



# The Congo

Wednesday 5th September 2012

Vol 14 Edition 23

## Diary Dates

### September

#### Saturday 8th

- GDSFA Grand Finals

#### Sunday 23rd

- Bunnings BBQ—Lidcombe Bunnings

### September / October

#### Sunday 30th to Thursday 4th

- 2012 CFFA National Titles (U/14 & Seniors) Brisbane

### October

#### Sunday 28th

- Presentation Day

### November

#### Tuesday 6th

- Annual General Meeting

### **Grand Finals Saturday 8th September**

**Under 11 vs Toongabbie** at Curtis Park (1), Yates Ave Dundas Valley at 9.00am.

Meet at Curtis Park No Later than 8.30am

**Under 14 vs Guildford McCredie** at Guildford Park (2), Marian St Guildford at 10.10am.

Meet at Guildford Park No Later than 9.30am

## **RAAHAUGE CUP CHAMPIONS**

Congratulations to the **1st Grade** Team who won the Raahuge Cup play off defeating Miranda Cong 6-5 on Saturday.

# Presentation Day

### **ATTENTION ALL CLUB MEMBERS**

The annual Presentation and Picnic day will be held at Phillips Park on Sunday October 28 commencing at 11.30am.

Activities include activities, BBQ lunch and climaxing in the presentation at 2.30pm where EVERY junior player will receive an award.

Team Photos will also be distributed on the day.

Any queries contact James May on;

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## ***RESULT OF FINAL PLAYED 1ST SEPTEMBER 2012***

### **Under 14s defeated Granville Kewpie 2-0 at Progress Park:**

In another convincing performance the Under 14s accounted for Granville Kewpie 2-0 at Progress Park.

After having been defeated 2-4 and 1-2 by Granville in the regular season and Lidcombe playing well over the past five weeks the scene was set for a great show down. Lidcombe rose to the occasion and were in control from the opening whistle with not one player dominating but the whole team sharing the responsibility and executing their individual roles with precision. The defence of Will Courtwood, Matthew May, Radar Challenger, Ibrahim Annous and Daniel Kratz was solid and did not panic when they were put under pressure.

Having one of his best games to date Keegan Murray surprised the opposition with his ball control and combined extremely well with the other midfielders. Adam Yoon, and Rakulan Ganesarajah made fantastic overlapping runs down the right side of the field to bamboozle the Granville defence. This great play and pressure set up Antony Boustani to slot home a goal in the 18th minute to put Lidcombe in the lead. Lidcombe were unlucky not to go to the break with an even greater lead hitting the post and narrowly missing several scoring opportunities.

The second half saw Lidcombe running into a slight breeze but

this didn't alter their style of play continuing to control the ball on the ground. The ball control and dominance of the Lidcombe side frustrated the Granville side who started to concede silly free-kicks on of which was in the rage of Daniel Chung who did not disappoint his team putting it away from 28 metres out. Granville were determined but the cool head of goal keeper Patrick May kept the score to zero on the very odd occasion that the Lidcombe goal was under pressure. Easily the best game the team has played setting up a Grand Final show down with rivals Guild McCredie.

## ***RESULT OF R/C PLAY OFF PLAYED 1ST SEPT 2012***

### **1st Grade defeated Miranda Cong 6-5 at Seymour Shaw Park:**

Traditionally, the Raahauge Cup has been awarded to the winner of Division 1, but with the two Raahauge Cup divisions based on geographic location and not graded this year it was decided that a play off between Miranda Cong (Southern Division winners) and Lidcombe (Northern Division winners) should determine who was to hold the Raahauge Cup, one of the Association's time honoured trophies and what a contest it turned out to be as evidenced by the score line.

Playing on an unfamiliar synthetic pitch, but with benefit of a very strong southerly at their backs, Lidcombe started the match at a lively pace with the speed of the forwards clearly unsettling Miranda and it was no surprise to see Lidcombe 2-0 up, courtesy of goals to Matt James and Matt

Hyde. Miranda managed to pull one goal back, but a successful Steve James penalty and then a further goal to Matt James saw Lidcombe out again to a comfortable 4-1 lead which was about a true indication of the first half's play. Miranda however scored from a dubiously awarded penalty in the dying minutes of the half and with Lidcombe having to run into the very strong wind (almost gale force at times) in the second half the concern was that maybe the lead was not enough.

However, to the surprise of everyone, further goals to Matt Hyde and Matt James extended the lead to 6-2 which remained the score until about 15 minutes to go, when with the southerly strengthening even further and Lidcombe tiring a bit, Miranda were able to pull back three quick goals

(the last, an own goal off a corner) and Lidcombe had to defend grimly in the final couple of minutes to claim the Raahauge Cup trophy for the first time in the Club's history. In the end a narrow, but well deserved victory over a worthy opposition who, it should be mentioned, did have the benefit of having trained and played previously on the synthetic pitch.

As was the case in last week's Grand Final victory Lidcombe's team work and team spirit carried the day, but special mention should be made of Daniel Gildea's efforts in goals, particularly in the second half. Not only was he very safe under the high ball in very testing conditions, but he also managed to foil a couple of very dangerous opposition raids in one on one challenges.