OCEAN GROVE FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

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Senior Men's Football Report – 8/11/2026

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING / ANNUAL REPORT

On behalf of the coaches, players and staff of the Senior Football Program, congratulations to our A Grade and C Grade Netball teams on their premierships and respective four-peat achievements.

Season 2026 for the Senior Football Program was a challenging season that brought about significant change. Results and performances on the field at 2pm were at times trying and a difficult watch. Beyond the surface, however, was a season that provided plenty of green shoots. A season that saw improvement in our performance and position for the 12pm team as well as dual grand final appearances for our Under 18 teams!

From planning for pre-season until the final siren against Barwon Heads, development of the full playing group had been the first, second and third priority. We welcomed 28 new players into the Senior squad, played 48 out of 64 players in the Senior team and witnessed 11 players play their first game of senior footy! As the full playing group will attest to, our coaching groups never wavered from development as the focus.

A come from behind win over Drysdale and a gritty one-point win over an improving Portarlington provided the highlights, whilst the growth in a number of first year players provided encouragement.

I would like to thank every coach of the Senior and Reserves teams for their commitment to their players, for their professionalism and for their resolve to put difficult results to the side and strive for development outcomes, always. Special thanks to Gary Clarke, Graham Gee, Nick Cook and our superstar waterboys for your care and professionalism of our program. You each know the significant role you played!

To Nick Bourke and Adam Perus, thank you for your service and dedication over the past three seasons. Your support to Dave Farrell and contribution to the high care and development of the playing group is and always will be appreciated.

To Faz, your contribution to the OGFNC isn't justified by words in a report. Instead, your contribution, dedication, professionalism and genuine care was felt by every player and football staff member. People don't always remember what you say but how you make them feel. That will be your legacy. The emphasis on connection, high care and development will have a lasting impact on the playing group.

On behalf of the Ocean Grove community and our Football Netball Club, thank you to you Faz, Belinda, Ted, Eve and Harry for your dedication and contribution over the past four seasons.

Without doubt the highlight of the program was both our U18 McCartney and Tyrrell teams playing in Grand Finals. Despite both teams just falling short on the day, their performances across the season and particularly at the pointy end were incredible. Well done to Damian "Bones" Clark and Darren

Franken for getting the most out of their squad. Darren stepped up late in the piece and did an outstanding job. Bones' influence and incredible coaching ability proved that 2025 wasn't a fluke! Both coaches were ably supported by their assistant coaches and parent helpers. In particular, to Silvana Kerin and Mark Monahan, thank you for stepping up as Team Managers and being outstanding at your roles.

We are collectively excited to see 20+ Under 18 players step into the senior ranks in 2027. They have been prepared by the best in business (our junior program) and after a long junior career, are ready to launch their senior one!

Congratulations to Darcy Harrington, Ned Badrock, Tom Teague, Jack Thomson and John Tattersall for Geelong Falcons representation and in particular to Darcy and Ned on Vic Country honours!

Thank you to the medical staff who provide us with exceptional care every week. To 13th Beach Medical and their 2026 team – Dave, Dylan, Sophie, Brad and Harley, we are incredibly fortunate to have you assist us this season and as a partner to our program, thank you. To Algis Kriauza, thank you for getting back to the club and for your dedication to our players and the safety of our training surfaces (you know what you do). To Ted Farrell, your efforts to roll up your sleeves and organize the medical and logistical side of every week was critical as well as stepping in to support training and gameday. Thank you.

Final thanks to the 2026 committee members for your hard work managing our club. We are a massive club and each of you should be proud of your efforts that ultimately allow over 120 Senior and Under 18 footballers to play the game!

As we embark on a new footy era under Damien McMahon, I implore everyone to roll up their sleeves and outwork the opposition in every way, on and off the field.

Let's not look in the rearview mirror anymore, we're not going in that direction!

Toby Boyle
Senior Football Director