

MATCH REPORT



HBE UNDER 12s Div 2 vs WESTBROOK BULLDOGS
ROUND 6 – Sunday 19th May 2024
MIKE KENNY

Away from home at Mike Kenny Oval against our old foes, the Westbrook Bulldogs. Down on troops with two players on the sick bed leading into the game wasn't the ideal preparation for the winless Eagles. The team called upon Milo and Jasper from the u/11s to still field a competitive side.

The Bulldogs are renowned for their niggles and tough tackling and they didn't disappoint in the local derby. The Bulldogs kicked the first goal before HBE kicked the next two. The midfield was rotating well with fresh legs giving our boys the advantage. August, Archie, Liam, Lewis, Jack, Jesse, Jasper and Noah who dropped deeper this week were winning good ball and distributing well into the forward line.

The second quarter saw the Eagles grab the only major as the Bulldogs' inaccuracy in front of goal kept the Eagles' noses in front at the main break. Ryan's audacious torpedo kick on the stroke of halftime falling agonisingly short was a game highlight.

The third quarter saw the Bulldogs dominate, kicking the first two goals and taking the lead. Jake, Oleg, Alex, Luke, Josh M and Phoenix kept the Eagles in the game and on the stroke of 3/4 time the Eagles got one back to regain the lead by a solitary point.

The Eagles produced their best quarter of the season in the fourth. Everything fell into place and finally the bounce of the ball and the umpire decisions went the way of the Eagles. The midfield produced inside 50 after inside 50 and the forward line of Josh A (who almost took a screaming mark which would have brought the house down), Milo, Ryan O, Daniel and Ben fed off the chances and kicked 4 goals to nothing in the final stanza.

The final siren brought rapturous applause from the sideline led by Glenn and Clare. The boys sang their team song loud and proud for the first time this season.

Ryan O took home the best on ground award, kicking 6 goals but it was the work at the back by Jake who won the Callum Mills award which kept the team in the game during the 2nd and 3rd quarters, and the dominant midfield which deserves just as much credit.

Final score: Westbrook 3.8.26 lost to HBE 8.5.53. Goal scorers were Ryan 6, August 1 and Jasper 1.

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