

Match Report

U9 HBE Red v North Ryde

Round 13 - 30 July 2023

Rofe Park

It was starting to feel like summer at Rofe Park for our round 13 rematch versus the North Ryde Dockers, who we first met all the way back in Round 1. The Dockers fielded 11 players and as we had 10, we decided to challenge our boys a little with four opposing forwards on our three defenders.

The team picked up where they left off last week. After a good kick around and warm-up they were straight into the game. There was some gritty and determined defending in the outnumbered back zone. Both sides managed some good run and carry for a goal apiece and a pretty even first term.

The second quarter saw a very solid effort across the whole group, winning clearances and getting goals on the board. It was great to see the continued focus on ruck work and winning the ball in the midfield.

The Dockers came hard in the third quarter and a couple of lapses in concentration reminded our defence that they need to stay alert at all times! Some constructive feedback from the midfield got them back on track.

The heat and running had sapped some energy but after drinks and a final rev-up, the boys were ready to go again for the last quarter. They maintained the effort for a good solid finish to the game. One highlight was a quick clearing kick by Kieren out of midfield, converted to a goal by Alex. We did have to admire a long-bomb goal from the opposition, which took a nice last-minute bounce "Tom Papley style".

Another great competitive game this week. The boys are really starting to learn that possession is everything and when they didn't have the ball, they chased it relentlessly. It was a good strong contest with a few accidental knocks and bravery on both sides.

Our player of the week was Cameron who had a good game in all zones, kicking a goal and defending strongly under siege in the first quarter. The Callum Mills award went to Billy who chased, harried and tackled non-stop for four quarters.

Thanks to the Dockers for another great game, and to president Steve for umpiring our second game in as many weeks.