



THE FAR POST

OLD BOYS' AFC NEWSLETTER • ISSUE 16 • APRIL 2022

2022 GAME ON

PRESIDENTS REPORT by Ange MacKenzie

Welcome to the 2022 Season. While the season proper kicks off on 30th April, prior to Easter the Pre-Season Tournament was hosted by Queens Park. Our Division One and Women's Team entered. A tricky draw meant the Women had the difficult task of playing two games in one day and despite not taking out the Pre-Season trophy this year, they played bloody well and are shaping up to have a great season this year. Our Division One team took out the Pre-Season Reserve Grade, so one out of the two is a good start.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the 2022 Committee for all their hard work so far. Many of the same faces as the past few years so we must be doing something right to still be there! We are all so busy with work and family life, but you all do your bit to make sure things run as smoothly as possible and not just in the football season – all year round!!

So, any issues or ideas you wish to raise just speak to one of the Committee. We are always looking for fresh blood and fresh ideas so if that's you, come along to the AGM in December!! We also welcome any help you can offer the Club at weekends especially the bar, helping in the Junior space and also with the Kitchen Reno's which again we are committing to commencing at the end of this season – FINALLY!! So, any tradies out there willing to offer their services please let us know.

Our first event for the season will be Club Day on Saturday 21 May. We will have games all day with some Junior matches in the morning and all Senior teams playing at home in the afternoon. Its sure to be a good day.

It's a time to say thanks to our members, supporters, and sponsors for choosing to be a member of Old Boys AFC and offers a chance

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OLD BOYS AFC ***

Waverley Park,
St Andrew Street,
Invercargill

oldboysafc.co.nz



Don't forget to join the Club Facebook page as cancelation notices and other important junior information is communicated there.

PRESIDENTS REPORT (CONTINUED)

to mingle with other members and other Clubs also. Clubrooms will be open all day and there will be food and drink specials throughout the day. Keep an eye out on Facebook for the Club Day matches.

Although Club Day is not the only time to thank our sponsors, this can be done all year round. Not sure who is a sponsor? We have the soon to be updated sponsors board in the Club, the TV slide show that runs every weekend and we aim to advertise sponsors on our Facebook page too.

As usual we will be planning other fundraising events this year. We will run the Wine and Beer Night again as it was a great success last year – hopefully in July and then the annual Quiz Night in August – fingers crossed Covid doesn't get in the way. Look out for other fundraising events throughout the season – there are sure to be a few.

For updates events and Club goings-on, be sure to “like” our Facebook page “Old Boys’ AFC. We have previously had two Facebook pages but this year we have decided to simplify social media and just have the one page. We are also looking to introduce Instagram soon as well.

See you at the Club on Saturdays!



COMMITTEE 2022

President	Ange MacKenzie
Vice President	Nic Popham
Club Patron	Tony Laker
Treasurer	Hamish Low
Secretary	Reuben Lindsay
Club Captain	Nathan Findlay
Sponsorship Manager	Krystal Kennard
Property and Infrastructure Mngr	Lance Kiddey
Football Manager	Scott MacKenzie
Committee Members	Daryl Fowler, Dave Fosbender (Women's Rep)
Junior Rep	Gordon Lamont/Andrew Elder
Bar Manager	Ange MacKenzie
Newsletter & Website Editor	Ian Thomson
Kitchen Upgrade Committee	Mike Sheppard, Daryl Fowler, Chris Thomas



SOUTHERN STEEL WINDOWS DONALD GRAY PREMIER TEAM

Phil Williams takes the reins for Donald Gray in 2022 joining the Club following coaching stints with Gore and Thistle in recent times. This year shapes as a rebuilding one with several players absent from last season's team. This has offered up opportunities for some of the Div1 players, and several have grasped this with both hands. Ably supported by a few wise heads, Jared Cuff takes over as Captain this season and will be looking to steer the team to victory in the four-team competition which sadly doesn't feature Gore for the first time in many years but does feature the introduction of a Southland U17 team where Old Boys juniors feature prominently. The team has played some friendly matches with local opposition and forgoes the preseason

tournament in favour of a match in Dunedin vs Dunedin City Royals Fletcher Cup team which saw the team take a comfortable 3-1 victory.

This season also sees a changing of the guard for the Premier Men's team sponsor. With long time Club member, supporter, sponsor, and current Club Patron Tony Laker selling the House of Travel business the Club went in search of a new sponsor. We are proud to announce our new team sponsor will be Southern Steel Windows with Chris and Dave. Welcome aboard team.

JEFF WALKER DIVISION ONE

The guys have had an extended preseason this year with the seasons kickoff pushed out due to Covid so I have hopes we will be one of the fitter teams. That said we're looking more like Dad's Army after our inflow of youth players was curbed by the introduction of an U17 Southland team in the Donald Gray competition. It will likely be a balancing act all season long to have two complete squads on the pitch each week. We have started well bringing home the first piece of silverware for the Club with the Men's



Preseason Trophy secured following a penalty shootout semi-final win over Park and a 2-0 win over Thistle in the final. We'll be looking to push on from our 2nd equal placed finish last season and the changed format of the league may offer some opportunities in the 2nd round.

PACIFIC RADIOLOGY WOMEN'S TEAM

It's an exciting year for the women's team. Stitcher has joined the coaching team with Dave Fosbender for 2022 and it's reported he is bringing fresh ideas and training aspects that will develop the woman's team further as a unit. We also have new players who have joined us from other clubs as well as the addition of five players from the Junior Club who have had experience in representing Southland and have grown up playing football from a young age, they show lots of promise to push the team to even greater heights.

The pre-season tournament was a tough proposition for the girls who had to play two games on the same day against two very tough opponents. Thistle was first up, and we led the charge and played a strong game but unfortunately, we couldn't get the win and lost 2-3. Less than three hours later we were up against Queens Park and the girls left everything on the pitch, a 0-5 loss left Queens Park with the pre-season trophy, but it left our girls with determination to raise their game even higher and bring back trophies. I am also proud to announce that Payton Grieve has been named captain for the Old Boys woman's side and we know that she will lead the team to excel and make Old Boys proud.



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DIVISION TWO KELLY PROPERTY SERVICES EMOTIVE DESIGN **BLACK**

The Black team will start the season with several changes to the roster from last year. The loss of stalwarts Bruce McCrone, Hoani Cooper, and Oliver Mortensen will be keenly felt, along with the absence of one-hit wonder and last year's marquee signing Jeremy Dix. We also farewelled club legend Mark Muirhead after over a decade in Black and many more years with Old Boys.

I am sure we can twist his arm to return for some cameo appearances this season. We do have some new and returning players to bolster the squad this year so that should ensure that Black is again challenging for the title and seeking an elusive three-peat. Thanks again to our current sponsors for your generous support.



STEVE OLIVER FINANCIAL SERVICES **RED**

Chris Thomas is back for the millionth time in 2022 managing the Div2 Red team. As always, they have kept their pre-season training behind closed doors so the author can't give any indications about the squad, although the rumour is it has been freshened with some younger guys to look after Elliot in midfield.

As usual we expect they will be at peak performance by approximately round five.

JUNIORS THE FUTURE IS RED

Andrew Elder and Gordon Lamont take charge of the junior program in 2022. The 2022 junior season starts on 7th May and we are looking forward to what will hopefully be a smooth and uninterrupted season as we continue from last season's successes on and off the field. While registration numbers are down slightly on previous years, we still have strong numbers across all the age groups. This season we have approximately 190 junior players registered for 17 teams across 9th to 16th grades, plus a further 40 younger players in the First Kicks and Fun Football programmes. We also congratulate seven of our club members selected for the Southland United 15th grade team.

We are pleased to welcome back a good number of returning coaches from last season as well as a few new faces on board. All our coaches are volunteers, giving up their time to help develop our young boys and girls on their football journey, so a big thank you to them for taking on a coaching role this season. Without them we would not have a junior programme, so players and parents please thank your coach and help where you can.

We look forward to seeing all our player grow and enjoy their football over the course of the season. If you have any questions or feedback as the season progresses, please contact us at: juniors@oldboysafc.co.nz

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