



# SENIOR COACH'S REPORT

## ROUND 1, 2015 v CALOUNDRA

### RESERVES

**Caloundra 14.10.94**

**Moreton Bay 2.7.19**

**Goals:** M. Ewart, B. Cester

The footy season has finally arrived and all memories of preseason are placed on the backburner and all benefits supposedly come to the fore. Unfortunately for the Reserves the outcome was similar to what has been experienced over the last couple of years. However from the coach's point of view, while the score line indicates a tough day at the office, the performance gave a true indication of where some players are at with fitness, ability, work ethic and football nous. This will enable us to program specific style training and provide player feedback.

Through some passages the players showed their capabilities and moved the ball well and controlled the game, but maintaining that over a four quarter period is something we will need to get better at. That requires more time on the track and focus on the strategies implemented – especially when the body gets tired and the brain is looking for a place to rest. The team could've done much better had they followed the leads of James Matthews, Damian Harding, and Hayden Jeffrey, who all did their best to lead by example. Next week provides us with another opportunity to get better so we look forward to seeing the boys' efforts after another week on the track.

### SENIORS

**Caloundra 10.2.62**

**Moreton Bay 12.10.82**

**Goals:** J. Dickfos 5, J. Huisman 2, K. Brockman, N. Warren, J. Giles, M. Matthews, R. Nickalls

The benefits of a solid preseason of training and team bonding were clearly evident when the newly formed Moreton Bay Lions took the field at Caloundra for the first fixture of the 2015 QFA North football season.

The biggest hurdle for the new club leaders, Co-Captains Rhys Nickalls and Jackson Dickfos, along with deputies Jono Giles, Karl Brockman, Jacob Huisman and Corbin Dickfos, was to convince the team to believe that they belonged... and by day's end they'd found that belief.

There was no sign of the team that had been chasing victory for over 600 days. There were, however, signs of a committed group of men who have instantly realised the benefits of true commitment and love for each other and their club. This is even more staggering when you realise that 13 members of this team were playing their first game for the Club. In what was a physically demanding battle all day, both sides showed that competing will not be a problem this season. Neither side gave an inch, it had to be earned.

The Lions proved throughout the day that they can play a very attractive attacking game, but also a very defensive accountable game which limits opportunities to the opposition if done properly. The Lions coaching staff were also not afraid to implement some unconventional moves that would have most scratching their heads, but thinking outside the box is something this group is being trained to do.

In what can only be described as a solid team performance where every player did their job, it was the inexperienced defence that stood strongest. Lead by Shaun Morrice, Jordy Menheere, Zac Crisp and James Wilkinson, their composure under pressure was terrific and the amount of times they began our attacking moves meant the forwards got plenty of opportunities.

Jackson Dickfos made the most of those opportunities, finishing with five majors, with Jacob Huisman the only other multiple scorer with two. Kerrod Wall also deserved a mention playing in the ruck, and Corbin Dickfos has already shown his team mates what he is prepared to put his body through for the sake of the team.

While the team reaction to our victory was priceless and the most satisfying part of my job, I can not – and will not – forget the faces of our President and volunteers who have also endured a long drought, and to sing our Club song was an experience never to be forgotten.

Thanks to my coaches and support staff. To all of our volunteers, supporters and sponsors, you have all played your part in the weekend's result and I am extremely grateful.

I look forward to seeing you all at Noosa this Saturday 18 April.



**Rob Dickfos**  
Senior Coach