

U13s Round 12 Match Report

Pennant Hills/ Westbrook Demons v Hornsby-Berowra Eagles

Greenway Park, Cherrybrook

Once again, we had another glorious Sunday morning for our Round 12 fixture. It wasn't quite singlet weather but it was close. Sorry Chris, I know I'm a one trick-pony with my singlet jokes... As I watched Nick and Tim put the boys through their paces I had a bit of a look at the venue as it had been a while since my last trip to Greenway Park. I couldn't help but notice how dry the grass was looking. It seemed a complete contrast to the lush and welcoming fields of Rofe. The nasty sports fan in me that usually only surfaces when trying to get the Rabbitohs home couldn't help but think it was a representation of the two clubs...

Luckily the game got underway. I quickly turned my focus to the match rather than having weird thoughts about our opposition. It was a typically tight tussle early, with the Eagles possibly having the better of the opening exchanges. Scoring was hard to come by for both teams but there were some good highlights from the Eagles. These included a stunning mark from Ronin after a pinpoint Josh T kick and an outstanding tackle from Noa. These plays were standouts in a tough quarter with few stoppages. 2-0 Demons.

It wasn't long and we were back out there for the second quarter. Josh T was getting plenty of work at the back but was as safe as ever. You could see his last reliable line of defence was frustrating the home side. An early behind got the Eagles on the board from possibly Josh H and Tyler grabbed one not long after. Ollie G was relentless in the middle, pulling off a fantastic tackle and attacking his larger opponents like a rabid dog. The second quarter was yet another close one. There wasn't a lot of marking going on from either side but no team was giving an inch. 6-2 Demons.

The message from Tim at the half time break was to keep fighting and to keep giving as good as you got. Sound advice that I hoped our boys would take on board in what was becoming a bit of a scrap of a game. At the beginning of the third term, the Demons were able to nab a few early behinds which extended their lead slightly. Unfortunately, they kicked their first major not long after following a sustained attacking period. This was enough to open the floodgates and Penno were able to finally slot a few 6 pointers in a row which saw them take a strong lead. This rain of goals wasn't helped by the fact that the Penno/Westbrook timekeeper clearly wasn't paying attention. The quarter had dragged on at least 18 minutes by my count! Eventually the timekeeper snapped out of his Tik Tok hypnosis to finally blow time on the quarter. It could have been the latest flavour of Prime, the ridiculous Grimace Shake or those revolting Takis taking the attention of the timekeeper on his phone screen. Whatever it was it didn't help our cause as the Demons piled on the points... 27-2 Demons

Things continued on in a similar fashion in the 4th quarter but we seemed to have stopped the opposition goals. Unfortunately for us, we just weren't able to hit the scoreboard ourselves

which built pressure on us. The effort was certainly there from our Eagles though - we never gave up the fight at any stage. The Demons just executed better than us overall but a goal or two for us would have changed the momentum of the game greatly. In a small consolation, Clare was able to erase the goal that was scored well after the siren should have gone in the third. You'd also be pleased to know that the young timekeeper has been banned from Discord and WhatsApp for a week.

Final score Demons 29 Eagles 4

Player of the Day - Josh Tierney
Callum Mills Award - Tyler Stead