

MATCH REPORT

HORNSBY BEROWRA EAGLES vs Balgowlah Suns

ROUND 5. 14/5/2023

Balgowlah Oval

Mother's Day round and one we always look forward to as a club. After all those wonderful breakfasts with the presents received, we were blessed with a footie spectacle at lunch time. We lost Angus before the start after a painful knock to the mouth in the warmup, but the Eagles began the match well. Logan to Andrew, Finn marks and kicks to Lachie, then Josh gathers. Lachlan then hand balled, gathered again and then a kick to Jon who marks. Logan collects and missed just wide for a point. The Suns responded and despite good defence, especially by Hamish, they score a major. From the restart the ball breaks left, and the Sun's midfielder shaped to kick, hesitated, and that was enough for Jon to nail a huge tackle that was even better than last weeks. Jon quickly followed with another tackle, but ball broke to the Suns who kicked another goal. Kieren then found Jon, who kicked forward but the bounce eluded our forwards and was cleared. Andrew retrieved the ball, found Logan and his high kick sailed through for a goal. Andrew, Josh, Tristan, Sharpie and Will were dealing with a couple of tall Sun's mids, but the Suns scored a couple of points before the break.

Tristan began the second quarter with some big defence and found Kieren with the kick. Logan kicked for Lachy to mark. Mason then marked and kicked to Keiren. Josh to Finn and the Eagles got a behind applying a lot of pressure. The Suns then attacked but Mason swept up the ball and cleared. Lachy then blocked bravely but the ball broke to the suns. The Eagles defence got mixed up with the marking, and the kick found one of three free players ten meters out and they didn't miss from there. They scored again soon after, but the eagles fought back. Lachy, Andrew, Harrison, Will and Hamish drove us forward. Behrad kicked. Logan kicked from distance and on target too, but the goal was poached by Loz who marked, spun, and kicked from very short distance. There's history with these two and kicks, but the favour was repaid later. Jon kicked to Hamish with the high mark, and the ball went to Finn who just missed. 15-26 at halftime.

The Suns began the second half strongly. Hamish was strong in defence, Mason got a tackle in, but the Suns scored a maximum. Strong midfield plays and a move involving Lachy, Finn and Tristan saw the ball go towards the Suns' goal square. Loz gathered the ball and two defenders; Logan was in quick support and was never going to miss from the shorthand ball. Incredibly that's 25 goals

in 25 games for Logan. The Suns managed to edge the quarter, but Jon, Lachy, Ewan, Hamish, and Will were making big tackles and it was still game on. The Eagles won the final quarter 7-1. The strength of our tackles wilted the Suns, and the more we tackled the more we lifted. Harrison tackled, Braden was in amongst it, Logan, Josh, and Andrew were consistently at the ball. A kick from the pocket was expertly taken high by Finn. He took his time and kicked high dead centre of the big uprights for six points. Further the Eagles pushed. Hamish taking many a high mark. It was end to end stuff, and the cheers from the touchline were amazing, but the Eagles fell short again by two goals 41-30. Coach Livey had nothing but praise for the team. They all fronted up physically, showed good skills, were strong at the ball and kicked long. It counted as a win in his book "and we should sing the song...but we won't until we win!' Winless so far, we might be, but they're all close games and with further improvement let's not right off finals football just yet.

Player of the Match – Hamish Smith. Hamish had a huge game in defence and midfield. His tough but fair tackles annoyed the Suns and lifted the Eagles.

Kicked well and rose to take some terrific high marks above his head.

Callum Mills: Lachie Wall, Jonathan Stucker and Will Conners. All three gave everything and left nothing on the pitch. Great tackling and long kicking by all three.

Special mentions: Harrison Duque, Kieren Fisher – great games early in their Eagles footie careers! A big shout to our Mum's too. The players, team and club are lucky to have your support and encouragement, and are fully appreciative of it. Many thanks to you all!

Comments: Brent's with the team song tease was best. Also after some difficult calls regarding touched goals Lozza regarded the Eagles flagger as putting in "a generationally poor goal umpiring performance'.

Result:

Hornsby Berowra Eagles	7	15	23	30
Balgowlah Suns	14	26	40	41



Match Report by Steve Barton