



2025 YPFL & YPNA

"Let's Play"



BA

Ryley Maitland (Moonta) and Monique Manners (Kadina) Yorke Peninsula Football League and YP Netball
 Association's 2024 best and fairest award winners red-hot favourites to secure places in the YP Country Times-sponsored 2025 Teams of the Year

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Kadina's Monique Manners, YP Netball Association A grade best and fairest winner for 2024, a top tip for the 2025 Team of the Year. Photo: Wilson McShane.

For the first time, the YP Country Times is partnering with the YPFL and YPNA to officially recognise football and netball A grade Teams of the Year.

The concept will honour the region's top footballers and netballers by selecting the best players in their respective positions.

YPCT managing director Michael Ellis said the idea was first brought to him by YPFL president Bradley Haylock.

"The real reason is the league approached us," Ellis said.

"It was a convivial chat, and I agreed we should do something.

"It was a combination of the YPFL and us coming together to give better recognition for the outstanding local talents."

The YPNA joined the initiative, expanding the program to netball.

Football

Haylock said a panel of five selectors - Craig Fitzgerald, Nick Polkinghorne, Luke Pridham, a YPCT representative and himself as chair of selectors — would choose the YPFL Team of the Year.

An initial squad of about 45 players will be cut down to a final 23.

"It's great, and (the YPCT) said they'd come on board and do it, which is fantastic," Haylock said.

"With the rules we've set, we're actually going to get the best 23 players in their positions.

Haylock said that, in previous years, selectors had simply chosen the best players, sometimes placing them in unfamiliar positions.

"This season, the selectors will choose players specifically for their role," he said.

"When we get to the centre players and the wings, there are going to be some good footballers who miss out.

"People will ask why, and the answer will be simple — if we were picking based purely on centre players, we'd have an unbalanced team."

To qualify, players must have played at least nine YPFL matches, with no age restrictions.

The YPFL Team of the Year will be officially announced at the Mail Medal count, where selected players will receive commemorative beer mugs.

However, there will be no Coach of the Year award on the night as the A grade premiership coach will be recognised instead.

Netball

YPNA president Meagan Daniel expressed excitement about bringing back the association's prestigious Team of the Year and thanked the YPCT for

sponsoring the initiative.

The return of the Team of the Year is a major boost for YPNA, further recognising and celebrating the region's top netball talent, she said.

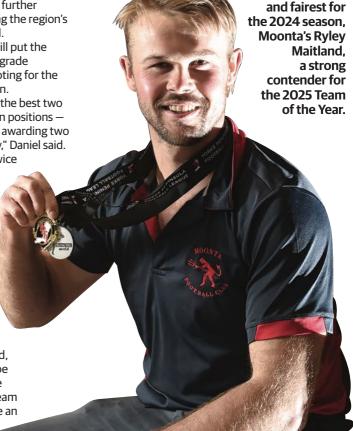
A fresh voting system will put the decision in the hands of A grade players, with each team voting for the top players in each position.

'Each team will vote for the best two players in each of the seven positions first best and second best, awarding two and one votes respectively," Daniel said.

Voting will take place twice during the season - once at the halfway point and again at the end of the minor round.

To ensure fairness, teams cannot vote for their own club members, making the selections more impartial and reflective of standout performances across the competition, Daniel said.

After votes are compiled. the Team of the Year will be revealed at the YPNA vote count ceremony, where team members will each receive an engraved wine glass



YP Football

League's best



Rolling subs roll on to new netball season

By Wilson McShane

Yorke Peninsula Netball Association will aim to consolidate last season's rule changes in 2025.

President Meagan Daniel said the introduction of 12 new rules, including rolling substitutions which she described as the most significant change had been a success.

"We had a lot of changes last year, so this year we're looking to be more settled," she said.

The biggest one was introducing rolling subs, which allow players to rotate on and off the court during the quarter. It has made the game more responsive to the conditions at play.

"If you've got a match-up that's not quite working in your favour, you don't have to ride it out for the entire quarter."

She said this rule change had also positively impacted junior grades, allowing teams with more players to rotate frequently.

As well as consolidating its new rules, Daniel said the YPNA remained committed to improving its iunior competition.

There are three YPNA junior development programs for top young netballers this season: Country Championships, the Thunderbirds Academy, and regional development clinics.

Daniel said the regional development clinics were introduced after Netball SA abolished its regional academy program.

"Netball SA pulled the pin on the regional academy program a few years ago and replaced it with the Thunderbirds Academy, but they're not as local, so families have to travel a lot more.

'That's how we got together with our neighbouring associations, and between us, we've been running our own program."

The regional development clinics are shared between the Yorke Peninsula, Northern Areas, North Eastern and Adelaide Plains associations, primarily targeting players aged 11 and 12.

Kadina will host the first clinic on April 29.

"Each year, it's getting stronger and more refined as we go. And we've found it has strengthened our ties with those other regions.

"Everybody does things a little differently, so you can learn from each other."

In addition to junior development, Daniel said the competition's senior and junior grades were

"After COVID-19, I thought we might lose people to other Saturday sport, and it would be hard to get netball going again, but it has just gone from strength to strength.

"A lot of clubs are reporting really strong numbers, and I hope that trend continues.

All clubs will take part in the ANZAC Round on ANZAC Day, playing alongside the football clubs – clubs are working with their local RSL subbranches to ensure the event is held respectfully."

All junior grades have teams from all clubs. For senior grades, all clubs except CY Cougars and Ardrossan are submitting D2 teams. D2 was introduced as the fifth senior grade two years ago and it is hoped these clubs will be able to fill their D2 teams as the season approaches.

In A grade, CMS Crows would again be tough to beat, while Moonta, Bute and Southern Eagles also appeared to have improved, Daniel said.

Game times for this season

Junior grade game times are unchanged:

- 9am H grade and F grade
- 10.15am G grade and E grade Senior grades rotation:
- Times 11.45am, 1.15pm, 2.45pm
- Groups C and D2 grades B and D grades, and

This schedule allows each team 15 minutes of warm-up time on their designated courts, YPNA president Megan Daniel said.

'This is particularly important for clubs that lack space for multiple teams to warm up while games are in progress," Daniel said.

Scribes, sharpen your pencils, please

Clubs, now is the time to organise your scribes for season 2025, which kicks off this Saturday, March 29.

The Yorke Peninsula Country Times kindly requests clubs provide reports for your YPFL A grade home game.

YPCT will continue to follow the YPNA roster this season, with all away sides to submit an A grade write-up each week.

All reports should be sent to

sport@ypct.com.au by Sunday midafternoon if possible but by 10am Mondays at the latest.

Do...

- Include interesting passages of play great goals, amazing defensive efforts, et cetera
- Tell the readers how the game flowed did one team start well and then the other make a comeback, for example?
- Include players' names to acknowledge noteworthy contributions
- Feel free to provide your own best players, even if you saw it differently to those who were officially chosen

Don't...

HOW TO WRITE YOUR REPORT

- X Include quarter-by-quarter scores for the football (we already have those)
- ✗ Go too far overboard criticising anyone including the umpires!
- ✗ Worry if you are not a brilliant writer − the important thing is that you tell us how the game went, so we can tell our readers – we can 'tidy up' your spelling and grammar if required





YPFL aiming for another record-breaking season

By Wilson McShane

If the Yorke Peninsula Football League has another close competition, it could attract even bigger crowds than last year and break its attendance records for the second consecutive season, president Bradley Haylock says.

Haylock, who received an AFL Merit Award last season, said new player signings had strengthened most clubs heading into the 2025 season.

"I think the reason we got the crowds we did last year was because of the closeness of the competition," he said.

"Now, if we get another close competition this year, I would've thought the crowds would be the same or maybe a whisker higher.

"And we can set goals, but unless it's a close competition, we probably won't achieve them — it all depends on how the football is played and how competitive the league is."

Last year, the YPFL surpassed its previous home-and-away season crowd record by about 900 people, with Wallaroo recording the highest attendance throughout the season.

The league also enjoyed record crowds at the grand final (at Moonta), second semifinal (Kadina) and preliminary final (Paskeville).

Haylock said that, due to last season's success and minimal rule changes from the SANFL, there would be few alterations in 2025.

"We only go by what the big boys (SANFL) tell

us, and they haven't told us much in terms of rule changes, so everything is about the same.

The fixture has been tweaked to accommodate the league's significant marquee rounds, such as the ANZAC Day round, when all matches will be played on Friday, April 25.

Bute (fifth in 2024) and Paskeville (sixth) will host the flagship match with RSL-sponsored awards going to the best-on-ground players in the A grade football and netball matches; each season, this honour rotates between the area's nine teams.

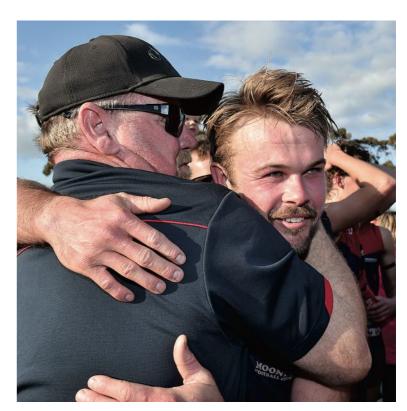
Other special weeks include the Pink and First Nations rounds.

Wallaroo and Central Yorke Cougars will enjoy a three-week break early in the season due to Easter, the AFL's Gather Round and their scheduled byes

Regarding the YPFL A grade premiership ladder rankings come September, Haylock said that 2024 wooden spooners, Wallaroo, had lost multiple players and could struggle to make finals, but placing the other eight teams would be challenging.

"I think the top eight will be stronger than last year, and if Wallaroo can retain the kids who come through the senior colts over the next three years, in time, they will be around the mark.

"But at the end of the day, we'd love another close competition like last year, and if the crowds are about the same as they were - or even bigger - that would be great," he said.



Moonta premiership coach Gavin Adams with captain and best on ground Ryley Maitland, after their premiership win over CMS Crows last year.



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YPFL launches expanded junior development program

By Wilson McShane

Four association squads have been selected as part of a YPFL initiative to prepare young footballers for higher-level competition.

The program focuses on the Under 13, U14, U15 and U17 age groups, with a series of training sessions leading up to interassociation matches

YPFL junior president Stephen Papps said each squad of about 35 players would gain valuable experience.

"Out of the 100 kids we put through these programs each year, they're all going to learn something," Papps said.

"It's not just about the kids with the ability to go all the way it also builds confidence for those who might not make it, helping them train and play at a

Following the initial training phase, coaches Ricky Mackereth (U13), Murray Gardner (U15) and Cameron Faulkner (U17) will finalise squads of about 25 players for competition.

The under 15s program was trialled in 2024, with the team going undefeated at the Central Zone Carnival in Balaklava.

This is the first time the program has been expanded across all age groups.

YPFL president Bradley Haylock said the league had made a significant financial investment in the program to help develop its young players.

Training and competition schedule

The U13s, U15s and U17s will train fortnightly for three months

The U14s will have a shorter program with two training sessions before competing against North Eastern.

The top U15 and U17 players will compete in the Country Carnival in June.

Inspiring the next generation

The U15s and U17s squads held their first training session on February 2, when Woodville-West Torrens league player and Bute export Kade Herbert presented their team shirts.

"Kade did a great job," Papps

"He's been through the AFL draft combine and elite system, so it was really interesting to hear from him.

"I think it also helped that he's only 19 and was an outstanding iunior up here."



PATHWAY PROGRAM... Members of the Yorke Peninsula Football League's expanded development program: Mason Papps, Tex Neumann, Zac Sherry, Isaac Freeman, Harry Rennie, Brodie Steer, Hunter Mumford, Frankie Bagnato and U15 association coach Murray Gardiner.

Big season ahead for Yorke Peninsula exports

By Peter Argent

Along with Broughton-Mundoora midfielder George Hewett (Carlton), Bute's Lachie Jones (Port Adelaide) and Caleb Poulter from Ardrossan (Western Bulldogs), more Yorke Peninsula footballers are preparing to take their games to the next

Naturally, with Yorke Peninsula zoned to SANFL club Woodville-West Torrens Eagles, the largest group of players is at Oval Avenue under the command of 200-game AFL Ardrossan legend Sam "Sauce" Jacobs, now in his second season as senior coach.

The YP Country Times caught up with Jacobs to discuss players contending for senior spots and some unfortunate injuries.

Paskeville left-footer Will Pearce suffered an ACL injury and will spend 12 months on the sidelines.

"You know with Will, we won't have any issues about him doing the rehab work," Jacobs said.

"He presents himself well and is a real worker on the track.

"Another who hasn't had much luck is Bailey Hann (Wallaroo), who suffered a fractured jaw in a basic handball drill, but we're expecting he should be right for round 1.'

There are several other talented players from the YP in line for senior opportunities this season.

"Max Litster (Minlaton) is a no-fuss character, he's professional and loves to learn," Jacobs said.

"Jett Hasting (Maitland) is tracking really well and is looking to slot into a role across half-back or on a wing.

"Will Neumann from Kadina has enjoyed an outstanding preseason, and he'll be pushing for a spot as a small forward in the senior team.

"With Griff Hansen (Kadina), we're looking to develop him into a key defensive role this year. He looks to be settling in well and is very coachable.

"Kade Herbert (Bute) has had a few niggles, but I expect he'll be better this season with more consistency in his role.

"Jack Wheare (Ardrossan) has been managing some knee issues. He played eight senior games, including a final, in 2024, which I suspect was above expectation.

"Jordan Tilbrook (Edithburgh) has had a solid preseason but is currently dealing with shin issues.

Woodville-West Torrens will be among the clubs pushing reigning back-to-back premier Glenelg, which enters the season as favourite.

"I suspect it will be an even season in the SANFL," Jacobs said.

"Momentum will be important early and wins in the first half of the season will go a long way."

"Moonta's Aidan Turner will continue as a top-up player, training with the Port Adelaide Magpies again this season, while veteran defender Jake Summerton (Wallaroo) remains with South Adelaide.

Summerton enters his 14th SANFL senior season and is keen to continue in leadership roles at the Panthers after captaining the side for the past two years.

Former Bute-Paskeville junior and Powerlisted player Boyd Woodcock will continue with Southport in the VFL after winning the club's best and fairest last season. Southport lost the 2024 VFL grand final to Werribee by just six points.

SANFL Women

The SANFL Women's season starts a couple of weeks before the men's, commencing on March 15.

Already part of the under 18 state program, Imogen Trengove (Bute) is one to watch at Woodville-West Torrens this year.

At West Adelaide, experienced forward Nicole Hooper (Maitland), along with vice-captain, former SANFL best and fairest medallist Hannah Button (SYP) are expected to be key pillars in the Bloods' league side.





Clubs upgrade courts ahead of new season



FIRST GAMES AT NEW FACILITIES

Edithburgh — March 29 (round 1) Ardrossan — April 5 (round 2) Maitland — April 25 (round 3) Minlaton — August 9 (round 16)

The newly resurfaced Central Yorke Cougars netball courts at Maitland. **PHOTO: Central Yorke Cougars.**

By Wilson McShane

Netball facilities on Yorke Peninsula have had major renovations, with three clubs upgrading their courts.

Through a combination of local fundraising and grants, Minlaton, Maitland and Ardrossan have resurfaced or installed new courts.

Yorke Peninsula Netball Association president Meagan Daniel said it was pleasing to see netball continue to grow in the region and clubs continually improving their facilities.

"It's nice to see our clubs always working to improve facilities for our players," Daniel said.

'Quite a few clubs have been busy over summer, which has been fantastic."

Ardrossan resurfaced its courts for the first time in 15 years, raising \$63,000 through community fundraising and Yorke Peninsula Council grants over the past two years.

While the courts were deemed playable, Ardrossan A grade netball coach Kate Pfeiffer said it was important to resurface them, given they were used for multiple sports, including basketball, tennis and netball.

"We are very grateful for the upgrade," Pfeiffer said.

'With the tennis and basketball clubs already using the courts, they are helping us wear in the surface, ready for the netball season to begin."

Maitland also resurfaced its courts in the offseason after the YPNA deemed two of them unplayable last year.

After years of unsuccessful grant



Minlaton Tennis Club life members Jeff Martin, Kristy Coombe, Julie Bennett, Josh Coombe, Sharon Glazbrook and Peter Button at Minlaton's new shared-use courts. PHOTO: Minlaton and District Community and Sports Centre.

applications, the club was awarded \$250,000 in State Government funding through the Power of Her program in July. The resurfacing was finalised in December.

A month later, Minlaton officially opened its new courts, established next to the oval.

CMS Crows Netball Club secretary Amanda Pitt said the courts' location would likely attract sizeable winter crowds and allow spectators to move between football and netball.

"Being in close vicinity of the oval and football will bring people and crowds to the netball games, creating a fabulous atmosphere for the CMS Crows," Pitt said.

(It) means all our netball teams will be able to train at the same facility alongside our footballers (and) will enable our entire club to build a fantastic culture across both nethall and football

"We will be able to facilitate crosstraining with our footballers, creating a real connection that we haven't had before."

Pitt said netballers previously trained at the Minlaton District School courts, a short distance from the oval, and while the club was grateful for those facilities, the new courts would provide more opportunities.

'These new courts will allow our netballers access to full changerooms,

shower and toilet facilities - something we haven't had before.

"They also put netballers in close proximity to our trainers and medical rooms in case of injuries.

"The new court surface is top-class and will ensure the safety of our players, while also providing extra space for umpires to move and adjudicate the game."

Edithburgh has had a \$1.8 million upgrade, installing lights on the football oval, new clubrooms and a community gym. The Federal Government-funded project was designed to help the region recover after the 2019-20 Black Summer bushfires.







YPFL A GRADE 2014 PREMIERS... Paskeville, back: runner Jamie Yeates, team manager Trevor McInerney, assistant coach Ben Bussenschutt, Mark Rundle, coach Shaun Glacken, Martin Daniel, best on ground Tyson Wait, Liam Martin, president Chris Price, Abraham Helfand, Michael Daniel, Brodie Paige, Tom Bussenschutt, Matthew Rodda, Luke Harrop, Seth Matson, Mark Dolling; front: Stuart Daniel, Glen Mulders, Mitchell Wooding, Gavin Bussenschutt, Nick Madden, Shayne Biacsi, captain Todd Price, Jonathon Price, Ashley Bruce.

From the archives...

Paskeville's near miss in 2014 dual premiership bid

By Wilson McShane

Paskeville came close to achieving the ultimate dream of dual A grade football and netball premierships in 2014.

After finishing top of the YPNA ladder after the minor rounds and having won two of the previous four premierships, Paskeville's netball team fell short by just one goal, losing to Kadina in a dramatic grand final overtime thriller.

Meanwhile, Paskeville's A grade footballers claimed their second Yorke Peninsula Football League premiership,

defeating CMS Crows by 17 points.
Heading into the 2014 football grand final at Moonta, Paskeville faced what YPCT scribe Kenn Rogers described as a "premiership jinx" after three consecutive grand final losses between 2005 and 2007.

The early signs were not promising, with CMS leading at every break. However, an unfortunate Achilles injury to CMS star ruckman Simon Nowak in the warm-up, which forced him to be stretchered off before the first bounce, foreshadowed a tough day for the

Paskeville stormed home in the final term, kicking five unanswered goals

to secure the flag. Tyson Wait was named best on ground for his standout performance

Despite a 13-year premiership drought, the black and white didn't have to wait long for their next title, defeating Kadina the following season.

While Paskeville's footballers triumphed, Kadina's netballers spoilt the Magpies' party by claiming their first premiership since 1990 in an unforgettable A grade grand final.

Paskeville forced overtime after a late goal levelled the scores at 39-all.

Two terms of extra time followed. Kadina held a one-point lead at the end of the first — a margin they clung onto until the final whistle.

Kadina goal defence Hayley Gullery was named best on court.

Since their narrow 2014 netball grand final defeat, Paskeville has contested six A grade netball grand finals, winning two (2016, 2017) and finishing runners-up four times (2018, 2022, 2023, 2024).

Had Paskeville secured both the A grade football and netball premierships in 2014, it would have joined CMS Crows as the only club to achieve the feat in the past 15 years.



COACHES' CRYSTAL

We asked each team's A grade coach to predict what they think season 2025 has in store. Here's what they said...

FOOTBALL

Which club will you face in this year's A grade grand final? Moonta – 5 Cougars – 2 Paskeville - 1 CMS-1

Which player (not from your club) will win the Mail Medal? Ryley Maitland, Moonta - 4 Trent Heffernan, CY Cougars — 2 Nathan Allen, Southern Eagles – 1 Josh Hoyle, CMS Crows - 1 Charlie Dowling, Ardrossan – 1

Which club is the dark horse for this year's premiership? Paskeville - 4 Bute -2Cougars – 2 Southern Eagles – 1

NETBALL

Which club will you face in this year's A grade grand final? CMS Crows -7Paskeville – 2

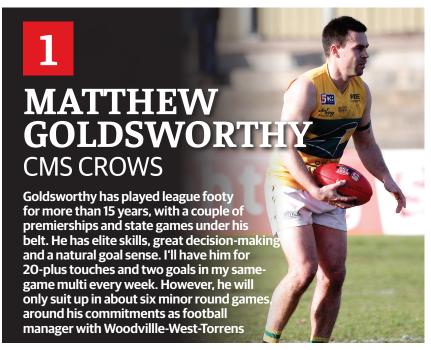
Which player (not from your club) will win the best and fairest award? Monique Manners, Kadina – 4 Teesha Angus, Moonta - 2Bronwyn Farrow, CMS Crows – 2 Georgina Farrow, CMS Crows -2Kate Pfieffer. Ardrossan - 1 Demi O'Brien, Bute -1Tasmyn Biddell, CMS Crows -1

Which club is the dark horse for this year's premiership? Paskeville – 3 Moonta - 3 Ardrossan - 1 Kadina - 1 Bute -1





Yorke Peninsula Football League





TRENORDEN CY COUGARS Trenorden is still the number one big man on the peninsula, though that title is more contested than in recent years. He has excellent ruck craft and strong marking around the ground, and can push forward to hit the scoreboard. . Good skills (for a ruckman).

Channelling mediaeval astrologer Nostradamus, seasoned tipsters "Ump's Final Whistle" and "Eric 'Tippy' Tipwood" have predicted the top 10 Yorke Peninsula netballers and footballers to watch in the 2025 season.

'Ump's Final Whistle" returns to the role of netball tipster after a four-season stint from 2010 to 2013. Meanwhile, "Tippy", who made their debut as the YPFL tipster in 2024, is back on deck for another season of footy predictions.

PHOENIX FOSTER

Foster is a big man, fresh off an AFL list, and should have a huge impact. Played plenty of VFL footy over the past couple of seasons. At nearly 200cm tall, he'll be a nightmare matchup for any defender.



ZAC BATES CY COUGARS

Bates is coming off another huge season, winning club best and fairest and finishing second in the Mail Medal. On his day, he's electric, and can tear a game apart from the midfield with speed and silky skills.



NATHAN ALLEN SOUTHERN EAGLES

Allen is finally getting the recognition he's deserved for years. He's so strong around stoppages that he's nearly impossible to tackle, and he also takes plenty of marks around the ground.

MICHAEL VIRGIN MOONTA

It's always tricky to rank guys who haven't played on YP before, but Virgin is a former league footballer with North and Glenelg, won a SANFL premiership (2019) and spent last season at Phos Camden. Another quality addition for the reigning premiers.

TRENT HEFFERNAN CY COUGARS

A state amateur league footballer and division I premiership player, Heffernan is a big get. Adding another elite midfielder to the Cougars' lineup is a scary thought; he impacts the scoreboard, too, which will be handy.



JACK ELSWORTHY KADINA

Silky ball user and elite decision-maker. Made the Team of the Championships at last year's Zone Carnival and will be leading Kadina as an assistant coach this season.



ANGUS GLAZBROOK CMS CROWS

Last season's leading goal kicker and captain of a grand final team, Glazbrook was also named best YP player at the association carnival. Will be dangerous around goals again in 2025.





Yorke Peninsula Netball Association



KATE PFIEFFER ARDROSSAN

It is nice to see Ardrossan benefiting from a junior returning to her grassroots and helping the A grade side to more success. Pfeiffer, who will take on the A grade coaching role this season, brings years of Premier League experience back to the country. She reads the ball like a book and causes a multitude of turnovers, week in, week out,





DEMI O'BRIEN

Bute is thanking its lucky stars since the day O'Brien decided she would don the red and white. She had an exceptional 2024 season, polling equal fourth in the YPNA vote count. She is a clean netballer, competitive and impacts in and around the circle, as well as bringing the ball out of defence.



GEORGINA FARROW CMS CROWS

Farrow would have to be one of the tallest players in the A grade competition. She is solid in GK but can also be impactful when given the opportunity at GS.





LAURA TRENORDEN CY COUGARS

Trenorden is steady and reliable in the midcourt for the Cougs. She watches the play like a hawk and knows when she is needed to drive strong or cut through. Trenorden feeds exceptionally well to the goalies but also has a strong defensive string to her bow.



GEORGIE GARRARD

Whilst Garrard claims basketball as her main sport, she is also ruthless when it comes to netball. Her power and strength will be a huge asset to Kadina this season – no matter which end she plays — if she can re-adapt to netball rules quickly.



ISSY BURFITT WALLAROO

Returning to the court after having children is never easy but Wallaroo desperately needed its star goalie to do so in a hurry last year. Burfitt (formerly Glasgow) fits the GA/GS role like a glove and, with another year of fitness under her belt, will only help the Dogs to hopefully chalking up a few more wins.



LAUREN MAXWELL **PASKEVILLE**

With many changes to its line-up this season, Maxwell will provide consistency and great knowledge of the game and opposition sides. Maxwell returned in 2024 after a knee reconstruction and proved she can play either in goals as either a fast-moving GS or GA, or out on the wing as a feeder.

Midfield depth key to Roos' campaign

Can the Roos recapture last season's late form?

After a slow start in 2024, Ardrossan found form late, winning four of its last seven games, including victories over Southern Eagles and Central Yorke Cougars in the last two minor round

A grade playing-coach Sam Pfieffer, who took over last year, said the team was hopeful of improving on close losses.

"We can improve by being more consistent and better at closing out tight games," Pfieffer said.

Ardrossan narrowly missed finals last year, with two of its last five losses decided by fewer than four goals.

This season, Pfieffer wants the Roos to adopt an attacking, open style of football, inspired by former North Melbourne coach Dennis Pagan's tactic known as "Pagan's paddock".

"We want to play an exciting brand of footy that's enjoyable to watch while continuing to develop our younger players," Pfieffer said.

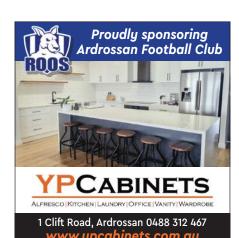
The strategy involves vacating the forward 50, allowing forwards to push higher up the ground before bombing the ball into open space for fast, attacking play.

Although losing Charlie Gibson, Ardrossan retains Charlie Kirchner and Charlie Dowling, both key midfielders.

Pfieffer praised their workrate last season, saying their combination and midfield depth could give Ardrossan an edge this year.

He also highlighted George Rowntree and Louis Green as exciting prospects to watch in the upcoming season.







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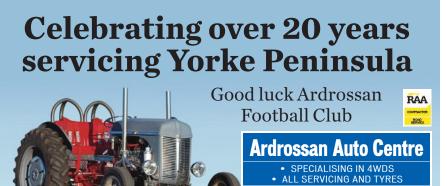
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Ardrossan NETBALL CLUB

YOUR ULTIMATE GUIDE TO THE 2025 YORKE PENINSULA FOOTBALL & NETBALL SEASON

Roos focus on fitness and junior development

as Ardrossan's A grade coach, replacing Katherine Kennedy, and expects to see significant junior development throughout the

Pfieffer, last season's A grade best and fairest, said despite only securing two wins in 2024, her side was motivated to achieve success this year.

"We had a lot of close margins last year, so our focus will be on winning those tight games by committing to strong starts, improved fitness, and transition defence," Pfieffer said.

Identifying fitness as a key area for improvement. Ardrossan was one of the earliest clubs to begin preseason, starting in early January.

"Our goal this season was to be fitter than last year," Pfieffer said.

"This will enable us to start the season strong rather than playing catch-up, which was our downfall last year.

"We've been training twice a week, with one strength session alongside our running program.

"Morale is getting higher the fitter we get!

The Roos are focusing on sustaining full-court transition defence while implementing a quick-release attacking style.

Ardrossan will be bolstered by rising stars, including Alexa Simmons, who cemented her place in A grade last season, and Caitlyn Wheare, the 2024 YPNA E grade runner-up best and fairest.

Jemma Mattschoss, who shared the E grade runner-up award with Wheare, is also a senior selection prospect this season.

The club has also welcomed Sophie Tornton, who will bring valuable experience and help mentor younger players.

"I'm excited to see what she will bring to our game and club as both a player and junior coach," Pfieffer

Pfieffer emphasised the club's commitment to developing junior players and ensuring a strong pathway to senior netball.

"We are fortunate to have some of our top senior players coaching junior grades," she said.

'We'll also be implementing a buddy system across grades to continue strengthening the bond within the club."







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Roosters keen for finals success

Michael Box has taken over as Bute's A grade coach, replacing Sam Trengove, and is determined to build on last year's momentum.

The Roosters broke a 14-year drought in 2024, winning their first final in over a decade by defeating Southern Eagles on their home ground.

Box said he hoped to replicate the fast, clean football that led to that victory.

"We're going to really try and play a fast brand of football and use our strengths," Box said.

Despite the loss of Josh Koster (last season's best and fairest), Box said he was pleased with player retention and a handful of recruits from Wallaroo and Broadview.

He said there was growing belief within the club, reflected in strong training numbers.

"I'm very excited!

"We've had really good numbers at training - the best in a few years.

"Bute has come a long way, and there's now real belief that we can win games.

"That first final had the players and the whole town buzzing."

Although veterans Dylan Boundy and Sam Trengove remain in the side, most of Bute's squad is aged under 30, with emerging talents such as Angus Cock and Billy Harris coming through.

"Most of the team is between 22 and 29, with a few younger players under 21," Box said.

After the high of its first finals win, Bute's season ended with a 63-point semifinal loss to CMS Crows.

While acknowledging the blowout loss, Box said the team had been competitive in most matches throughout the season.







Kadina | 38 Graves Street, Kadina | Phone 8821 1322 | Maranteed |









Bute NETBALL CLUB

YOUR ULTIMATE GUIDE TO THE 2025 YORKE PENINSULA FOOTBALL & NETBALL SEASON

Bute to back up big season



Following Bute's A grade preliminary final exit last year, Marissa Hewett, Brooke Russell and Olivia Dunn have stepped in as co-coaches for the 2025 season.

All three are current A grade players, and they say the team's preparation has been strong ahead of the new season.

"We have a highly motivated playing group who have stayed connected through personal fitness and summer sports programs," the coaches said.

The club began preseason training last month, with a mix of beach fitness sessions and a club camp in Wallaroo.

"We've been building and developing connections for

a few years now, and we're excited to have retained many senior players; 2025 will also see the return of many familiar faces," they said.

The coaches believe their defensive structures and quick midcourt transitions will be key to success this year.

"We are confident we can expose sides with our defensive pressure and ability to adapt quickly," they said.

"We'll focus on speed through the midcourt and strengthening connections in our goal circle to ensure we convert and close out games." The team will also be led by 2024 club best and fairest Demi O'Brien,

along with their coaches, all of whom will take the court With strong player interest, the club has held trials to finalise squads for 2025

"The depth and experience in our club has been building, and we are excited to see what we can achieve this season," the coaches said.











A GRADE PREMIERSHIPS

Home and away — 12 wins, 4 losses

Best and fairest — Demi O'Brien

Farewell — Hannah Wellington;

Charlotte Rose, family and work

PLAYER MOVEMENT

1966, 1988, 1993, 2007

2024 RECORD

Finished — third

commitments.

OUR TIP

Third

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2025 YORKE PENINSULA

29th March

Wallaroo v **Bute**

Southern Eagles (E) v Kadina

Paskeville v Ardrossan

Moonta v CY Cougars

CMS Crows bye

5th April

Ardrossan v Moonta

Kadina v Paskeville (Night)

Bute > Southern Eagles

CMS Crows (C) v Wallaroo

CY Cougars bye

AFL GATHER ROUND 12th April

EASTER 19th April

ANZAC Round — Friday, 25th April

Bute v Paskeville

CY Cougars v **Ardrossan**

Southern Eagles (E) v CMS Crows

Moonta v Kadina

Wallaroo bye

Paskeville v Wallaroo

Moonta v CMS Crows

CY Cougars v **Bute**

Ardrossan v Kadina

Southern Eagles bye

Pink Round — 10th May

Kadina v CY Cougars

Bute v Moonta

CMS Crows (C) v Paskeville

Wallaroo v **Southern Eagles**

Ardrossan bye

17th May

Wallaroo v Moonta

CMS Crows (C) v CY Cougars

Bute V Ardrossan

Southern Eagles (E) v Paskeville

Kadina bye

24th May

Moonta v Southern Eagles

CY Cougars ∨ Wallaroo

Ardrossan v CMS Crows

Kadina v Bute

Paskeville bye

31st May

CY Cougars v **Paskeville**

Ardrossan V Southern Eagles

Kadina v Wallaroo

Bute v CMS Crows

Moonta bye

RIENCUP 7th June

ETBALL SA 7th-9th June COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

14th June

CMS Crows (S) Wallaroo v Are

Southern Eag

Paskeville v M

Bute bye

21st June

Bute V Wallard

Kadina v Sout

Ardrossan v P

CY Cougars v I

CMS Crows bye

28th June

Moonta v Ard

Paskeville v K

Southern Eag Wallaroo v CM

CY Cougars bye

5th July

Paskeville v B

Ardrossan v C

CMS Crows (S) Kadina v Moo

<u>Wallaroo</u> bye

/ Cour



















FOOTBALL & NETBALL



∨ Kadina

drossan

es (W) v CY Cougars

oonta

hern Eagles

askeville

Moonta

rossan

adina

es (W) v Bute

S Crows

ute

Y Cougars

∨ Southern Eagles

AMPIONSHIPS 12th July

ntry Times

19th July

Wallaroo v Paskeville

CMS Crows (S) v Moonta

Bute v CY Cougars

Kadina v Ardrossan

Southern Eagles bye

26th July

CY Cougars v Kadina

Moonta v Bute

Paskeville v CMS Crows

Southern Eagles (W) v Wallaroo

Ardrossan bye

2nd August

Moonta v Wallaroo

CY Cougars v **CMS Crows**

Ardrossan v Bute

Paskeville V Southern Eagles

Kadina bye

9th August

Southern Eagles (Y) v Moonta

Wallaroo v **CY Cougars**

CMS Crows (M) v Ardrossan

Bute v Kadina

Paskeville bye

16th August

Paskeville v CY Cougars

Southern Eagles (Y) v Ardrossan

Wallaroo v Kadina

CMS Crows (M) v Bute

Moonta bye

23rd August

Kadina v CMS Crows

Ardrossan v Wallaroo

CY Cougars v **Southern Eagles**

Moonta v Paskeville

Bute bye

QUALIFYING FINAL

30th August @ Bute

ELIMINATION FINAL 31st August @ Ardrossan

2ND SEMIFINAL

6th September @ Minlaton

1ST SEMIFINAL 7th September @ Wallaroo

PRELIMINARY FINAL

13th September @ Kadina

GRAND FINAL

20th September @ Maitland

U9S & U11S

JUNIOR COLTS. **10am SENIOR COLTS...** 11.20am

B GRADE 12.55pm **A GRADE** 2.40pm

F&HGRADES. 9am **E&GGRADES**. . 10.15am Senior grades rotation: TIMES...11.45am, 1.15pm, 2.45pm Groups: C and D2 grades, B and D grades, and A grade

LEGEND: Curramulka (C), Minlaton (M), Stansbury (S), Edithburgh (E), Warooka (W), Yorketown (Y)







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CMS Crows strengthen lineup after grand final heartbreak

After a devastating 101-point loss to Moonta in last year's grand final, the CMS Crows have added depth to their squad to address key weaknesses.

A grade coach Jamie Kemp, who has intermittently led the team for six seasons, said the club had recruited strategically to fill gaps in the lineup.

"We identified the areas we needed to improve and recruited players accordingly," Kemp said.

"We didn't just bring in random players — we specifically targeted those who could help us compete against the top sides."

Kemp acknowledged that, while the team reached the grand final last year, many players were still adjusting to one another throughout the season.

With a full year together and the addition of new talent, he said he believed the squad would be more cohesive.

"Last year, we had a group of players who were all new to the club." Kemp said.

"This year, having that experience together will help.

"We haven't made a lot of changes, but the few additions we've made will definitely strengthen us."

While Kemp expected the team to maintain its free-flowing style of play, he wanted to see greater physicality and a stronger defensive presence.

'We're aiming to play a similar brand of footy, but we need to be a bit tougher and increase our tackling pressure," he said.

Kemp also recognised that Moonta remained the benchmark.

"Everyone will need to improve significantly to beat Moonta," he said.

"This is my sixth year coaching, and I don't think I've ever seen them as strong as they are now.

'They just keep getting better, especially with the quality recruits they bring in."



James Redden, CMS Crows, celebrates after kicking a goal against CY Cougars.

















Crows aim for fifth straight premiership

The CMS Crows will look to secure their fifth consecutive premiership this season, further cementing their current dominance in country netball.

Excluding a one-point loss to Paskeville in the qualifying final, the Crows were nearly flawless last season, capping off their impressive campaign with a fourth straight grand final victory.

A club spokesperson said that, while on-court success remained the goal, building a strong club culture was the key focus.

"Once again, our goals revolve around culture development, but this year we're also prioritising coaching development," the spokesperson said.

The team will be without runner-up YPNA best and fairest Teagan Goldsworthy, who is expecting another child.

However, the Crows are confident they can maintain their fast, attacking style through consistency and training.

"We have great depth in the club and hope to welcome back past players returning from injury or after a break," the spokesperson said.

"We haven't recruited from outside the club, but we're focused on developing consistent plays across all grades.

"We'll continue to push our fast ball movement through the midcourt and maintain defensive



2001, 2011, 2012, 2018, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

2024 RECORD Finished — premier Home and away — 16 wins, 0 losses Best and fairest -Melissa McSkimming

PLAYER MOVEMENT Farewell — Tyla Cook, Darwin; Tegan Goldsworthy, maternity leave.

Runner-up

pressure across the whole court."

The Crows' senior squad will also be strengthened by the inclusion of E grade players, who featured in last season's grand final.

"We're excited to introduce our E grade players into the senior ranks full-time," the spokesperson said.

"Our E grade and junior program have grown successfully over recent years, and we're keen to see their impact at senior level."

. The Crows will open their season against Wallaroo in round 2 on April 5.





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Cougars bolster list for finals revenge



William Baker, Central Yorke Cougars, takes an outstretched mark last season.

Can Central Yorke Cougars break their finals jinx in 2025?

Despite being one of the most consistent regular-season teams in recent years finishing fourth in 2023 and first in 2024 - Central Yorke Cougars have struggled in finals, winning just one of their past four.

However, both recent losses were by less than four points, proving they are not far off premiership contention.

With six new recruits, playing-coach Luke Trenorden – the 2023 YPFL Mail Medal winner - is confident in his squad and is eager to play a fast, high-pressure brand of football

"We'll aim to turn the ball over as quickly as possible and move it fast to score," Trenorden said.

Trenorden is particularly excited to play alongside Doug Greig and Trent Heffernan, who arrive from Port Districts after winning the Adelaide Footy League division 1 grand

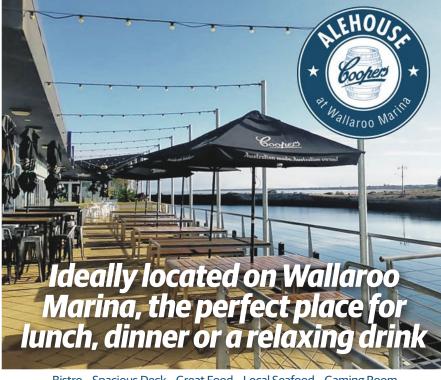
"Doug and Trent bring valuable experience in big games, and I'm eager to see the leadership they will contribute," he

Another key addition is Riley Davey, who has previously played reserves at Woodville-West Torrens but will now be a full-time Cougar.

"I'm excited to watch Riley enjoy his football — he will be a strong player in our league this season," Trenorden said.

After last season's two-point preliminary final loss to CMS Crows, the Cougars have prioritised building strength, improving fitness, and maintaining composure in highpressure matches.

They open their season against Moonta in round 1, followed by three weeks of byes.



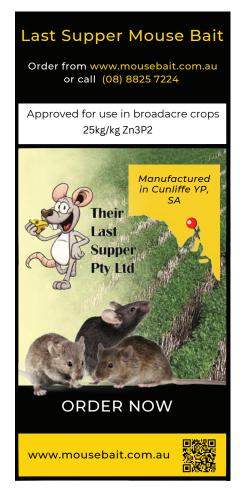
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Cougars focused on consistency

Central Yorke Cougars will enter the 2025 season with confidence in their depth and consistency, according to coach Lana Bagshaw.

While the squad had farewelled a few players due to work and study commitments, Bagshaw said the club retained a solid core group.

"At this stage, we still have a good core group, with a couple leaving for work or study," she said.

"Some may have moved to other local clubs, but we wish them the best!"

Cougars finished fourth in 2024 but were eliminated in the first final by Bute.

This season, the team is determined to go further by adopting a controlled and reliable style of netball.

"We want to play on our terms — nothing flashy, just back to basics and settling into a good tempo for our team," Bagshaw said.

The coach is excited about the balance of experience and youth in the A and B grade squads, with seasoned players expected to take on court leadership while younger players bring energy and

A key focus area will be reducing opposition "run-ons", after the Cougars recorded an average losing margin of 19.7 goals last season.

"We want to wear teams down and grind away, making each ball a contested effort," she said.

As the season approached, Cougars ramped up preseason training, taking advantage of their new

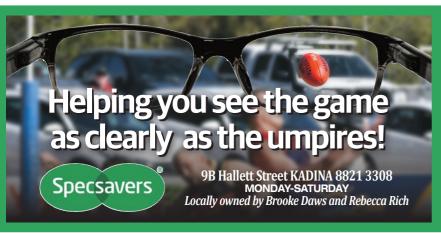
"It's early days, but the vibe is up and about - and our new courts have put a spring in our step!"

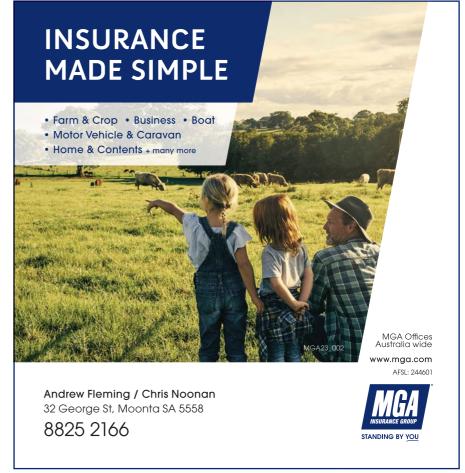


Alex Hillebrand, Cougars, searches for a teammate in the elimination final against Bute last year.









Kadina eyes finals return after tough 2024 season

Despite being crowned premiers in 2023, Kadina endured a season to forget in 2024.

Injuries to key players, including Jesse Bruce and Ryley Hansen, contributed to the Bloods losing their last five matches by an average 51.8 points, to finish eighth on the ladder.

However, with proactive recruiting and strong preseason numbers, new president Tim Neumann is confident the team will once again be in contention.

Neumann said the club was focused on developing a strong team culture to drive success.

"We want to be consistent with our messaging, embrace the youth in our group, and build a strong culture and values," he said.

He believes fitness and smart football will be key to the team's resurgence.

"We want to play a hardrunning brand of football with good decision-making," he said.

"Being underrated and well-drilled will help us expose opposition teams."

Kadina will once again be co-captained by Jack Elsworthy - last season's best and fairest - and Jayson Manners.

Experienced players such as Chris Flavel, Alex East and Giles Ellis will provide leadership on and off the field.

Premiership coach Gregg Clarke will return for his third consecutive season leading the A grade, having previously coached the A and B grades, and under 17s.

Neumann said the team was determined to improve on last season and push for a return to

"Winning more early games and maintaining strong connections within the playing group will be important,"

He also highlighted the club's promising junior talent, with Kadina's U17s reaching last year's preliminary final despite having only three top-age players.

'We're excited to see our junior players progress through the ranks alongside our youthful recruits," he said.



1984, 2002, 2010, 2011, 2017, 2023

Finished — eighth

Home and away — 5 wins, 11 losses **Best and fairest** — Jack Elsworthy

Welcome — Lachy Everett, Lockleys (formerly Moonta); Max Robertson, Westminster College; Cameron Qualmann, Westminster College; Ryder Irvine, Westminster College; Darby Fitzgerald, Westminster College; Fraser Watts, Westminster College; Kane Karpany, Moonta. Farewell — Isaac Glasgow, Wallaroo;

Jamesson Kelly, Wallaroo; Taj Kleinig, Payneham; Nick Bastion, Nairne Bremer.

Will Schultz, Kadina, gets a handball away from the tackle of Angus Glazbrook, **CMS Crows.**



Kadina bolsters squad as new coach takes charge

Kadina Netball Club has had a busy offseason, recruiting a mix of new talent while welcoming YPNA best and fairest Monique Manners as its new A grade coach, replacing Amanda Schultz.

Among the recruits is former Bloods player Georgie Garrard, who returns to Kadina after last playing junior netball at

"Last year, I was juggling NBL1 basketball with A grade netball for Tanunda," Garrard said.

"I'm super excited to be back at my junior club, playing alongside familiar faces and close friends.

"My family has always been a huge part of this club and, with my four nephews coming through the footy program, it'll be great to be around everyone again."

Midcourt player Shylie Elsworthy, who spent the past two seasons at Phos Camden, is another key recruit.

"I'm really excited to be playing on Yorkes again for my first winter season in what feels like a very long time," Elsworthy said.

"I'm hoping the indoor courts will make my first season back a little more forgiving."

Manners also highlighted the club's other key signings, including goalie and midcourter Chloe Angus, accurate goalie Neve Smart and experienced defender Naomi Bowley, along with several medical students joining the Bloods this season.

With fresh talent in the squad,

Manners is focused on an up-tempo playing style.

"A direct and fast game will certainly be a focus this season.' she said.

"With some height in our lineup, we'll look to make the most of it.

"There's a lot of versatility in the squad, so trialling different combinations early will

Kadina finished three wins short of a finals' berth last season, registering six victories, but Manners believes they were closer than the ladder suggested.

"We had a lot of close losses, which was disappointing, but it showed we were around the mark," she said.

"We improved as the season went on, and this year we'll be aiming to take the next step and push for a top-four finish."

In fact, nine of Kadina's matches last season were decided by fewer than 10 points and Manners believes strengthening team culture and squad depth will help convert those tight contests into wins.

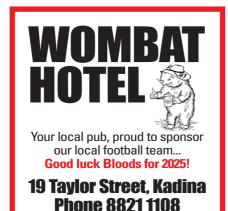
She also praised the team's strong preseason preparation.

"We started early this year with three preseason sessions before trials," she said.

"We had great numbers at trials with plenty of new faces, which has been fantastic, and everyone's motivated to get stuck in."











Moonta sets sights on back-to-back flags



Moonta's Matt Appleton celebrates a goal with 2024 YPFL Mail Medallist Ryley Maitland in the background.

Moonta, the YPFL's most successful team of the past decade, is aiming to secure back-to-back premierships for the first time in its YPFL history.

Heralded as one of country football's strongest sides, the Demons peaked at the right time last season, winning their last nine matches.

Their late-season surge was boosted by key players returning from injury, including club best and fairest Dylan Mansell.

Moonta enters 2025 under new coach Aidan Zwar, who replaced Gavin Adams in the offseason.

Zwar said backing up last year's success and fostering a strong club culture were key priorities.

'Our goals are to continue developing our local talent and family culture while striving for club-wide success," Zwar said.

He expects the team to maintain its playing style from last season, with a strong focus on contested football and team defence.

Zwar praised the squad's commitment throughout the offseason.

'We're fortunate to have plenty of local depth, so it's hard to single anyone out — everyone has had a massive preseason," he said.

"The boys have worked really hard on repeat efforts, so hopefully, we can overrun sides in the second half of games.'

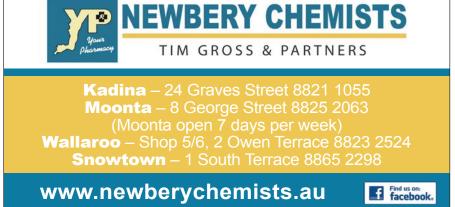
He highlighted Moonta's emerging talent, including deep forward Jayga Warmington, who kicked 34 goals in 17 games last season.

'Our young locals have taken another step up this preseason, so we should see natural growth,"

'The new recruits also bring fresh strengths to the squad, giving us a different look this year."

After going through last year's grand final without using any approved player points, Moonta has further bolstered its squad with former Glenelg league player Michael Virgin and ex-Woodville-West Torrens league player Jack Muirhead.







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Moonta coach Kara Rendell believes her team's new recruits will add valuable depth and experience to an already youthful side.

While Moonta was competitive last season, Rendell acknowledged the squad's inexperience and said the additions would provide both skill and leadership.

"I feel like we're going to be more of a finals contender this year," she said.

One key signing is goalie Chelsea Hogarth, whose strength and experience will bolster Moonta's attacking end.

"We've had E graders playing A grade as goalies for the past two years, so we've been very young in that area," Rendell said.

"Chelsea has more body strength, she's a bit older and I think she'll be a huge asset alongside the younger girls coming through."

Former YPNA best and fairest Tamara Lodge has also joined the coaching ranks, assisting Rendell by overseeing the offensive end while Rendell focuses on defence.

Moonta's young brigade has impressed Rendell with its commitment to preseason training.

"They're incredible and eager to learn," she said.

"Most of the girls are doing Pilates, strength work and fitness on their own.

"They know they have to be at their best to stay in A grade, which is a great problem to have.

"I don't lock in a side at the start of the season, I select it week by week, so it's great to give those on the borderline a chance to prove themselves."

One of the club's key focuses this season is fast ball movement, drawing inspiration from

Suncorp Super Netball.

"We've been working on quick releases, footwork, agility and tempo — really pushing for that fast-twitch netball style," Rendell said.

She tipped Amber Aldridge, Stephanie Drogemuller and Teesha Angus as players to watch this season.



A GRADE PREMIERSHIPS

1974, 1977, 1978, 1978, 1979, 1991, 1997, 2008, 2009, 2019

2024 RECORD

Finished — fifth

Home and away – 7 wins, 9 losses **Best and fairest** – Teesha Angus

PLAYER MOVEMENT

Welcome — Chelsea Caputo, St Marks Celtics; Chelsea Hogarth, Ardrossan; Carlin Macro, returning; Stephanie Drogemuller, returning (from NT). Farewell — Simone Hewett, maternity leave.

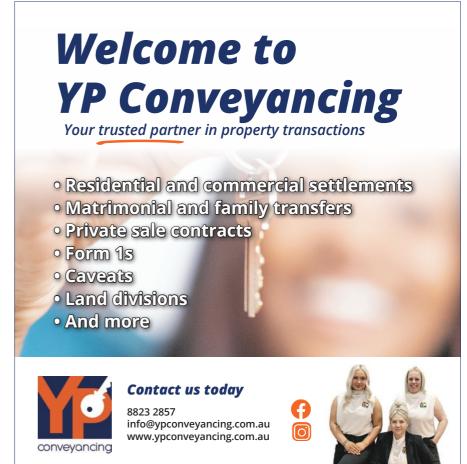
OUR TIP

Fourth









Paskeville hungry for finals finish

Paskeville has missed finals the past three seasons, but opposition clubs are already tipping the Magpies as a team to watch in 2025.

Much of the excitement surrounds 199cm recruit Phoenix Foster, who joins from Geelong and Wayback football clubs.

However, coach Cohen Mattner insists the club's focus remains on establishing its brand of football rather than looking too far ahead.

"We'll be aiming for a high-pressure, fast-paced brand of football with clean ball movement and strong defensive structures," Mattner said.

"Our goal is to be tough around the contest while also having the ability to transition quickly into attack.

'Consistency will be key for us this season.

"Last year, we showed glimpses of what we're capable of, but we need to maintain that intensity across all four quarters."

In addition to Foster, who at 20 years old brings versatility to the squad, Paskeville welcomes back several local players.

Injuries hampered the Magpies last season,

with captain Tyler Nield missing a significant portion of the year, alongside Jedd Thomson and Jordan Bruce.

Despite this, the team finished strongly, winning three of its last five games. The Magpies' only losses in that period were to grand finalists CMS Crows and Moonta, with an average losing margin of just 13 points.

Mattner said the team was determined to build on that momentum and push into finals contention.

"We're looking to take the next step this year by creating a strong club culture, developing our younger players, and improving our consistency," he said.

"Success for us isn't just about wins and losses — it's about playing the right way and setting the club up for long-term success.

The whole playing group has come back in great shape this preseason with a real hunger and desire to achieve something for themselves and the club.

"We believe our speed and ball movement can be a real weapon.

"If we can win the contested ball and use our spread efficiently, we'll be able to break games open."





Finished — sixth

OUR TIP

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Paskeville NETBALL CLUB



Magpies aim for speed and endurance

A GRADE PREMIERSHIPS

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2024 RECORD

Finished — runner-up **Home and away** — 12 wins, 4 losses **Best and fairest** —Taylah Wurfel

PLAYER MOVEMENT

Farewell — Taylah Wurfel, South Clare; Chloe Cook, South Clare; Jorja Rogers, South Clare.

OUR TIP

Paskeville's Courtney Larwood is a player to watch this season, say A grade coaches Brittany Harmer and Aleisha Lloyd. Here, Larwood takes the ball on the run against Moonta's Aleisha Mann during a C grade game last year.

Paskeville Netball Club is gearing up for an exciting 2025 season, with a focus on speed, versatility and youth development.

A grade coaches Brittany Harmer and Aleisha Lloyd say the club has welcomed several new recruits, including players from Clare and Adelaide.

The coaching duo is looking to implement a quick, running style of netball, designed to transition the ball rapidly from end to end.

"We want to use our speed and endurance to run hard with teams for all four quarters," they said.

Building on last season. Harmer and Llovd see increased versatility as key to improvement.

"We're working on adapting quicker within games and promoting our younger players to add extra run through the court."

Developing young talent is a priority, alongside fostering a strong club culture.

"Our goals this year are to promote our youth, continue to build a great club culture and ensure inclusivity across all grades.'

Harmer and Lloyd highlighted several players to watch, including Phoebe Helbig, Cass Mills, Alyssa Pawelski and Courtney Larwood, praising their versatility and athleticism.

The club's preseason started with high energy, with strong numbers and a determined mindset across all grades.

'There's been great enthusiasm and plenty of drive from the girls to push up through the grades.

"The club has a fantastic feel about it right now."



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New coach, new beginnings at **Southern Eagles**

Southern Eagles' new coach Paul Dorian believes the key to success this season lies in one simple concept predictability.

Dorian, who recently moved to Yorke Peninsula after coaching in the Adelaide Football League, said he was focused on ensuring his team had a clear understanding of the three key phases of football.

'We just want to play predictable footy," he said.

"The game plan needs to be simple — whether we have the ball, the opposition has it, or it's in dispute, everyone should know exactly what they need to be doing.

"It's about being predictable in all those scenarios."

Still getting to know the playing group, Dorian is confident the team can compete with the league's best.

"Being new and not knowing much about the club, my expectation is simply to play our brand of footy," he said.

"If we focus on that and build consistency, the results will take care of themselves."

The Eagles finished fifth last season after a strong start, sitting in the top three for much of the year before losing five of their last six matches, including an early exit in the finals.

Dorian said improving fitness and winning contested ball would be key to turning that around.

"Building the players' fitness has been a major focus we're working on getting miles in the legs and replicating the running demands of game day," he said.

"Another big focus is on 50-50 contests.

'We want to shift those odds in our favour so it's not 50-50, but 60-40 or even 70-30.



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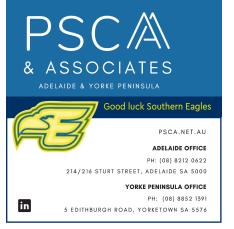
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Eagles' youth is the secret to success

Despite winning only one game in the past two seasons, YPNA president Meagan Daniel believes the Southern Eagles are set to improve this year.

An Eagles spokesperson confirmed this, attributing the team's determination to improved preseason preparation and access to Edithburgh's new gym — the closest such facility for Eagles' netballers.

"Our girls are focusing on fitness, and we hope to keep them together in the same team for most of the season," the spokesperson said.

Club stalwart Anne Shepley is returning to coaching and will take the reins as head coach.

Eagles supporters hope her leadership will turn their fortunes around, after last season's struggles, where they lost by 28 or more goals on 11 occasions.

The club's goals this season are clear. "(We aim) to improve fitness.

encourage team bonding and ensure our players enjoy their time on and off the court." the spokesperson said.

Junior talent is also a bright spot for the club.

"We have some juniors stepping up into senior netball; they are always exciting to watch."

One standout is Charlize Bunney, who was named best on court in the 2024 YPNA D2 grand final.

She will be a key player this season, competing in both junior and senior

Other players to watch in the A grade squad include Laura Daniell, the Hart sisters (Mazlin and Shanai), and Jessie East — who will all play crucial roles in the Eagles' campaign for success.

A GRADE PREMIERSHIPS

2024 RECORD

Finished — ninth Home and away — 1 win, 15 losses **Best and fairest** — Emily Haydon

PLAYER MOVEMENT

Welcome - Marlee Hounsell, Lock. Farewell — Taneesha Fleming, Kangaroo Island.

OUR TIP



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Wallaroo focuses on young talent



After three consecutive premiership victories in the under 17s, Wallaroo is shifting its focus to developing its youth for the future.

New coach Ricky Depledge, who takes over from Corey Smelt, said major offseason changes — including coaching shifts and player departures - made it essential to support junior players stepping up into senior football.

"Every grade except the U11s has had a coaching change," Depledge said.

"As a club, we've decided to promote our young talent moving up from senior colts.

"Given their success over the past three seasons, we hope that translates to longterm improvement at senior level.

Despite registering just one win last season (against Kadina), Wallaroo had 11 U17s represent the YPFL in the Nutrien Ag Solutions Cup.

Among them were U17 Mail Medallist Luke Russel and grand final best-on-ground Josh Bull; the U17s were also undefeated throughout the season.

Depledge, who has previously coached

underage association teams and Paskeville A grade, said he wanted his side to play an attacking, fast-paced brand of football.

"We're keen to play an exciting running game with quick ball movement," he said.

"Our expectations aren't based on wins and losses, but on getting valuable game time into our young talent and keeping them at the footy club."

To add experience to the squad, Wallaroo has also welcomed several new players from Hope Valley and Kadina.

The club will face Bute and CMS Crows in the first two rounds before a three-week bye.

Fairlie, Hamley Bridge; Steven Clay, Mallee; Riley Carter, Elliston; Josef Rack, Tea Tree Gully; Tate Kay, Glen Acres; Zyndel Galvez, Glen Acres.

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Wallaroo looks to its younger players

Wallaroo Netball Club is embracing change and focusing on developing its younger players while striving for a competitive edge in the 2025 season.

Like many clubs in the association, Wallaroo has faced challenges in securing coaches, with the A grade position still vacant.

"We're still actively searching for an A grade coach and would love to hear from anyone interested in taking on the role," a club spokesperson

"If you can help, please reach out by emailing wallaroonetball@gmail.com."

Wallaroo has welcomed fresh talent from across the state.

"We have plenty of new faces at Wallaroo this season," the spokesperson said.

"Their experience and energy will be a great addition to our teams.

"As with any club, we've had a few players move on due to work or study commitments, and we wish them all the best in their next chapter.

Wallaroo prides itself on being a family-friendly club and will place a strong emphasis on junior development this season.

"Our focus will be on consistency, fitness and teamwork across all grades," the spokesperson said.

"We want to strengthen our on-court connections and foster an even more supportive and positive club culture.

"Investing in junior development will also be a key priority to ensure a strong future for the club."



Wallaroo's Adele Biancardi avoids Ardrossan's Elisha Carter during their A grade clash on a damp June day last season. Wallaroo claimed a hard-fought 29-26 victory.

OUR TIP Eighth





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