



NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YOUTH GIRLS

MATCH REPORT

**NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YG14/3 4.10 (34) d EAST SYDNEY BULLDOGS 3.5 (23)
ROUND 12 – SUNDAY 23 JULY 2023
MIKE KENNY OVAL, CHERRYBROOK**

On the fast surface of Greenway Park, Lightning Division 3 ran away with the game against the East Sydney Bulldogs. When last they met, the Bulldogs' strong kicking and marking game saw them easy winners, but at the weekend they were not a match for Lightning's 'in and under' attack on the ball.

The Lightning, bolstered by some under 12 stars, started strongly and built territorial pressure - playing much of the first quarter in their forward 50 and converting to lead at the first change. Whilst the Bulldogs rebounded strongly to be within 2 points of the Lightning at the long break, the story of the first quarter was the story of the match with the Lightning winning 34 to 23. Despite the modest margin, Lightning had 14 shots at goal to the Bulldogs' 8.

Eva and Agnes, alternating in the ruck, blunted the Bulldogs' star ruckman and ran hard to earn possessions all over the ground. Whilst the Bulldogs were again dominant in the air, defensive work all around the ground allowed Lightning to play the game on their terms. From Georgia hitting the packs at fullback, to Imogen's tackling pressure across the half back line, to Scarlett's ferocity in the middle, to Angela's body work in the forwards - the Bulldogs were not permitted any easy possessions. Rachael, in her economic fashion, was winning or killing the 50/50 ball.

With the ball brought to ground Emily, Annie and Scarlett came into their own; their clean hands and good delivery by hand and foot from around the pack keeping the ball moving forward and to advantage. Emily, in particular, seemed to be in everything. Once again Samantha's classy outside run was key in pushing Lightning into attack; and, once inside 50, Zahra, Amali and Sarah moved the ball like magicians, with Amali the standout forward for the game finishing with two goals.





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With The Lightning going from strength to strength, next week it is off to Western Suburbs Magpies' home ground to see if the tables can be turned on the side that beat Lightning by just a single point in the opening round of 2023. Can't wait!

Scores:

Q1: NWL 1.5 (11) v ESB 1.1 (7)

Q2: NWL 2.6 (18) v ESB 2.4 (16)

Q3: NWL 3.8 (26) v ESB 2.5 (17)

**FINAL: Northwest Lightning 4.10 (34) d
East Sydney Bulldogs 3.5 (23)**

Goals: Amali 2, Emily B, Sarah C

Report by: Tim Ainsworth

