



Vipers News

Announcements:

Happy Birthday to the below Vipers players:

November

Russ Bari
Tim Kelly
Daniel Hopps
Johnny Moore
Julia Barry
Josh Chan
Brooke James

December

Hellie Dracup
Andrea Smith
Eric Marsh
Dallan Kahui
Mick Carter
Johnny Katal
Neil Coole

January

Andy Thompson
Paul Smith

February

Pat Car
Jess Groeneveld
Melissa Ashmore
Donovan Ryan

Issue 4

August– October 2008

VIPERS WOMEN VT PREMIERS

The second season of the Victorian Touch League has concluded for season 2008 with the Vipers Women's the new VT League Champions.

As the wind blew on Port Melbourne Soccer club their was a air of anticipation in the air from all teams, as they all had a chance to claim the premiership in both the Men's and Women's divisions.

The Vipers Men's team having played some good touch throughout the year needed to beat City Lions to advance to the semi while the Women's side were once again red hot favourites for the second year running to claim the title would meet Casey in their semi after Casey disposed of Western earlier in the day.

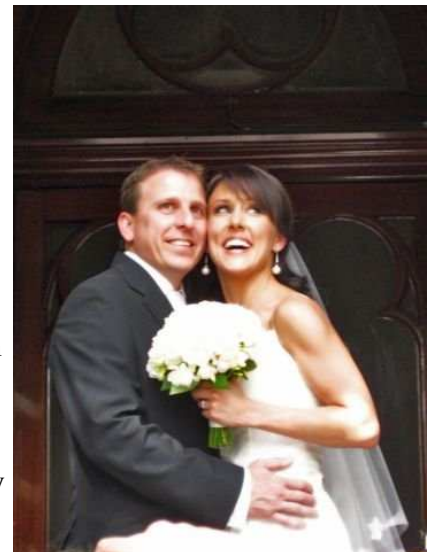
The Women's side boasting some of the best talent in the state produced some of the best touch of the season with fast rucking and attacking raids only to be constantly denied by the Casey team. Eventually the toll of their second game in just over two hours proved to much for the Casey girls and Vipers begun to crack the line, even with fatigue setting the half time score remained nil all. The second half begun with a touchdown from the tap off to the Vipers girls and it was no looking back from their, with another quickly after as Woody bit the dust or the grass in this case to open up a hole for Brooke to casually stroll through and what seemed likely eternity, pass to Carmen for the ladies second touchdown. From there on it was all up hill for Casey and smooth sailing for the Vipers as they moved through to the final and a rematch against last years premiers City Lions. Cont pg 4.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Vipers Men's player Tim Grant and his beautiful bride Shelley Hyde on their recent wedding on Saturday 13th October 2008.

Tim and Shelley meet through Tim's work with Schiavello three years ago and have been inseparable since. The love birds headed off to wonderful Thailand for their honeymoon taking in Phi Phi Island and Koh Samuai during their two week stay.

Vipers would like to congratulate Tim and Shelley and wish them both all the best for a wonderful and happy life together.



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VICTORIAN OPEN TEAMS WARM UP

The Victorian Men's and Women's teams competed in a three game series against the visiting Lebanese Men's and Wests Women's team from Sydney. The series was conducted at the Casey playing fields on Saturday 15th November in conjunction with the VT League round.

The series was developed to allow all teams to prepare for the NSW State Cup and bring high quality touch to Victoria after a long absence. The brain child was of Elias El Chaar, current Victorian Men's Open coach, Mick Lovett, Stephen Young and Ahmad Dazili from the Lebanese Touch association.

After much planning the series final arrived and delivered all that was expected with touchdowns, desperate defence and plenty of pride and passion. Both touring teams were expected to dominate the Victorian teams due to the number of NSW and Australian players scattered throughout their teams. The Victorian teams had other ideas and displayed plenty of flair in attack and desperation in defence to earn the respect of their opponents.

Although both Lebanon and Wests won the respective series 3-0 the Victorian teams never gave up trying and this will place them well with three weeks until NSW State Cup.

Lebanon won the inaugural V.A.L.T.A shield with Wests Women's team winning the VicWests Cup. Victorian players eagerly await next year's series which is scheduled to be played in Sydney.

Series Results:

Men's

Game 1 Lebanon **12** def Vic **8**

Game 2 Lebanon **12** def. Vic **5**

Game 3 Lebanon **5** def. Vic **4** (drop off)

Men's Players of the Series—Pfiers/Butler Award

Elias El Chaar (Victoria)

Women's Player of the Series—Almoui/Barrett Award

Nicole McHugh (Wests)

Women's

Wests **8** def Vic **2**

Wests **11** def. Vic **2**

Wests **6** def. Vic **1**

VIPERS PLAYERS HEAD NORTH

December 2008 will see the Victorian Open touch teams head to Port Macquarie for the first time to compete in the NSW State Cup. The event hosts the best touch players and teams from throughout NSW with over 170 teams competing in over 13 divisions.

This is the first of what will be many years of high level touch for the Victorian teams as they strive for the status of the number three state against our powerhouse cousins north of the border in NSW and QLD.

Vipers will once again be well represented in both the Men's and Women's teams with Men's VT captain **Chris Casey** and club president **Stephen Young** again chosen in the Men's team.

The Women's team not only posses many Vipers players but the entire coaching staff are completely Vipers with **Suzy Barrett** Head Coach and assisted by **Mick Carter** and **Stewart Dracup** with **Hellie Dracup** team manager. Suzy will lead many of her fellow VT Vipers players with **Toni Breeze**, **Mel Ashmore** and **Andrea Frankpitt** joined by Sunday Vipers players in **Julia Barry**, **Pat Car** and **Sally Hamilton** as they all strive for December glory in Port Macquarie.

Vipers wishes all players and coaching staff the very best for the tournament.



SUMMER SEASONS UNDERWAY

The Summer touch season has fallen upon us once again and with nearly 6 rounds down Vipers have been right amongst the action. Vipers have managed to secure 7 teams across the EPTA park competitions after much correspondence and chasing of players. New to the stable in 2008 is the Men's D team to Sunday mornings and two new mixed teams to Wednesday night with Vipers A and Bitemark Vipers who have come across from the Albert Park competition, now come under the Vipers stable. The usual teams are there from last year with the Men's and Women's A once again competing for that elusive EPTA title, to the Fawcner Park Mixed team on Thursday nights, Vipers have once again teamed up with Spud and the Haileybury Secondary College to enter Haileybury Vipers into the B Grade competition on Sunday. So all up seven teams will wear the Red, Black and White of Vipers Sports Club during the Summer.

Once again Vipers teams have performed exceptionally well to the start of their season with all teams firmly entrenched in the top four. The competitive nature of the players has made Vipers one of the premier sporting clubs in Victoria through their continued development of junior players through Haileybury Vipers and Junior State players who have the opportunity to play and be coached by some of the state's best coaches.

Vipers has also catered for the social players through placing social players within Vipers own teams or alternatively finding suitable teams for those contacting Vipers wanting to enjoy Touch Football. Vipers website has been active during the off season with no less than twenty three players contacting the club looking for a game and an opportunity to play, so not only have we been able to place them into teams but have introduced many to new friends.

Vipers new teams have pushed the total number of members to the club over the one hundred mark ending on a grand total of one hundred and seventeen players. This is a great achievement for the club considering it all started only twelve months ago.

Vipers currently have a winning ratio of 72% from all teams this season and have scored over four hundred touchdowns across all grades, and at this rate Vipers are set to crack the one thousand touchdown mark come the end of the season which in itself is a huge milestone and achievement.

Best of Luck to all teams for the remainder of the season.

VIPERS TRIO NAMED AS CRUSADERS COACHES IN 2009

The Crusaders permit which includes Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania have announced their coaches for all Open divisions set to compete in the 2009 National Touch League to be held in Port Macquarie in March.

Vipers trio **Suzy Barrett, Mick Carter and Stewart Dracup** have been given the reins of the Women's Open team. All three come with years of experience at all levels of the game in both coaching and playing with Suzy recently returning from a National title with the Victorian Women's 27's of which MC was also an assistant coach.

It has been a rapid rise for **Suzy** and **MC** over the last eighteen months with coaching stints with the Victorian 18's Boys, 20's Men's and Women's, Australian Women's Trans Tasman (Victorian), Victorian Women's 27's, Victorian Women's Open and now the Crusaders Women Open team, not to mention their efforts with Vipers. They have also been part of the Victorian Representative panel, and yet still manage to find time to ride their bikes and compete in triathlon's.

Stewart is also no stranger to the representative coaching caper with many appointments over the years through his involvement in the Victorian Women's Open program, an instrumental driving force behind the Senior Victorian programs, Vipers Men's head coach and until recently a member of the Victorian Representative panel until his appointment to the National Tournament Committee which oversees the National tournament structures such as NTL's. Stu also manages to organise the odd game of golf and compete in triathlons as well.

No one can question the commitment that these three individuals give to the sport and Vipers are proud to have them as part of our club and as committee members.



VIPERS WELCOMES SOME NEW ARRIVALS

Vipers welcomed some new additions to the ever growing future playing rosters of the club with Referee Leigh Bryant and his wife Riki giving birth to twins on Saturday 23rd August. They were a little earlier then expected but nether the less, healthy bundles of joy.

Little Elle (1.38kg) and Tom (2.18kg) both could not wait to come into the world and arrived early to Mum's surprise.

The proud parents could not be happier with their instant family and are sure to have them venturing out to a touch game very soon.

Vipers would like to Congratulate Riki and Leigh on their new family and look forward to Vipers sponsor Heinz supplying infant formula to the twins.



VT PREMIERS– cont pg 1.

The final had all the signs of last year with both teams relatively unchanged and full of Rep players. Vipers were quick out of the blocks and posted 3 touchdowns in quick succession which spurred the Lions ladies into action. Lions first touchdown came from a scoop and what looked to be a clear touch and possible drop ball became the Lions first of three touchdowns to send the game into the break at three a piece. When the sides returned it was again Vipers who took control with Brooke and Doigy combining on the wing for a easy touchdown in the corner. The game looked to be getting away from Lions with Vipers ahead 6-3 with ten to go but you can never under estimate a team with the talent of Lions. The score quickly closed to 6-5 after some more soft touchdowns on the Vipers line but as time ticked away the ladies would not be denied for a second year and stood tall as the final siren sounded to be crowned VT League Women's Champions for 2008.

The Men had a much tougher task against Lions but you would never have know with the half time score at 4-0 to Vipers it looked to be a blow out but as true to finals form the Lions staged a second half revival to come within 2 touchdowns but never really trouble the boys from the Bay who drew away to win 7-4 according to their records at least. The Semi final against Western will be one the team will look back on as missed opportunity and the one that got away. Inconsistency was a major hurdle throughout the year for the team but come finals the focus and concentration for quality came to the fore, the guys rucked the ball with great intensity and attacked the Western line only to have their smaller wingers monstered off the ball by the bigger Western defenders. This game had everything from brilliant running touch to spectacular line attack to desperate defence. The score see-sawed all game with no team really having an advantaged and never thinking they had it wrapped up. Burky continued to cross the Western line at will as did MC and Youngy in the later stages as the bigger Western side fatigued and could have sealed victory but as with many of the attacking plays they were to be denied and left to defend.

As the game ticked away one last attacking play produced by Western produced the winning touchdown with just 3 seconds to spare and breaking the hearts of the Vipers Men who knew they were the better team but went down giving their all the eventual VT Men's premiers 7-6.

Congratulations to **Mick Carter** who was named the Most Influential Men's Player for VT in 2008.



TROPICAL GAZE OFFER FOR MEMBER

Exciting offer for members

Are you searching for that perfect birthday or Xmas present? Do you have a feature wall that needs something special?

Vipers Sports Club and **Tropical Gaze Pty Ltd** have teamed up to offer all Vipers members a wonderful introductory price on Giclees Canvas prints. The tropical themed prints offer you the opportunity to dream of that perfect tropical escape or fantasy getaway location.

World renowned photographers have produced some of the most inspirational and aspiring themes through this tropical collection with white sandy beaches surrounded by palm trees to amazing sunsets to the acclaimed Pelican Palace.

These prints measure 153cm x 46cm and will bring attention to any wall within the home. These Giclees retail between **\$275 - \$300** but for a strictly limited time Vipers Sports Club members can purchase them for half price at **\$150** inc. GST and delivery.

That's almost **50% off**.

Tropical Gaze will also **donate \$20** from every Giclees sold back to Vipers Sports Club so why wait, place your order today.

This offer has been extended to the end of **DECEMBER 2009**.

To arrange to view a sample of the prints please contact Vipers Sports Club. You will be impressed!

Visit www.vipersports.com.au to view the full colour brochure of prints on offer. Click on Sponsors & Links.

VIPERS AND MOVEMBER TOGETHER AGAIN IN 2008

Vipers club president Stephen Young along with Vipers VT League players Matt Dent, Russ Bari and Rob Mair are sporty some interesting facial hair in support of Movember, a charity which highlights Prostate cancer and male depression.

The gents are doing their bit to raise awareness for these two series causes of male illness and require your support. So log onto www.vipersports.com.au to make a donation to the boys fundraising efforts.

Last year the Vipers Movember growers raised over \$600 for the charity so get on board a very worthy cause .

After the long month Youngy has final reached the end with a better then expected Mo in 2008.

Thanks to all those who donated to the cuase and also gave Youngy some new nicknames.



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Vipers Footy Tipping Winners

Super 14
Winner — Stephen Young
Runner Up — Rick Iversen

NRL
Winner — Mel Ashmore
Runner Up — Mick Carter

AFL
Winner—Tim Grant
Runner Up—Peter Beythien

**Thank You to all those that
participated in the 2008 tipping
comps.**

**We look forward to seeing you
in 2009.**

CHRISTMAS BREAK UP BBQ

Vipers invites all players and their families to a Christmas BBQ to be held at Elwood Park on Sunday 14th December 2008 at the conclusion of all Vipers games.

Vipers will provide all the food supplies required. All that is required from players is a simple RSVP to allow for the catering and to ensure that the day is adequately catered for.

Please RSVP to [Vipers Sports Club](#) before Wednesday 10th December 2008 with numbers attending.

Come along and celebrate the Christmas and the mid season break with a feed and couple of quite drinks with old and new friends.

Vipers looks forward to seeing you there.

Mission Statement

“Vipers Sports Club Inc. will promote and encourage the development and participation of all athletes through a professional club environment and atmosphere”.

Coming Events In 2008

November 29th—VT League Finals—Port Melbourne Soccer Club

December 4th—7th—NSW State Cup, Port Macquarie (NSW)

January 26th-27th—Yass Knockout, Yass (NSW)

If you have an article, information, event or would like to recognise someone for their efforts then please forward all requests for publication to

vipersports@hotmail.com no matter the sport we are more than happy to publicise your individuals efforts or team efforts.

Do not forget to utilize your **Ritchie's Community benefits card** when shopping as 1% of your total shop comes back to the club. The more we all support this initiative the less we all pay in fees. So please support Ritchie's Supermarkets when possible. More community cards will be available from Youngy.



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