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# Metropolitan Catholic Colleges

## Volleyball Report 2016

The annual 2016 MCC Volleyball Championships took place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September at the Olympic Park Sports Halls, Homebush. Once again this tournament concluded the MCC calendar year offering schools one final opportunity to win some silverware to add to their trophy cabinets. All eight schools were represented in 2016, fielding teams in the respective Under 15 and Opens competitions. Based on final positions from the 2015 tournament teams were placed into one of two pools. Each team played three games in the round-robin phase of the tournament, with the top two teams from each pool going through to the semi-final stage of the competition while the bottom two played off for final positions. The format of the competition has always proven very successful with teams being given plenty of match experience as well as ensuring the excitement and desperation levels are always at their peak.

In the Under 15 competition only two of the 12 preliminary games went to a third set with both of them coming in the second round, and both in Pool B. These were Ryde vs Pagewood and Randwick vs Bankstown with Pagewood and Randwick eventually finishing on top in a couple of very exciting matches. Lewisham and Pagewood were the strongest teams in the group phase as both went through the preliminary phase undefeated. Randwick and North Shore were the other teams to go through to the semi-finals after each winning two of their three pool games.

In the Opens once again only two of the 12 pool games went to a third set. One of these, the Round 3 match between Randwick and Lewisham, ended in a draw as the 45 minute allotted match time expired leaving the third set incomplete, and both teams receiving a share of the competition points. The other was a thrilling Round 2 contest between Pagewood and North Shore which went down to the wire with North Shore winning a tight deciding set 15-12. North Shore and Randwick were the only undefeated Opens teams through the group phase, and were joined by Pagewood and Bankstown who had each won two of their three pool games.

The quality of play through the preliminary phase of the tournament was indeed very high, and despite the fact that very few matches went to a deciding set there were many sets which were only decided by a couple of points. This showed the evenness of the competition, and the desperation with which schools played, while at the same time enjoying themselves in the face of competition.

In the Under 15's one semi-final match went to a third set with Lewisham eventually overcoming Randwick 15-8 to advance to the Grand Final after a very close and competitive match. They would meet Pagewood who kept their momentum going as they won in straight sets against North Shore. The 7<sup>th</sup> vs 8<sup>th</sup> playoff match between Kogarah and Bankstown was epic with it also going to a third set. Kogarah eventually proved too good winning the decider 15-12 but it just goes to show that the crowd-pleasing contests do not always necessarily involve the top teams. In the Opens semi-final match between North Shore and Bankstown there were thrills galore as momentum swung with North Shore winning the first set convincingly, before Bankstown fought back to take the second. The third went all the way with Bankstown eventually winning 15-13 in what was one of the games of the tournament. Randwick

overcame Pagewood in the other semi-final in two tight sets that were decided by four and two points respectively showing the closeness of the contest. Once again the 7<sup>th</sup> vs 8<sup>th</sup> playoff match provided plenty of thrills as Ryde and Kogarah were locked in a fierce battle including a second set won by Ryde 29-27 keeping them in the contest! It was not to be, however, as Kogarah went on to take the match 15-12 in the third.

The Grand Finals are a little different to the preliminary and semi-final games as matches are best-of-five sets instead of best-of-three, thus bringing endurance into play making the contest a true test of not only skill but also perseverance. In the Under 15's Lewisham proved far too good for Pagewood, taking the match in straight sets 25-14, 25-19, 25-20. Both teams thoroughly deserved to be in the deciding match having gone through the day undefeated, and it was Lewisham who had just a little too much skill and poise allowing them to take the title and improve on 2015 when they finished third. Pagewood went down fighting, improving as the sets went on, and should be very proud of their efforts on the day especially after finishing 6<sup>th</sup> in this age group last year. The Opens was a tighter affair but it was Bankstown also winning in straight sets overcoming Randwick to take the trophy 25-19, 30-28, 25-22. The second set was a classic as Randwick fought for their lives knowing that it would be difficult to come from two sets down to win. Credit to Bankstown though who showed great resolve to win that set, and then win another tight third set to claim victory in what was a match between two very good teams who have a history of winning the Opens titles in recent years creating a great, yet respectful, rivalry between the schools. A great result for Bankstown who improved greatly on their 5<sup>th</sup> place finish in 2015, while for Randwick it was their first taste of defeat in an Opens Grand Final match for three years – an amazing run and a wonderful accomplishment.

Along with Lewisham and Bankstown who took home the Champions trophies, the Most Improved trophy went to Pagewood who improved their placings the most from 2015. With both teams finishing 6<sup>th</sup> last year it was a great achievement to have both teams make the semi-final matches this year with of course the Under 15 team making it to the decider. Congratulations to them.

Tournaments such as these simply do not run as smoothly as they do without the assistance of the referees so a big thank you goes to all eight officials for their assistance and professionalism. Thank you also to the management at the Sports Halls for the provision and preparation of such a world-class facility which creates a comfortable playing environment for players and coaches alike. Finally well done to coaches and players from each of the participating schools on the sportsmanship displayed. The MCC code of conduct was followed respectfully throughout the day culminating in a terrific day of competition. We look forward to another exciting tournament in 2017.

**FINAL STANDINGS**

<b>UNDER 15</b>	<b>OPENS</b>
1. LEWISHAM	1. BANKSTOWN
2. PAGEWOOD	2. RANDWICK
3. RANDWICK	3. NORTH SHORE
4. NORTH SHORE	4. PAGEWOOD
5. ASHFIELD	5. ASHFIELD
6. RYDE	6. LEWISHAM
7. KOGARAH	7. KOGARAH
8. BANKSTOWN	8. RYDE

# MCC VOLLEYBALL U/15 RESULTS 2016

<b>POOL A</b>
NORTH SHORE
LEWISHAM
ASHFIELD
KOGARAH

<b>POOL B</b>
RYDE
RANDWICK
PAGEWOOD
BANKSTOWN

ROUND GAMES								
	POOL	ROUND 1			COURT	SET 1	SET 2	SET 3
9.00am	A	NORTH SHORE	v	KOGARAH	5	25-18	25-20	
to	A	LEWISHAM	v	ASHFIELD	6	25-15	25-18	
9.45am	B	RYDE	v	BANKSTOWN	7	25-10	26-24	
	B	RANDWICK	v	PAGEWOOD	8	16-25	23-25	
	POOL	ROUND 2			COURT	SET 1	SET 2	SET 3
9.50am to	A	NORTH SHORE	v	ASHFIELD	5	25-13	25-20	
to	A	LEWISHAM	v	KOGARAH	6	25-10	25-13	
10.35am	B	RYDE	v	PAGEWOOD	7	16-25	25-20	4-15
	B	RANDWICK	v	BANKSTOWN	8	23-25	25-21	15-7
	POOL	ROUND 3			COURT	SET 1	SET 2	SET 3
10.40am	A	NORTH SHORE	v	LEWISHAM	5	11-25	22-25	
to	A	ASHFIELD	v	KOGARAH	6	25-19	28-26	
11.25am	B	RYDE	v	RANDWICK	7	21-25	22-25	
	B	PAGEWOOD	v	BANKSTOWN	8	25-19	25-17	

**LUNCH BREAK**  
11:30am to 12:00pm

SEMI FINALS								
	SF				COURT	SET 1	SET 2	SET 3
12:00pm	1	WINNER POOL A	v	RUNNER UP POOL B	5	25-12	23-25	15-8
to		LEWISHAM		RANDWICK				
12:50pm	2	WINNER POOL B	v	RUNNER UP POOL A	6	25-16	25-22	
		PAGEWOOD		NORTH SHORE				
5th and 6th Playoff		3rd POOL A	v	3rd POOL B	7	27-25	26-24	
		ASHFIELD		RYDE				
7th and 8th Playoff		4th POOL A	v	4th POOL B	8	25-22	17-25	15-12
		KOGARAH		BANKSTOWN				

FINAL								
1:00pm		WINNER SEMI FINAL 1		LEWISHAM	COURT 2	SET 1	25-14	
to		v		v		SET 2	25-19	
2:00pm		WINNER SEMI FINAL 2		PAGEWOOD		SET 3	25-20	
<b>U/15 WINNER</b>		<b>LEWISHAM</b>				SET 4		
						SET 5		

# MCC VOLLEYBALL OPENS RESULTS 2016

<b>POOL A</b>
RANDWICK
LEWISHAM
BANKSTOWN
RYDE

<b>POOL B</b>
NORTH SHORE
KOGARAH
PAGEWOOD
ASHFIELD

ROUND GAMES								
	POOL	ROUND 1			COURT	SET 1	SET 2	SET 3
9:00am	A	RANDWICK	v	RYDE	1	25-18	25-10	
to	A	LEWISHAM	v	BANKSTOWN	2	13-25	19-25	
9:45am	B	NORTH SHORE	v	ASHFIELD	3	25-17	25-5	
	B	KOGARAH	v	PAGEWOOD	4	9-25	16-25	
	POOL	ROUND 2			COURT	SET 1	SET 2	SET 3
9:50am	A	RANDWICK	v	BANKSTOWN	1	25-21	25-21	
to	A	LEWISHAM	v	RYDE	2	25-13	25-15	
10:35am	B	NORTH SHORE	v	PAGEWOOD	3	25-16	11-25	15-12
	B	KOGARAH	v	ASHFIELD	4	20-25	20-25	
	POOL	ROUND 3			COURT	SET 1	SET 2	SET 3
10:40am	A	RANDWICK	v	LEWISHAM	1	21-25	25-19	4-6 (inc)
to	A	BANKSTOWN	v	RYDE	2	25-16	26-24	
11:25am	B	NORTH SHORE	v	KOGARAH	3	25-12	25-19	
	B	PAGEWOOD	v	ASHFIELD	4	25-23	25-21	

**LUNCH BREAK**  
11:30am to 12:00pm

SEMI FINALS								
	SF				COURT	SET 1	SET 2	SET 3
12:00pm	1	WINNER POOL A	v	RUNNER UP POOL B	1	25-21	25-23	
to		RANDWICK		PAGEWOOD				
12:50pm	2	WINNER POOL B	v	RUNNER UP POOL A	2	25-13	20-25	13-15
		NORTH SHORE		BANKSTOWN				
5th and 6th Playoff		3rd POOL A	v	3rd POOL B	3	18-25	25-27	
		LEWISHAM		ASHFIELD				
7th and 8th Playoff		4th POOL A	v	4th POOL B	4	19-25	29-27	12-15
		RYDE		KOGARAH				

FINAL								
1:00pm		WINNER SEMI FINAL 1		RANDWICK	COURT 1	SET 1	19-25	
to		v		v		SET 2	28-30	
2:00pm		WINNER SEMI FINAL 2		BANKSTOWN		SET 3	22-25	
<b>OPENS WINNER</b>		<b>BANKSTOWN</b>					SET 4	
							SET 5	