
AUSTRALIAN RULES

After a highly successful 1992 season the 2/4RAR Football Club fell into line with the requirements of the competition (similar to AFL but without the 'foreign' teams!) and fielded two sides. The plan worked extremely well, enabling more than 65 players to pull on the famous red & black jumper. The story of the two teams is captured in the following extract of a recent edition of *Inside Football*.

The 2/4RAR Firsts were a highly motivated and skilled team who recruited well over the off season. Coached by the under employed OC SPT COY, Simon Gould, the team tried hard to embrace everything that is good about football - play on at every opportunity, move the ball along the top side, kick it to me, essentially the Victorian game. Unfortunately some of the players who had been drafted from South Australian clubs found the plan a little too complex. Dave Drabble, now one of the oldboys at the club, was appointed captain to temper the enthusiasm of the coach. He continued to be dominant all year and only complained to the umpires once all year (NOT).

Those picked up from the draft included Baz Fawcett, the speedy left footed rover, Byrnesy at centre half back who easily held down the position all year and Eldo who returned to the club after a season with the Cambodian Crows. Young Tim Curtis gained selection in the big league in '93 after serving his apprenticeship with the Canberra leagues. Billy starred in early trail games along with the veteran Darren Orr, who crossed from a Victorian club in order to play his 400th game in Regimental Colours. Merro joined the club from the Brisbane Rams with Hoppy returning after a 'quiet' 92. These lads, together with the backbone of last years premiership team, represented the red & blacks in the ones. Ryno and Robbo teamed up with a recent acquisition, Scotty Brittnel to hold

the backline together. Reg and Ace returned to the back flank and played some brilliant games. Unfortunately Ace's contract expired in September and he had to be 'let go' to a well known WA club. George was the teams tall version of Michael Long but with better disposal, with S.M. Powell and Wal finishing the latter half of the season with 2/4 after preseason trials with SE Asian and African clubs respectively.

The club showed a great deal of faith in its depth of talent and went on to promote the likes of Wayne Lampard, Sweaty Bretty, Alby Carlin and WOW Jones into the firsts. They all went on to be key players in the finals.

The Firsts raced through the season as undefeated Minor Premiers. Highlights included strong wins against non combatants like the CMU Pies and 2Fd Eagles, solid wins against the old foes 1 RAR Blues, 4FD Demons, and 3CER Dingoes and the now infamous B.T. Smith headbut incident. During the 'home and away' games the team was handed winning scores from the boots of Dave Drabble, young 'Bros' Joycey (fresh from his Malaysian tour) and Andy Andrews (Victorian). The backline kept the opposition to pitifully low scores due to the strength and confidence of Ryno and Robbo. The 2nd semi final saw the red and blacks pushed to the final siren by the newboys to the comp the BASB Tigers. After a close encounter to 3/4 time the Battalion ran away to win by 4 goals. The Grand Final was the traditional battle between the rapidly improving Blues of 1RAR and the red & blacks.

Kicking with the wind in the first quarter 1RAR skipped away to a 6 goal lead and were never headed. The 2/4 RAR team came out in the third quarter and played some outstanding football, to be within 10 points at 3/4 time but could not convert the opportunities in the last quarter of the

wear. Best for the red & blacks were Andy, Scotty
B, WOW Jones, George and Drabs.

Well done to the team on your efforts in 1993.

Whilst the success did not come with a Premiership
you have played some great football and
represented the Battalion well. Set your sights high
in 1994.

THE COACH



Powelly grabs another mark against 1 RAR..

AUSTRALIAN RULES 2ND XVIII

It has been said many times during the year how important it is to have a B-side in the Brigade sporting competition, none is more apparent than in Australian Rules Football.

The year started slowly for the B's being defeated convincingly by the A-side, and although they didn't register a win for the rest of the season, they certainly gave some of the better sides a shake up, going down by the narrowest of margins. The mighty B's led 1 RAR all day until they were on the sticky end of a few unlucky bounces, and a wind disadvantage. 1 RAR went on to win in the last few minutes of the game, but had a healthy respect for 2/4 RAR B-side.

Even though the B's weathered the season without a win, there were some members lost to the A's. Jonsey (B Coy), started with the B-side and proved his worth when he was selected to line up with the A-side in the Grand Final and played a champion game. Some others to make the move were Wayne (let me take them for a few stretches for warm up or, this is how you slow the other ruckman down) Lampard (D Coy), Ports (Pioneers), Al Carlin (A Coy/BHQ), and Bazza Fawcett (C Coy) just to name a few.

On the other hand, Jim Taylor (BHQ/A Coy) moved in the other direction, even though the games he played with the A's were commendable. Good onya Jimmy.

All players gave 100% during training as well as the games. Some of the full time B-side players who played consistently well throughout the year were Mal Gray (D Coy) played most of the season with an injured wrist and put in a few blinders in full back. Millo (Sig PL) played well all year, and didn't mind the odd dust-up. Tassie Cashman (A Coy) was improving with each game until he was injured mid-season and missed a few games. Willy (Admin Coy-Cook) had the speed and agility but had to sit on the side line after receiving a knock.

With the year drawing to a close and members being posted or discharged, it would be a fairly safe bet to say that more than a few players will be promoted to the A's and leave gaps to be filled in the B's. So if you enjoy pulling on the boots and getting out on the oval for a run around and a kick, I'm sure the Super Coach, Steve (Chiefy) Jones would be more than happy to see you at training when the season kicks off in 1994.



Billy watches Drabs make another break.