



ELTHAM WILDCATS CHAMPIONSHIP

2021 - 2022 PRESENTATIONS

Sunday 16th October 2022



ORDER OF EVENTS

MC Introduction

Connor Matthews

Introduction of Guest Presenters:

Air Fusion

Pete Krohn

Peter Meehan

Sam Whelan

Tom O'Connor

Greg Jeffers

Paula Hogan

Rachel Wallace

Award Ceremony

Closing Remarks

Connor Matthews

Connor Matthews



ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

U12 E2 Girls - Emily Gartland

Emily started rep this season with less experience than some of her peers. She has progressed from having to be reminded about which way the team was going to being a talented rebounder under the ring and a disciplined defender. Emily has a significant impact on the outcomes of games on a regular basis now and is using her height to her advantage. She works hard at training and is very deserving of this award.

U14 E4 Boys – Jack Toomey

Jack questioned his own ability at the beginning of the season. He accepts every challenge put in front of him and gives 110% every session. Jack ended the season as one of our strongest and most valuable players.

U16 E3 Boys – Casey White

Casey is a bottom age player who was thrust into the 3's in his first year of rep ball. There was a high level of natural 'catch up' improvement expected however he well exceeded that. His dedication away from training is evident and a credit to him.

U18 E6 Boys – Billy Cooper

It is hard as a player starting junior championship basketball at Under 18 but Billy learnt a lot & has contributed to the team in many aspects of the game including scoring, rebounds & team play.



MVP AWARDS – GIRLS

12-1 : Mia Luscombe

12-2 : Alexandra Smith

12-3 : Layla Oliver

12-4 : Charlotte Haldon

14-1 : Shani Hale (Shanai)

14-2 : Olivia De Jonge

14-3 : Peyton Cameron

14-4 : Alyssa Wearne

14-5 : Nishi De Alwis

14-6 : Myah McLennan

16-1 : Sia Cukier

16-2 : Pheonix Pedgeon

16-3 : Holli Farrelly (ABSENT)

16-4 : Madison Elkhawand

16-5 : Sarah Halden

16-6 : Frankie Gauci

16-7 : Amy Ashby

18-1 : Reese Cameron

18-2 : Abbey Griffiths

18-3 : Anayah Maher



MVP AWARDS – BOYS

12-1 : Darcy Tabain
12-2 : Hunter Trim
12-3 : Ethan Palmer
12-4 : Oren Duckworth
12-5 : Jake Anderson
12-6 : Carter Giosis

14-1 : Josh McCann
14-2 : Jeremy Potter
14-3 : Marcus Turco
14-4 : George Smith
14-5 : Zachary Cochrane
14-6 : Oliver Juric
14-7 : Presten Moroney
14-8 : Noah Bonavia
14-9 : Parker Ndongo
14-10 : Zach Burke

16-1 : Jesse Brock
16-2 : Noah Singh
16-3 : Jess Charles
16-4 : Eros Addamo
16-5 : Liam Dunn
16-6 : Charlie Harris
16-7 : Lachlan Borg
16-8 : Luke Sampson

18-1 : Mitchell Ferronato
18-2 : Jake Sapiano
18-3 : Tim Halden
18-4 : Aidan Jones
18-5 : George Matsas
18-6 : Tom Grigoletto
18-7 : Seb Coulter

20-1 : Mitchell Blackburn
20-2 : Liam Holmes



WILDCATS TEAM SPIRIT

Team: U14 E5 Girls

Coach: Nigel Anderson

Assistant Coach:

Team Manager: Natalie Hosking

Players:

Sienna	Dennis
Addison	O'Connor
Abbey	Haboldt
Lea	Anderson
Lola	Wilkins
Nishi	De Alwis
Izzy	Greenhalgh
Karah	Hosking

In what only could be described as a difficult season, down to 6 players due to Covid and injuries for a large chunk of the season, the girls never gave in. They were so close in so many games, matching it with the very best teams, but just falling short on a number of occasions. Their effort was finally rewarded in the final round, with win number 1 combined with beaming smiles!



WILDCATS TEAM SPIRIT

Team: Boys U16 E1 Girls

Coach: Carly Stones

Assistant Coach: Lorne Waldron

Team Manager: David Gardiner

Players:

Olivia	Gorman
Emilia	Drmic
Addison	Knight
Eden	Berry
Naomi	Broadbent
Edith	Hamilton
Chloe	Tripp
Sia	Cukier
Jorja	Power
Abbi	Gardiner

The entire 16-1 girls team has faced quite a few adversaries this year and their resilient attitudes and ability to stick together is a quality that would make every parent proud. This group of ladies are all leaders and they display it in different ways that compliment one another. I could not be more proud to say that I had the opportunity to coach them! Thank you!



WILDCATS TEAM SPIRIT

Team: Boys U16 E8 Boys

Coach: Rachel Morgan

Assistant Coach: Mat Walker

Team Manager: Jacqui Sampson

Players:

Connor	Hince
Declan	Cole
Harrison	Parkhill
Jack	Morgan
Thomas	Stevens
Archie	Peacock
Bailey	Smith
Luke	Sampson
Sashaka	Welungoda
Carl	Calgano
Jesse	Smith

All season the 16-8 boys were an under sized bottom age team playing against opponents who were physically stronger and taller. We never gave up and despite only winning one game we challenged team with our hard work and resilience, playing every minute of the game. The most impressive thing about this team is teamwork and their sportsmanship especially in some trying situations. Very proud of these boys.



WILDCATS TEAM SPIRIT

Team: Boys U18 E4 Boys

Coach: David Graham

Assistant Coach: Spencer Graham

Team Manager: Simone Filip

Players:

Jasper	Brown
Andre	Canales
Blake	McCallum
Nick	Filip
Aidan	Jones
Harrison	McGrath
William	Champion
Parker	Dixon
Jamie	Hughes
Jye	Lupton
Ryan	Sciola

Where do you start with group of young men. They have had to overcome so many obstacles this year from injury, illness, suspensions, have had fill in players just to take the court and still finish 1st at the end of the home and away season. This group of boys have showed everything that this awards stand for. Professionalism, sportsmanship, And are most hard working & resilient boys I know.



PREMIERS – BOYS

Team: U12 E2 Boys

Coach: Jhye Burton

Assistant Coach: Andrew Oliver

Team Manager: Ange Amour

Players:

Cooper	Constance
Lucas	Oliver
William	Myles Boyle
Hunter	Trim
Flynn	Brockett
Stefan	Adams
James	Chindamo
Harrison	Brown
Andy	Mason
Patrick	Davies

Winning Grand Finals is often about peaking and building at the right time of the season and that's what the 12-2 boys did. They had a strong back half of the season which just scraped them into 5th position. They then went on to beat 4th by 41 points in an elimination final before to beating the top team by 2 points in overtime in the grand final. An amazing effort from the boys.



PREMIERS – GIRLS

Team: U12 E2 Girls

Coach: Fab Caverzan

Assistant Coach: Zarah Prendergast

Team Manager: Naomi Symington

Players:

Elsie	Butterworth
Violet	Johnson
Isobel	Coyne
Emily	Gartland
Esme	Nolan
Darcie	DiCarlo
Sophie	Molloy
Alexandra	Smith
Indigo	Symington

Throughout the season the 12-2's trained hard, learnt a lot about the game and had a heap of fun. The thing that we are most proud of about this group is that they played as a team, they were a team in every sense of the word rather than a group of individual stars. This resulted in such improvement throughout the season, and as every coach and assistant hopes, they managed to play their best basketball when it counted most. They met the top team in the grand final who had only had one loss in the whole season and this awesome bunch of girls managed to take it out and they won the VJBL 2 grand final. Zarah and Fab couldn't have been more proud.



PREMIERS - BOYS

Team: U16 E4 Boys

Coach: Nick Selzer

Assistant Coach: Tim Car

Team Manager: Giuliana Priolo

Players:

Hayden	Selzer
Julian	Chindamo
William	Penkethman
Isaac	Mullins
William	Falla
Lucas	Car
Xavier	Paterson
Harry	Morison
Brodie	Petrovic
Eros	Addamo

The 16-4 boys season started average with finding it hard to find our feet as a team with some bad losses and we were graded lower than we wanted and expected. However, we trained harder, learnt from our failures, celebrated our successes, supported each other during our times of need and created a top finishing team winning a premiership.



PREMIERS - BOYS

Team: U12 E1 Boys

Coach: Daniel Dowisha

Assistant Coach: Matthew Holland

Team Manager: April Anderson

Players:

Callan	McCann
Hugo	Gibson
Sachira	Welungoda
Austin	Jackson
Joshua	Anderson
Toby	Holland
Mitchell	Campbell
Billy	Hamilton
Darcy	Tabain
Thomas	Watts



PREMIERS - BOYS

Team: U20 E1 Boys

Coach: Rod Degenhardt

Team Manager: Michelle Lewis

Players:

Zahn	Agosta
Harrison	Stones
Aris	Hagopian
Tristan	Jones
Riley	Lewis
Bradley	Moorey
Anton	Stratov
Riley	Castles
Zac	Anderson
David	Mutavdzija
Mitchell	Blackburn

The under 20-1 championship boys season was a showcase of the hard work of each of the teams individuals and the quality of the Eltham Wildcats development focussed program that has seen these athletes come through the junior ranks. The focus and determination shown by the team to come up against quality teams week after week and find a way to continue winning was extraordinary. With tournament games, grading and regular season, the team completed a perfect 30-0 record and finished the season with a dominant display in the grand final beating Dandenong by 17 points. A well deserved VC Championship for the years of hard work put in by all players.



OUTSTANDING COACH AWARDS

U18 E3 Girls – Scott Gray

Scott has coached many of the girls in this team for several years and has played an important role in their basketball development. Scott's care for the girls and enthusiasm to ensure they enjoy their basketball and remain playing the game late in their junior careers has been a great asset to our club. Scott's efforts have been highly appreciated by the families and players he has worked with, well done Scott.

U12 E6 Boys – Paul Watt

Paul has spent countless hours of his own time with the boys with many team outings to build up the rapport that currently exists amongst the team and parents.

The Under 12 E6 boys championship team is a very cohesive and close knit team and in most part, this has been driven by Paul and the respect he has earned from the players and parents.

He has also organised numerous video review sessions of the games, highlighting the where the boys could improve and praising them when plays were executed correctly.

Paul is a dedicated, passionate member of our basketball community who has the ability to get the best out of his team and bring the players and parents together.



COACH SPECIAL RECOGNITION

U16 E8 Boys – Rachel Morgan

Rachel's team really struggled getting their first win for the season multiple games into the year. Rather than focusing solely on results, Rachel and Mat (assistant coach) worked on the principles of learning to play as a team and individual skills at training. This resulted in a very enjoyable season for the team and families. Rachel's ability to instil a love for the game also played a large part in the scoreboard results improving as the season progressed. Well done Rachel!

U12 E2 Girls & U18 E2 Girls – Fab Caverzan

Fab at the start of the season was originally going to take just the 12-2 girls but when we had a coach withdraw from the position, in true Fab form he put his hand up to help and take a second team. Fab may have won a fair few awards over the years, however, this is a testament to the continued effort, dedication and care he takes with all of his teams and the constant willingness to put his hand up and help out when the club needs. Thank-you Fab for your continued support of the program.



TEAM MANAGER SPECIAL RECOGNITION

U12 E2 Girls & U18 E2 Girls – Symington Family

Naomi and the rest of the Symington family are quite extraordinary in their dedication and organisation at many different levels of the club. This season Naomi and her crew managed multiple champ teams and gave each role the time and organisation it needed and more. On top of this they run the Unified basketball program on Wednesday nights & Sunday nights which is continuing to grow and help more and more people in the community.

U12 E3 Girls – Tash Barnett

Tash is the best team manager I have ever had in 21 years of basketball. From organizing everything and I mean everything, nothing is too much of an ask. Tash represents what community basketball clubs are all about. Her selfless attitude and volunteered time have been massive contributors to us having an amazing season regardless of results.

U12 E1 Boys – April Anderson

April has been a fantastic support for the 12.1 boys throughout the season. Apart from her TM duties, April has taken stats on every game the boys have played. Cut and pasted the film of all games for the boys and coaches to dissect. April has gone above and beyond the expectations of a TM. She has also organised numerous events where the boys and parents have caught up socially. Thank you April!

U14 E9 Boys & U16 E8 Boys – Jacqui Sampson

Jacqui is just amazing- everything was organised from game nights to trainings to tournaments and team catch ups in the holidays. And she does this for 2 teams! Nothing is too hard, or too much trouble. Having 11 players added to the complexity of our team but she handled rosters that continually changed with injuries, holidays and Covid. Amazing

U16 E2 Boys – Jenny Bradshaw

Jenny is an incredible Team Manager. She has calmly brought great organisation, whether it be tournaments, team payments, jobs. She has had our team over at home before games & during the season which has been great for team spirit. She brilliantly organised our tournaments including Traralgon & made the season so easy for us. A trusted confidant when needed & has been the glue for our group.



LEADERSHIP AWARD

U12 E3 Girls – Ebony Hall

Ebony is the heart and soul of our basketball team. She wears her heart on her sleeve and is always encouraging team mates to be the best they can. A vocal cheerleader from the bench, it is always team first. From selfless running to get back on defense to leading our warm up, her energy and enthusiasm is infectious. A true leader.

U14 E4 Girls – Alyssa Wearne

Alyssa was a leader on the court, on the bench and at training. She would give direction to the team, encourage them when she could and recognised the times we needed somebody to step up.

U14 E6 Boys – Cooper Bertram

Cooper was extremely valuable on court he ran the inbound plays talked constantly to his teammates and played in every position 1-5 man when needed. Cooper led by example he was the perfect team player and let by example. All the boys looked up to him for guidance on court.

U16 E1 Boys – Zain Andreeta

Zain or Eddie as he is known, showed great leadership throughout the entirety of the season. When Eddie was 'locked in' and vocal, all the boys would notice and replicate his actions. Eddie's attitude is one that is 'lead by example' which he showcases with his courage and determination each game. He is always the first one to put his body on the line or dive on a loose ball which his teammates love.

U16 E6 Girls – Matilda Johnson-Coad

In a season where the team didn't win many games Matilda was the constant voice of motivation and encouragement to keep the team focused and enthusiastic. Always cheering the loudest she made sure her team mates kept going in a positive direction at trainings and in games.

U18 E1 Girls – Sophie Davies

Sophie always led her team as vocal leader throughout practice and games. Sophie sets a high standard for team and encourages them to reach for those standards.



MOST IMPROVED PLAYER

U12 E1 Boys – Joshua Anderson

Josh has demonstrated his ability to work on his craft and further develop his skills at an elite level. He has worked on his footwork, aggression and ball handling when going to the ring. Josh has shown his commitment to working on his game for not only himself but also his teammates.

U12 E1 Girls – Grace Quinlan

Was extremely quite and timid at the beginning of the season. Was reluctant to handle the ball and would get limited court time. By the end of the season, Grace is starting and is our main ball handler, showing extremely finessed ball handling skills and confidence. Great work Grace!

U14 E2 Girls – Aneesha Kent

“Neesh” has worked hard to improve her game this season. Neesh has worked hard to develop into a strong multi-skilled guard who can control the floor and run structured offence or read the defence ahead of her to create scoring advantages. Neesh has worked hard this year to develop her finishes at the basket and being able to finish against bigger defenders.

U16 E1 Girls – Chloe Tripp

Chloe has improved with many assets of her game this season. Her defensive skills & the ability to get the ring is something she is very confident with, however her perimeter shot is a skill she has now added to her game.

U16 E8 Boys – Harrison Parkhill

Harrison is a tall player who thought he couldn't play defence but was willing to listen and work on his footwork and positioning on the court. His dedication to being the best meant that he has made significant progress in his defence, game awareness and confidence. His teammates love his attitude and enthusiasm for the game. His coaches love the solid defence and rebounding that he now shows.

U18 E4 Boys - William Champion

This season Will has had to play many different roles and this has resulted in him improving his all round game from his ball handling, shooting, and general game sense. Keep up the good work Will.



EXCEPTIONAL DEDICATION AWARD

U14 E1 Girls – Amy Thompson

Throughout 2022, Amy put herself in the position to be training three mornings per week before school in addition to her team commitments. Even on the coldest of winter mornings, Amy could be found at her sessions and ready to put in work. The results have started to come to fruition, becoming recognised as having one of the most reliable 3 point 'catch and shoot' strokes for her age. Amy's continued commitment to transitioning her game will hold her in good stead into the future

U14 E2 Girls – Freya Duckworth

Freya has had an injury interrupted season having had to miss several games during key points of our season due to these injuries to add to this Freya was also struck down with the "Eltham" flu which added to her being away from the game she loves. However, throughout all this Freya attended every Game and training session, supporting her teammates and her coach in any way she could.

U16 E1 Girls – Addison Knight

Addi would always be the player looking for extra work and feedback so she could constantly improve & develop her game. Her dedication to the game of basketball is evident in everything she does. Concentrating on sealing, positioning & footwork in the paint are some skills she has been perfecting and it is evident how much she practises in her own time!

U16 E3 Girls – Bonnie Jackson

Bonnie had a season ending knee injury in the 3rd round of the season. Bonnie attended every training session & game to support the team even though the team was not having a strong year. Bonnie was always positive & supportive of the group & a great team member in trying times for herself!

U16 E4 Boys – Lucas Carr

Lucas has trained and played all year and has been a focussed player considering his older brother had been battling cancer. His dedication to the teams training and games into finals did not waver at all. He still brought a positive energy that was infectious to his teammates and inspiring to all of us in 16-4.

U18 E1 Boys – Joshua Campbell

U18 E2 Girls – Jasmine Chan-Clayton

Jasmine's dedication to improving her skills is inspiring, you can find her practicing every morning before school which has shown in her amazing improvement. Keep up the good work Jasmine



U18 E4 Boys – Andre Canales

Andre is a basketball coaches dream always working on his game when he can, always seeking feedback on who he can improve and better himself as a player, keep up the great work it is paying off, well done Andre.

GLENN WYND MEMORIAL AWARD – BOYS

This award is dedicated to Glenn Wynd, who I was personally coached by in one of my very first seasons at the club. Glenn was an extremely dedicated coach for the club, who unfortunately passed away in 2014. Glenn began as a parent coach, but after his own children graduated he stayed on within the Championship Program, coaching all the way up to the VC level. This award is specifically to recognise a parent coach who has stayed on past their children's involvement as a player, showing their dedication to giving back to the club.

David Graham

David has been involved in the club for some time now and has helped in many different ways including helping managing the Senior Program for some time. Even with Dave's children now finished their playing journey, his passion for the club has kept him coaching and now has his son Spencer as his assistant coach. Everyone who knows David will know, he has a very kind nature and if you ever run into him he is always willing to have a chat about anything basketball and is always willing to contribute his time and expertise to the club.



STATE REPRESENTATION

2022

U18 State Team:

U18 Victoria Metro	Kristian Ferronato
U18 Victoria Country	Boston Dowling
U18 Victoria Country Development Coach	Carly Stones

U20 State Team:

U20 Victoria	Zahn Agosta
--------------	-------------

Ivor Burge:

Ivor Burge Victoria Assistant Coach	Adrian Carfora
-------------------------------------	----------------

NATIONAL REPRESENTATION

U16 FIBA Asia Cup Australian Team:

Kristian Ferronato

U17 FIBA World Cup Australian Team:

Kristian Ferronato

ELITE PERFORMANCE SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Kristian Ferronato