



# NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YOUTH GIRLS

## MATCH REPORT

NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YG U10's BLUE vs NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YG  
U10's RED  
ROUND 9 - SUNDAY 18<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2023  
ROFE PARK, HORNSBY HEIGHTS

Winter mornings do not get any better than this! Crystal clear blue skies, warm sun shining and Round 9 of footy!

Today was the most anticipated match of the season, our Northwest lightning u10's squad, Blue team verses Red team or otherwise known as 'Derby Day' This game was everything that everyone could have hoped for.



Both teams warmed up as a squad with ball handling skills and team bonding, singing the team song together. The blue team were dressed in our normal Lightning attire, the red team were sporting red shorts and the lightning indigenous jerseys. Both teams wore red and white arm bands as a mark of respect for the Singleton Roosters that were lost in the bus tragedy in the Hunter Valley last weekend.



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Both teams ran onto the field through a banner that was specially made by coaches Brendan and Cyrille, just for today's event. It read; NWL U10's, 2 TEAMS, 1 SQUAD, GO LIGHTNING



1 minute silence was observed with both teams, arms around shoulders, for said tragedy.



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The game started at 10.45am sharp, but there was no ref in sight, Mark Livy the blues assistant coach grabbed a whistle and was straight to the middle ready to be referee for the game.

Mark blew the whistle to start the game, the Sherrin was tossed in the ruck, it was GAME ON!

The initial contest was won by the blue team, it was a hard-fought contest in the midfield but eventually made its way to the blues forwards. It did not stay there for too long though, the ball coming back to the midfield before long then into the reds forward line.

It was a very even, tough match, lightning fast play (pardon the pun) and it was so enjoyable to watch how these girls have harnessed their training to play as well as they did.

Fittingly the final score was a draw 2.1.13 vs 2.1.13. Both teams were super proud of this as it means they are both still undefeated!





# NORTHWEST LIGHTNING

## YOUTH GIRLS

### BLUE TEAM Player highlights.

Samantha Campbell in the first quarter played the first line of defence in the backline and collected a few kicks from the midfield to ensure the momentum swung back to the blue team, she did this by breaking through tackles.

Sofia Fierens tackled her heart out for the whole game and was critical when the pressure was applied in the midfield, despite her size she kept the key opposition players quiet when the blue team was under a lot of pressure.

Tia Kershaw had her best game of the season in the forward line by tackling and getting the football to her forward line partners Indy and Zahra.

Elise Smith in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter played her best game of the season in the forward line by sticking to her player and breaking into space. She was confident in her tackling, taking on players bigger than her.

Emily Carson scored a behind in the first quarter from a huge kick in the midfield, the ball went through the centre sticks but as she was a midfielder at the time it only counts as a behind. She made up for it in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter kicking a goal. All game she was relentless in her tackling and had red players falling off her left, right and centre when she was in possession. Emily earned a coaches award today for this.

Emily Staley marked a kick in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter and made some impressive kicks all game to get the ball on its way forward.

Emily Pace thrived in the mids today, running after every ball and never tiring despite whether she was charging forward or in defence. Emily's second effort, following up after the kick or pass was textbook today and this earned her a coaches award today.

Maddison Oliver was relentless in her tackling and feared no one in her pursuit of the ball and was bane of the blues defence blocking many charges forward by the red team.

Alexandra Tod was a force to be reckoned with today in the backline, she chased down every ball and returned it to our midfield players.

Zahra Haidari headed the blues forward line with Indy, Zahra added to her goal tally for this year scoring a crucial goal in the 2<sup>nd</sup> qtr. Zahra showed impressive ball skills, kicking and handballing as required to try and keep the ball up the blues scoring end.

Indiana Livy stayed that one kick away, she tackled hard all game and worked hard stripping the ball to retain possession.

Olivia displayed excellent second effort following up her plays, overhead head mark in the third quarter was outstanding.



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## RED TEAM Player Highlights.

Georgia Gryst scored 2 goals plus a behind off the post including a goal within the last 30 seconds of the match to clinch the draw.

Georgia Benson was always in the contest and came away with the scratches to prove it.

Isabelle Shepard had some good possessions and disposals under pressure, especially in the midfield.

Ashley Kettle showed tireless efforts in the midfield and solid tackling when moved into the defensive zone.

Valentina Taborsky ran herself ragged in the midfield

Madison Dunlop gave the blue team limited time with the ball backed up by some strong defensive work earning her a player of the match award today.

Nya Nicolson had an extremely solid game in defence and able to rebound the ball out of the defensive zone earning herself a player of the match award for today.

Willow Nicolson instigated some great forward ball movement at times when it wasn't easy to do so.

Elise Guy Showed some good possessions and clearances in space.

Nathalie Hill led the backline incredibly well, solid positioning and tackling as well as a number of goal saving efforts.

Pippa Craig, size meant nothing today for Pippa, she threw herself into the contest

Alanna Giles thrived in close scrappy contests not stopping from start to finish.

Lucy Herweyer ran and positioned well regardless of where she was asked to play across the ground.

Official Score:- Draw 0.0.0 vs 0.0.0

Actual Score:- Draw 2.1.13 vs 2.1.13

## Goals Red Team

Georgia Gryst 2.1.13

## Goals Blue Team

Emily Carson 1.1.7

Zahra Haidari 1.0.6

Report by Brendan Limbrey, Cyrille Fierens, Mark Livy & Collin Pace  
Photos by Almitra Guy & Collin Pace



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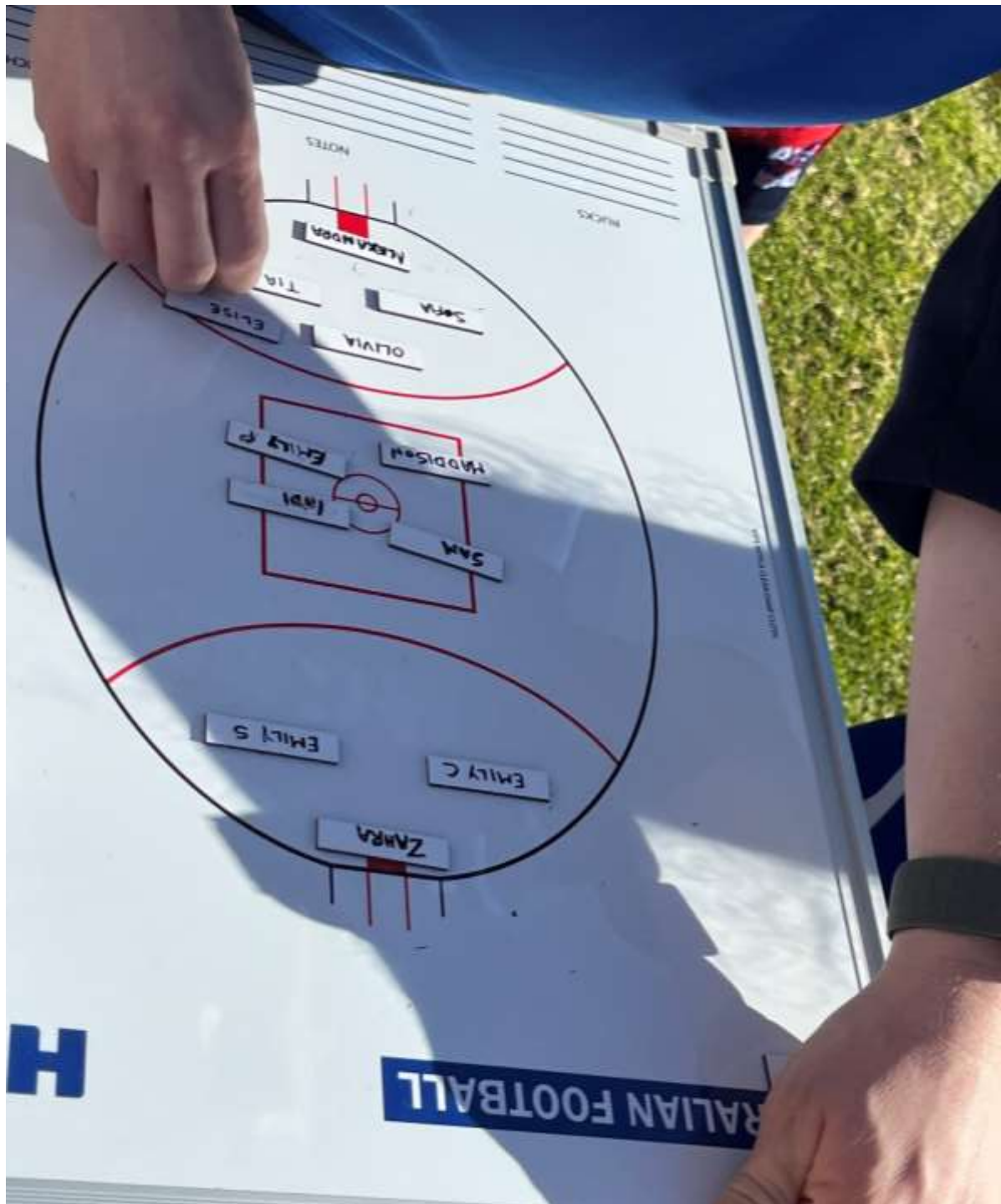


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