

MATCH REPORT

HORNSBY BEROWRA EAGLES vs Pennant Hills Demons

ROUND 9. 16/6/2023

Ern Holmes Oval

A Friday night match under the lights away to the league leaders on a cold night at Pennant Hills. Usually, the Eagles aren't at their best on the Friday night games but they warmed up well and looked sharp. A minutes silence was impeccably observed for the victims of the crash in the Hunter, and then the game began with Kieren soon on the ball kicking to Logan. Our defence was sliding across to counter the Demon's kicking. Hamish and Angus were strong in defence and Sharpy was often involved in the mids. The Demons kicked a behind and followed with a quick goal but then the Eagles got more of the ball. Kieren kicked to Mason, who marked, onto Sharpy and then Logan, onto Josh. The Demons intercepted and broke for another behind. The Eagles then attacked, Logan kicked long to Josh who marked, holding onto the ball as it flew over his shoulder. Josh's goal kick was online but touched for a minor to the Eagles.

Jon began the next quarter with a mark and the Eagles moved forward. Hamish and Kieren kicked two minors. Logan, Jon, Lachy and Will were busy shutting down the Demons, and when they broke Angus was reading the game and intercepting at full back. Will, Lachy and Ewan linked up in midfield, and Will kicked long into the forward pocket only for the ball to trickle out. Finn and Sharpy were in and around the ruck supporting Andrew and Josh whenever they could. Kieren saw a lot of ball and stepped away from tackles to kick well to the forwards. Loz gathered one but was quickly tackled, unable to find Logan in their usual pattern. Logan kicked a behind, but the Demons edges the quarter kicking 3:1 to the Eagles' 0:3.

The Eagles fought so hard. They won the third 1:2 to 1:1. The Demons opened with a behind courtesy of Angus rushing it over saving five points. Logan kicked a behind, uncharacteristically miskicking slightly. Andrew, Josh, and Lachy took marks, Will and Kieren continued to kick well. There was a big wrestle in the mids with Tristan also in there tackling. Finn had a kick intercepted, then blocked the return kick bravely, Andrew got the ball, found Josh who passed to Logan. No missing this time as Logan kicked huge for six points. Jon then made a huge tackle in our defensive pocket; he didn't agree with the foul called and told the umpires, so the Demons got to kick a goal from in front of the posts. 12-24 at three quarter time.

The Eagles went all in for the last stanza. Harrison, Lachlan, Behrad and Tristan were all involved early. Andrew linked with Tristan, Ewan to Finn, onto Josh who kicked long. Loz grabbed it but as the whistle went to the umpires lips to call a mark, he dropped it! Chance gone! Jon, Hamish, Will and Ewan continued to drive forward, but the Demon defence was solid keeping us to one behind kicked by Lachy. Our defence was also strong, Angus shining at full back keeping the Demons to three behinds. The Demons took the chocolates winning 27-13, but the Eagles had given them a proper game, one of their hardest of the season according to the Demons coach afterwards.

Coach Brent was delighted with the teams effort and commitment. Possibly the Eagles best performance of the season so far, so plenty to build on in the search for finals footie. It's still possible.

Player of the match – Kieren Fisher – skilful display all over the park. Has a great step and usually follows with a big kick. Great hand skills.

Callum Mills award – Will Connors – all over it in defence and midfield. Strong to the ball and great kicks.

Callum Mills award – Ewan Heathers – improving week on week. Great work in the mids and nice kicking to teammates

Callum Mills award – Angus Smith – attacking the ball well at full back and saving points with rushed behinds. Reads the game situations so well.

HBE	1	4	12	13
Pennant Hills Demons	8	17	24	27

Goals: Logan



Match Report Steve Barton