

## Student Sports Spotlight

The latest student sports spotlight features Year 11 twins Hannah and Natalie Brook. They represent Mount Albert Grammar in a wide range of sports including football, cricket, squash and cross country. They have been nominated by Isabella Cain and Bella Kirkorian.

Natalie is a dedicated sportsperson who works on the various skills of her chosen sports in any spare time she gets. She encourages team spirit by being positive no matter what the situation is. She is willing to help others not only in the sports environment but also in the classroom.

Hannah is described as a respectful and hardworking student. She is competitive and is willing to try as many sports as possible. Hannah has a high degree of perseverance where she battles back pain but continues to push through and succeed.

In 2019, the twins were awarded the Junior Victrix Ludorum for the best performing junior sport girls in the school. This was the first time this award has been shared in the school's history.

We asked the girls a few questions about their sporting journey so far:



### **1. How did you get into the sports you currently play?**

**Natalie:** I started football at young age, and it has been a passion of mine since. I love the game. Our dad introduced it to us. The same with cricket I have played it for a long time and I love how much you have to think about the tactics. I only started to play squash

when I came to MAGS. It sounded fun so I thought I might as well try it. It is such a fun sport and I love the fast pace of it.

**Hannah:** My Dad was an avid football and cricket fan so he got me into both. And later at MAGs I decided to try a new sport, squash.

## **2. What do you like best about playing sport for MAGS?**

**Natalie:** I love the supportive coaches and teammates here at MAGS. There is always good spirit within the teams. I feel proud wearing the lion. There is always a drive to be the best and do your best as an individual and as a team.

**Hannah:** I really enjoy the positive and supportive atmosphere. As well as the great coaches and teammates.

## **3. Who has been your biggest influence and why?**

**Natalie:** My whole family are all huge influences for me. My dad has especially been a big influence to me in sport. He introduced me to most of the sports I play and he taught me almost everything I know about football and cricket. Also he drives me all around town and never misses any games.

**Hannah:** My Dad has always been there for me with sport. Coaching my team, giving me tips and taking me for practices or giving me pep talks.

## **4. To date what has been your biggest highlight in your chosen sport/s?**

**Natalie:** In football definitely winning the Junior A league last year. For squash winning the tournament and the league back to back. In cricket on my debut I got three wickets. This year we made it back into the Premier grade and girls cricket at MAGS is getting more interest which is great for the sport.

**Hannah:** In squash my highlight was winning the league and the tournament. My cricket highlight was playing for the Cornwall Premier team taking three wickets and two catches. My football highlight is my team winning the grade by beating the team we were neck and neck with 7-0.

We were both honoured to win the Junior Victrix Ludorum last year.

## **5. How have you managed to stay active during the lockdown period?**

**Natalie:** I have been doing lots of running, workouts and keeping up with my ball skills in my backyard.

**Hannah:** In lockdown I followed the football programme and I did lots of running, table tennis and juggling.

## **6. What has been the hardest challenge during the lockdown period?**

**Natalie:** The hardest part was probably not being able to play with my teammates and not having that competitive environment to play in.

**Hannah:** Not being able to see family and friends.

## **7. What are you looking forward to the most after the lockdown period?**

**Natalie:** I can't wait to get back on the pitch/court! I am looking forward to the football and squash seasons to start.

**Hannah:** Definitely the football and squash season starting again.

## **8. What is the best part of playing sport with your twin sister?**

**Natalie:** The best part about playing sport with Hannah is I always have a friend, who is always pushing me to do my best. We always have lots of fun together and play well together on the field.

**Hannah:** The best part of playing sport with my sister is definitely the twin telepathy. I really enjoy having a training partner and we keep each other motivated. Our playing styles also complement each other.

## **9. Who is the most competitive twin?**

**Natalie:** We both are very competitive I couldn't decide. But I would say if when we lose I do get into more annoyed. But we both always have a drive to win and learn when we lose.

**Hannah:** I think we are both equally competitive in our own ways

## **10. What would you say is the main difference in personality traits between the two of you?**

**Natalie:** Hannah is definitely more organised and patient, especially at school. I am probably less calm and a bit more outgoing. We are very similar but we are very different.

**Hannah:** Natalie and I are very different. Natalie is very energetic and doesn't like to sit still, whereas I am happy to just sit and read my book.

## **11. What are your personal goals for the remainder of 2020?**

**Natalie:** I want to have a successful season in both football and squash, winning the league would be awesome and I want to improve as a player in all sports.

**Hannah:** I would like to play for the 1<sup>st</sup> XI Football Team and win the Squash league.