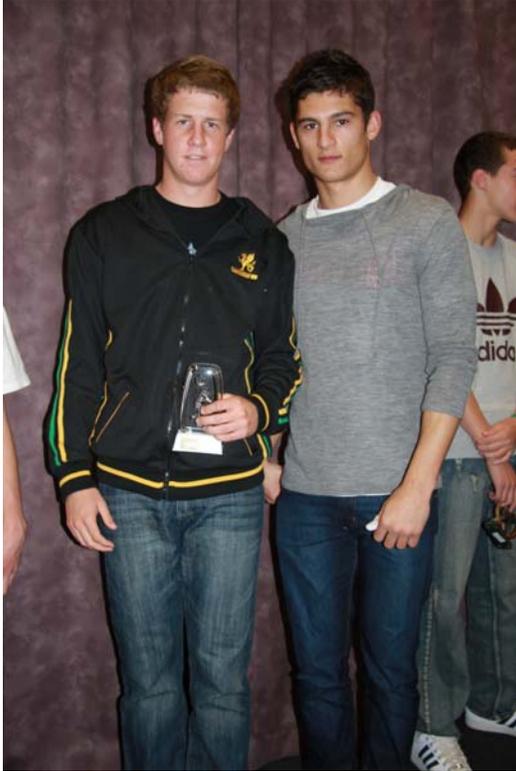


## Most Consistent

13's Gold	Luke Sherrington
13's Green	Dylan Cox
14's Gold	Chris Butcher
14's Green	Kyle Sinclair
15's	Aaron Stefani
17's	Steve Mather

Stephen Mather with Sharrod



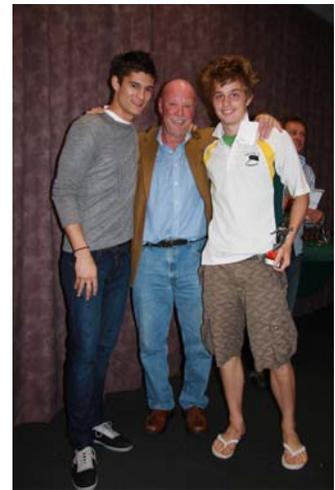


**Best in Finals**

13's Green	John Smith
14's Gold	Jordan Leeson
14's Green	Sam Rundle
15's	Aaron Stefani
17's	Nick Mitchell
Nick Mitchell with Sharrod	

**Best in Grand Final**

13's Green	John Smith
14's Gold	Michael Sinclair
17's	Jarrad Irons



## Coaching Panel Trophies

In addition to the abovementioned trophies which are vote based, the coaching panel of each side also recognises the achievement and skill development of other players in a variety of areas as follows:

### Most Improved

13's Gold	Aaron Winters
13's Green	Matthew Upston
14's Gold	Kieran Edmunds
14's Green	Elliot Randall
15's	Jack Gorman
17's	Adam Staley



(Kieran Edmunds)



### Best Utility

13's Gold	Ben Robinson
13's Green	Harry McInnes
14's Gold	Wyatt Verhoogt
14's Green	Richard Walley
15's	William Case
17's	Martin Edmunds

(Harry McInnes)

### Most Courageous

13's Gold	Ronan Doig
13's Green	Marc Mather
14's Gold	Robert White
14's Green	Josh Munns
15's	Tim Lloyd
17's	Luke Brunner



(Luke Brunner)

### Coach's Award

13's Gold	Jacob Burton
13's Green	Toby Price
14's Gold	Cody Cork
14's Green	Nick Kelleway
15's	Ryan Sinclair
17's	Alex Hardie

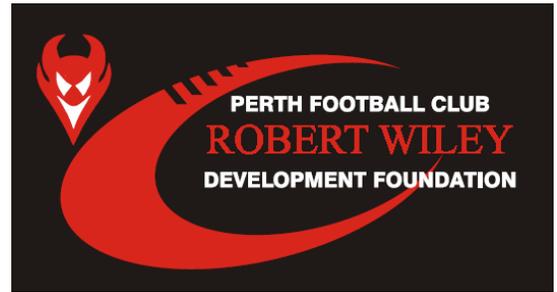
(Jacob, Toby and Cody)



## Rob Wiley Foundation Award

The Rob Wiley Foundation award has been in place since 2006 and recognises the efforts of a deserving 16 year old. Past winners were Zac Zucconi (2006) and Martin Edmunds (2007).

This year's award was presented by Damien Matthews, President of the Perth Football Club to Wade Harn.



A South Perth derby sowing future stars of the game.



## South Perth Umpire Development Program

The aim of this program is to provide an introduction to umpiring with participants undertaking formal training and development under the careful eyes of accredited umpires. The participants umpired South Perth homes games in the 9's and 10's age brackets.

The following players participated in the inaugural South Perth Junior Umpire Development program in 2008:

Elliot Harris	Paul Abbott
Daniel Arrangio	Karis Nevermann
Scott Bell	Kyle Sinclair



## Retiring 17's

Junior football came to an end at the conclusion of the 2008 season for the following 17's players (games played in brackets):

Cam Walker 36  
Tim Shales 38  
Matt Andrews 41  
Luke Brunner 50  
Dustin May (VC) 78  
Michael Strom 98  
Alex Hardie 100  
Joe Coombes 110  
Jake McGrath 113  
Brenton Lush 126  
Sam Hughes 131  
Michael Drysdale 132  
Nick Visser 134  
Adam Staley 134  
Corbin Mondy 135  
Nick Mitchell 135  
James O'Leary 138  
Mike Carroll 140  
Martin Edmunds 141  
Matt Power 145  
Braden Smith (C) 161  
Martin Sneeuwjagt 172



Retiring Players left to right: Jake McGrath, Jimmy O'Leary, Martin Edmunds, Adam Staley and Matt Andrews

