

# Forestville Hockey Club 2018

## Junior Team Reports: Under 11s

### Under 11 Blue

U11 Blue had a very good season, winning or drawing about half their games and being very competitive in nearly every match. We had several U9 players in Alex, Evie, Heidi and Geraldine, and none of them were out of place. Goalie duties were shared between Alex, Lyla and William, and all 3 of them made some superb saves. As the season progressed, all of the players started to stick to their positions more and they passed the ball wide and into space, which gave our forwards plenty of great chances. Seb, Alice and Rex were instrumental in attack, setting up and scoring plenty of goals between them. Milly, Lyla, Evie and Heidi were strong in the midfield and in defence, with some exceptional tackles and passing. Everyone had a chance to try different positions and they all made their mark, even Alex who scored his first goal despite spending a fair bit of the season in goals or in defence.

It was really pleasing to see the kids come together as a team, and nothing showed this better than the last game of the season, when Lyla and William shared goalie duties and saved a heap of shots, then late in the game the kids got the ball down the other end with multiple passes and Rex finished it off beautifully. A great team goal to finish a great team season. Well down everyone, and good luck to those going up to U13 next year!

**Narelle Julian and Andrew Fisher, coaches U11 Blue**



## Under 11 Red

It has been a great season for all in the team with many new to U11 and even some new to hockey. When I reflect on the season it is not hard to recall an impressive achievement for every player and I have been very proud to be part of that. What was a standout for me was the amazing positive attitude and resilience the team showed. From the season start to its finish the improvement has been fantastic and something that each player can be proud of.

Coaching such a great bunch of kids has been very rewarding and it is the little moments along the way that have made all the difference. Red excelled in their positioning and passing play, and put on some very fine and exciting displays of team skills.

A big thank you to Emma and Dwaine and all the parents and helpers who have provided such positive support and for putting in the effort, I know it takes great dedication.

Everyone deserved recognition for their performance over this season:

- Benji – Our youngest player has shown so much skill and just loves hockey!
- William – Has proven himself to be a defensive tackling master.
- Evie – Has a great attitude, always so happy and a tactically aware and talented player
- Rupert – Goalie, goalie, goalie! Found something he just loves and is good at too, it is so pleasing to see that enthusiasm.
- Mackenzie – First season of hockey but showed a natural talent and improved each week.
- Matys – A passionate player who understands positioning, passing and has a powerful playing style.
- Charlotte – Skilled player whose solid performance has been just a pleasure to watch.
- Tus – Speed and fitness combined with technical hockey skill equals outstanding talent.
- Alice – Can play forward, back or goalie and all of them well, with unbeatable tackling performances.
- Shreya – Has displayed some exciting playing skills through a combination of excellent ball control, stick speed and positioning.

Congratulations to all and I hope you had fun! Finally thank you to Julie and the club for the support and encouragement, it has been outstanding and much appreciated.

**Andrew Miles, coach Under 9 Red**



## Under 11 White

The Under 11 White team has been an absolute privilege to coach this year. I find the most rewarding part of coaching to be getting to know the players and seeing them improve individually and as a team over the course of the year; and this year the improvement was amazing.

It was clear from the first game that we had a couple of real stand-out players, a few very good players and the rest were relatively inexperienced but still effective and enthusiastic. Whilst the skills of the more experienced players no doubt played a big role, I think it was the enthusiasm and effort of all players which played the biggest role in the team winning the premiership. We won all except 2 games of the season.

One of the challenges throughout the season was keeping the less experienced players involved and engaged. We did this in a few ways, including really working on passing in training. The 'hot potato' rule even came out in one match as a last resort and was surprisingly successful!

A few brief words about the players (in no particular order):

- Frank - a naturally talented player who is also dedicated to improving, doing lots of practice at home. I played Frank mostly in centre forward where he shot plenty of goals.
- Jacob - had a great first season in under 11's. I put Jacob on the wing a fair bit, because I could rely on him to hold his position, but he also played well in goals and centre forward.
- Oscar - like Frank, Oscar is naturally talented and dedicated. Oscar is also incredibly hard working and for this reason I played him in centre half back a lot.
- Nancy - Nano is a tenacious little player and I worked out towards the end of the season that she plays a great crumbing role around the goals. She makes great position and got a few goals this way.
- Hikaru - is an adaptable and capable player who went from strength to strength. He played mostly wing or full back, where he excelled.
- Hayley - is another versatile player. She improved over the season, particularly her willingness to tackle, which she did effectively.
- Jaeda - is a really handy defender, being quite fearless and tenacious. We worked on her tendency to panic when she gets the ball and this improved over the season.
- Kurtis - loves playing full back and is very good at it, but I also found he was excellent in any role, back, forward, half back, centre, wing, wherever. Kurtis is a great, skilful team player.
- Jessica - last but not least, Jessica started the season with very little experience but quickly became a very valuable member of the team. Her passing was a stand-out and we used Jessica for short corner push-ins due to her strength and accuracy.

All in all it was a great year, with the kids really gelling as a team and forming great friendships. Well done Forestville under 11 White Premiers!

**Mark Thomson, coach U11 White**



**FORESTVILLE HOCKEY CLUB 2018**

**FORESTVILLE UNDER 11 WHITE**

**BACK ROW:** Mark Thomson (Coach), Oscar Freeman, Hikaru Okada, Brooke Thomson (Team Manager)  
**FRONT ROW:** Nancy Farquhanson, Kuris Hunt, Frank Farquhanson, Jacob Thomson, Hayley Gray  
Absent: Jaida Wilmsey, Jessica Passuke