

DONVALE

FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB

NEWSLETTER



Big day at Donvale this Saturday 8th August

**Sponsors / Life
Members Lunch**



**Nick Murphy's
200 Games**



**2001 Premiership
Reunion**



President - John Giles



Hi all,

As the regular season comes to a close, we have the opportunity to win this week and for the senior men's football team tick off the list as "job well done" but with a bigger goal ahead.

It is an exciting weekend ahead with a luncheon, followed by a 2001 Premiership Reunion and Nick Murphy's 200th.

Over the last few weeks, it has been rewarding to see the club come together in such a community spirit to raise awareness and support for those impacted by cancer.

A big thank you to all our sponsors, it would be great if everyone could familiarise themselves with our sponsors and if any opportunity arises to please support them which in turn supports us.

A big thank you to Daniel and Brett for their contribution to our Auskick and U8s hub which we hope continues to grow.

As we venture into finals, please ensure you wear our club colours and support all teams on their opportunities ahead.



DIVISION THREE GRAND FINAL

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH 2026
WALLY TEW RESERVE

QUALIFYING FINAL
Saturday 15th August
@WALLY TEW RESERVE, FTG

ELIMINATION FINAL
Sunday 16th August
@WALLY TEW RESERVE, FTG

SEMI FINAL 2
Saturday 22nd August
@WALLY TEW RESERVE, FTG

SEMI FINAL 1
Sunday 23rd August
@WALLY TEW RESERVE, FTG

PRELIMINARY FINAL
Saturday 29th August
@WALLY TEW RESERVE, FTG

Coach's Report



Daniel Michelangeli

Senior Coach

As we head into another finals series there's a genuine sense of excitement around the group. The group has confidence knowing they have done the work to set themselves up to succeed when it counts. While the home and away season has provided many positives to the group, we understand that its finals football that counts. Success will come through staying true to our values and understanding that finals football is a contest-based game which we look forward to with eagerness.

On the weekend we have the privilege of witnessing Nick Murphy play his 200th Donvale game. A club champion, stalwart and even better person, it's an honour to coach Murph in his 200th as for so many years I've watched his career from the other side of the fence. Nick Murphy's dedication and commitment to our football program has been what has held this club in great shape for so many years. Congratulations on the milestone Murph.
- Daniel

Development Coach

I write after a hard-fought battle at Upper Ferntree Gully. Although we lost, the boys had a great dip and showed plenty of spirit. Our last Home & Away game is against Knox who sit second on the ladder with the double chance secured.

We are already locked into an elimination final against Whitehorse Pioneers, so will need to put up a good show in the final game to take some form into the finals. With a couple of key players set to join this week we believe we can mount a strong campaign and work our way deep into the finals.

Looking forward to taking the challenge head on.
- Stephen



Stephen Nankervis

Coach's Report



Mark Djordevic - Jordy

U19's Coach

We've consolidated fifth spot and head into our final home-and-away game this Saturday at Donvale against Whitehorse, before taking on Rowville in our Elimination Final Sunday 16th of August.

It's been a challenging few weeks with injuries and player unavailability, but the boys have been fantastic in the way they've continued to work hard and compete.

We'll keep pushing, stick together and give everything we've got to put our best foot forward in the final. I'm proud of the group and the resilience they've shown, and we're looking forward to having a real crack at it.
- Jordy

Netball Coach

As we approach the finals our overall performances have been encouraging not just for the remainder of this year but for next season as well. Whilst not all results have gone our way they have not necessarily always reflected the level of netball our teams have played. We have managed to get one team into the finals with two others not far off. A few results our way would have seen these other teams sneak into the finals.

Well done to all players this season for your commitment and effort and for many of you your leadership. Green unfortunately wore the worst of availability and personnel changes. The core group who saw this through I thank you. Thank you for pushing through the frustration and managing different players for many weeks. Your leadership has been a credit to you. It would be easy to complain and let the issues affect you and your team, again thank you to those who did not let this affect them.

With Magpies in the finals, we get back down to business and look for some success. Please (if you can) come down and support our team in their quest for a flag.

Again well done to all players on your efforts this season as we continue to build the netball program and establish a caring, enjoyable, positive and respectful culture.



Mark Lane

Events Update

Cure Day - 25th July.

Two Saturday's ago was about so much more than football and netball. It was a day where the Donvale and Ferntree Gully Football Netball Clubs came together to Unite for a Cure, demonstrating the power of community in supporting those affected by cancer. Like so many communities, many of our members, families and friends have been impacted by cancer in one way or another. This event provided an opportunity to stand together, raise awareness and support two incredible organisations, Canteen and the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, whose work brings hope, care and support to people and families facing some of life's greatest challenges.

The day began with our High Tea, which commenced at 2.00 pm as the senior footballers ran onto the ground. Our netballers did an outstanding job running both the High Tea and the sausage sizzle, helping create a welcoming and enjoyable atmosphere for everyone who attended. Throughout the afternoon, guests had the chance to win a fantastic range of raffle prizes, all generously donated by local businesses and supporters. Following the senior football match, we were privileged to welcome AFL legend Kevin Sheedy as our guest speaker. Sheeds shared powerful stories about overcoming adversity, building resilience and the importance of supporting one another through difficult times. His message was one that resonated deeply with everyone in attendance. Kevin also generously donated a remarkable piece of AFL history, a unique artwork celebrating the history of Australian football. After a well-fought bidding contest, our Senior Captain James Rausa and Senior Coach Daniel Micka secured the winning bid, with both also receiving a print and an exclusive dinner with Kevin Sheedy. The live auction featured an incredible range of items, including a diamond bracelet and signed AFL jerseys from Carlton, North Melbourne and Hawthorn, all of which attracted fantastic support and helped raise valuable funds for our chosen charities. As the formalities concluded, the celebrations continued with live music from Phillip Slink and his duet partner, who kept the atmosphere alive well into the evening with an outstanding performance.

This day held particular significance for our club as it was inspired by one of our much-loved netballers, Taryn, who was recently diagnosed with Hodgkin lymphoma, a type of blood cancer that commonly affects young people. Throughout her treatment, Taryn has chosen to support Canteen, an incredible organisation that empowers young people aged 12 to 25 as they navigate the challenges of cancer, whether through their own diagnosis or that of a loved one. The generosity shown throughout the day was truly overwhelming. We extend our sincere thanks to our Donvale community, our friends from Ferntree Gully, every business that donated prizes, our volunteers who gave their time, everyone who purchased tickets or auction items, and all those who simply came along to show their support and to Upper Ferntree Gully for the generous donation. Together, we proved that football and netball are about far more than what happens on the field or court. They are about community, compassion and standing beside one another when it matters most.

Thank you to everyone who helped make United for a Cure such a memorable and meaningful day. - Liv Atyimas





Auskick

As the 2026 Auskick program has come to a close, it's a great opportunity to reflect on what has been an enjoyable rewarding year. For the first time the Auskick program was run out of OLOP Primary School.

From the excitement of the first session to the friendships built throughout the season, it has been a privilege to be the Auskick coach.

Overall, the Auskick program was a great success, providing kids with an environment to have fun, learn and develop new skills all while working within a team environment.

Thank you to the Auskickers of 2026 we will see you all next year.

- Daniel Michelangeli



Nick Murphy Q&A

How does it feel to reach 200 games for Donvale?

Thought it might be my only way to get my name on the wall at the club! Couldn't be happier and amazing to join some of the biggest names Donvale FC has had over the past 50+ years.

Did you ever imagine you'd play 200 games when you first joined Donvale?

Not at all - with everything that happened with club going into recession in 2014 and then two seasons of COVID, I was retiring at the end of 2022!

What has kept you coming back every year?

Getting the club back to where it should be before we went into recession in 2013. One more to go and into division 2! I've also been lucky enough to play with a lot of blokes who outside of the footy club are now some of my best mates in Toce, Millsy, Buschy and Leardi!

What's been your proudest moment in the Green Black and White?

Hard to go past the 2017 grand final against Forest Hill! A fantastic day for the club and a moment a lot of people won't forget.

Which game stands out as your favourite and why?

Outside of the 2017 and 2023 grand finals, my favourite game was the 2022 preliminary final against Warrandyte. Coming from 4th, winning the first final and then coming out and kicking the first 10 goals of the preliminary final which led us to the grand final against Waverley!

Describe your 200-game journey in three words.

Unforgettable, fun & successful!

What's your funniest memory from your time at Donvale?

Many come to mind - but hard to pass up the now senior coach knocking on my parents' house early Sunday morning in his footy boots to get me up to celebrate our 2017 grand final back at the club while the current president sat in the Uber out the front who'd also just been woken up!

Which premiership or finals moment means the most to you?

2017 grand final - with the club coming out of recession a few years earlier. Was amazing to be a part of something that got the club back on its feet.

Who has been your biggest supporter over the journey?

I'm lucky enough to have amazing parents who've been there from when sport started at 5 years old! And can't forget about my wife Kara who's been supporting me for almost 10 years and wanting me to keep playing even with a little one at home!

Who was your biggest mentor when you first arrived at the club?

The big fella up forward Jack Purcell has been looking out for me since I was about 2 years old! Can't go past him!

What's your pre-game ritual?

Nothing besides getting my ankles taped - not exactly blowing up the GPS tracker these days.

Favourite post-match meal?

Love my burgers and a good pizza!!







DONVALE FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

INVITES YOU TO

The 2026 SPONSORS/LIFE MEMBERS

LUNCHEON

12:30 pm Saturday, 8th of August

Donvale Reserve

The Donvale Football Netball Club thanks you for your ongoing support, so please join us at our last home game for the season against Knox
(Lunch provided – Drinks at Bar Prices)

RSVP: AL Farmer

Phone: 0402 229 933

Email: donvale@efnl.org.au





2001 PREMIERSHIP REUNION

CELEBRATING THE TEAM. THE MEMORIES. THE LEGACY.



SATURDAY
8TH AUGUST
FROM 2:00PM



DONVALE RESERVE
NOONAN WAY,
DONVALE VIC 3111



AFTERNOON TEA
PROVIDED



DRINKS
AT BAR PRICES

WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE!

2001 “A New Century”



2001 Ladder						
Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Mulgrave	18	16	2	0	169	64
Blackburn	18	15	3	0	173	60
Donvale	18	15	3	0	170	60
Lilydale	18	11	7	0	119	44
Knox	18	10	8	0	104	40
Doncaster	18	7	11	0	76	28
Ringwood	18	6	12	0	78	24
The Basin	18	5	13	0	78	20
Montrose	18	4	14	0	65	16
Upper Ferntree Gully	18	1	17	0	50	4

We entered the 2001 season in second division. Justin O'Dwyer (Jacko) was appointed Senior Playing Coach & Michael Tout as Reserves Coach. Relegation the previous year meant a lot of hard work to maintain & recruit players that would be competitive in what was still considered a strong division. Our list prior to Xmas 2000 was a concern with numbers at a low level. Enormous work over the pre-season by Jacko in particular enabled us to enter the season reasonably confident of a strong performance.

Over the previous two seasons we had an arrangement with Park Orchards Junior Club to play their Under 16 side in the EFL as Donvale/Park Orchards. Two Flags in a row so some quality players amongst them.

Future Senior Club players. Most important to our Club's future was the agreement with OLAP (Our Lady of the Pines Primary School) to join as Donvale Juniors playing on Saturday Mornings at Donvale. This sustained Junior push must be accredited to Warwick Scott.

Both Laurie Zarafa & Brett Hood kicked over 50 goals that season. As you can see from below Ladder after the Home & Away, we finished just off the top two so missed the double chance. Our losses were to Mulgrave twice & Blackburn once.

2nd Semi Final						
Date: Sat 1st September					Time: 2:10pm	
Mulgrave				7.13	55	Ground: Tormore Reserve, Boronia Mulgrave won by 13 pts
Blackburn				6.6	42	
1st Semi Final						
Date: Sun 2nd September					Time: 2:10pm	
Donvale				15.13	103	Ground: Tormore Reserve, Boronia Donvale won by 42 pts
Lilydale				9.7	61	
Preliminary Final						
Date: Sat 8th September					Time: 2:10pm	
Blackburn				9.7	61	Ground: Tormore Reserve, Boronia Donvale won by 21 pts
Donvale				12.10	82	
Grand Final						
Date: Sat 15th September					Time: 2:30pm	
Mulgrave				7.9	51	Ground: Tormore Reserve, Boronia Donvale won by 47 pts
Donvale				14.14	98	

DONVALE LUNCHEON

Hosted by Bruce Eva speaking with Jimmy Bartel



Bruce Eva



Jimmy Bartel

2-COURSE MEAL AND DRINKS INCLUDED

TICKETS

\$130



**28TH
AUGUST**

START AT	LOCATION
12:30 - 3:30 PM	DONVALE FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB NOONAN WAY, DONVALE

RSVP for a ticket or to book a table

Glenn Brindley: 0447 618 642

Brian Fletcher: 0419 600 185



DONVALE

B&F

September

24

7 pm

\$80 Per Head inc 2-course meal | Dress Code: Cocktail

Carlton Brewhouse
24 Thompson St, Abbotsford 3067

RSVP Sunday 13th September via ticketing link or QR Code
Any queries contact Allisha 0413 753 107



<https://www.trybooking.com/DOQKC>



TOYOTA

**\$285K IN
PRIZES TO
BE WON**



AFLW Star, Ash Centre

Now that's Good for Footy.



OH WHAT A FEELING



Donvale Football Netball Club



**Vote for us in the
Woolworths Netball Grants
People's Choice Award**
Help us win \$20K for our club

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