

As the players walked out of the rooms, you could see that they truly wanted to be here, at the grand final of the ACC football season. From the first bounce both teams were head to head in a ruthless contest for the ball with Jack Hodgson making a great disposal within the first few seconds. Joeys continued to push the ball forward however St Bede's continued to counter our efforts until we broke their defence because of Jack Hodgson who landed a few good tackles but St Bede's managed to hit back and score the first goal of the game. Harry Ling tried hard to get the ball through the pack after the bounce and push into the forward line until Zac Walter making a magnificent effort, almost scoring a goal. As St Bede's pushed the ball into their forward half Andy McNeil was there to reverse the play and take a strong mark to get the ball back into our forward line. Frasier Toohey managed to grab the ball and kick a goal from the team's efforts. Joeys kept fighting back with some good handballs by Jack Brogden and Charlie Lang. Although Joeys managed to get the ball into our forward line we were hard pressed for an opportunity for goal, even though Zac Mongelli's efforts were impressive. St Bede's hit back by kicking a goal after running through the centre. From the centre bounce David Handley took a great mark from 35 m out, and he scored a great goal from this. The second quarter begins with great contesting from both sides with Joeys managing to push the ball forward. As St Bede's hit back, Captain Andy McNeil takes a few good marks and handballs managing to defend the backline brilliantly. Joeys keep their work rate constant with some great ruckwork by Jack Purcell. Ayden Gras presented himself very well but had trouble marking the ball. Soon after, Harry Ling gave a great tackle, that wasn't rewarded once again by the umpire, which gave Joeys an opportunity to push the ball forward. After many attempts to push it forward, Zac Mongelli managed to mark the ball excellently and followed it up with a brilliant goal. SJC and St Bede's continued to clash against each other and unfortunately St Bede's managed to score a goal. After a few clashes, Jack Stanton managed to defend well with a good mark and got the ball forward. The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter starts with Frasier Toohey gaining a free kick, it's about time that the umpire called a free kick, worst I've ever seen. David Handley crumbs the ball after the kick and scored a goal with a perfect snap. Again, after a great tackle by a Joey's player, the umpire doesn't call 'holding the ball', what is he thinking? After many clashes, Jack Purcell contested well in the ruck to give the on-ballers an opportunity to push it forward. Harry McMahon used the ball very well and managed to push the ball forward. A great goal was scored from the boundary line by Fraser Toohey due to a terrible kick by a St Bede's player. After the centre bounce, Brayden Ham took a great mark and followed it up with an accurate kick to Frasier Toohey but he doesn't kick a goal. As the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter starts, everybody in the crowd is nervous as the score is even. St Bede's have unfortunately managed to score the first goal. A few great disposals from Brayden Ham and Tom O'Callahan have gotten the ball forward. The umpire has been terrible nearly all game missing many illegal moves by St Bede's this quarter. Aaron Stone gives a few good disposals to get Joeys going again but St Bede's keep locking the ball in their forward line and Joeys can't manage to get the ball out until Jack Hodgson and Jack Brogden break St Bede's defence. Aaron Stone continues to show his skills by taking a great mark. Soon after, David Handley who has been playing impressively all game takes yet another mark but he only scores a behind. Harry McMahon then scores a brilliant goal until the biased goal umpire and the field umpire call a point, they said it was "touched" when it was clearly a goal. St Bede's unfortunately break through and score a few more goals. The siren goes and Joeys lose by 15 points!

#### **GRAND FINAL – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

**St Bede's 7.15 (57) def SJC 6.6 (42)**

**GOALS:** Fraser Toohey 3, David Handley 2, Zack Mongelli 1

**BEST:** Jack Hodgson, Aaron Stone, Tom O'Callaghan, Zac Walter, Jack Purcell, David Handley

@ Mentone Football Ground