

Magpies fanatic Joffa does it rough with Sunbury Phoenix [1]

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SUNBURY Phoenix football team got the injection of a 'Collingwood Six Footer' last Wednesday, with 51-year-old Jeff 'Joffa' Corfe spending two quarters patrolling the forward line.

The Collingwood supporter and community worker joined the Reclink Australia team, which has given dozens of Sunbury youth a midweek healthy sporting outlet since its inception.

Joffa told Leader of his admiration for the Reclink organisation which links young people often struggling with employment and other problems a timely outlet of sport and team.

'Football is a game of life,' Mr Corfe said.

'It's about team, supporting and backing others just as you have to do in life itself.'

Mr Corfe, who spent a period of his youth homeless, said he spoke to his teammates on the day about trying to make good decisions in life.

Of his comeback, Mr Corfe said he was unable to help with scoreboard pressure.

'I took one mark but was put on a terrible angle for the shot at goal which was clearly anti-Collingwood bias,' he said.

'I'm sore and hobbling.'

Three Ross Faulkner footballs were awarded to the best players in last week's game, while Footys4all also gave eight pairs of football boots to players from the Sunbury Phoenix team. Mr Corfe also helps Footys4all, founded by former Sunbury resident Michael Gallus.

Mr Gallus said he was committed to continuing to support the team and was hoping to offer incentives such as footballs at least once a season for the players.

?I'd like to think anyone taking the field for a footy game would have at least a footy, boots and a drink bottle,? he said.

?I was born in Sunbury and my parents live there and I know what a positive impact to the team is having for young people there.?

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