



NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YOUTH GIRLS

MATCH REPORT

NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YG 11 Div 2 (Blue) (11.7.73) vs
BALGOWLAH SUNS (0.0.0)
ROUND 7 - SUNDAY 26 MAY 2024
ROFE PARK, HORNSBY

In our first official game at Rofe Park for the season, the Balgowlah Suns travelled north-west to our home ground. While they only travelled with nine girls many thanks to the Suns for accepting our offer fill-ins to allow a full twelve v twelve game and give as all the girls as much game time as possible.

We kicked off a side-by-side fixture with Div 1 playing Moore Park Tigers at the same time, so the girls had a great start warming up together and – to their sheer delight – both winning, leading to a full club circle belting out the team song which was fantastic to see.

Highlights:

- Zahra was clean and very composed quarter after quarter, providing a safe option for the team to close down Suns attacks and contests.
- Imogen was a big ball winner this week, as she kept the ball locked into our forward line by holding it up until her teammates can get to the contest, along with an awesome mark in general play.
- Anika continued to build on her increased confidence and skills the last couple of weeks to hit the scoreboard and found herself on the end of quite a few forward entries.
- Olivia F rebounded all day, with very clean collection of the ball and long kicking, and even pushed forward for a couple of goals.
- Aurora put together a good effort with her ball winning, and kept a strong focus on her role all game to be a great team player.
- Sofia showed her usual ball winning ability but the real star this week was her tackling over and over again, even bringing down Sam when she played for the Suns.



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- Pippa kept up her good work winning the ball and forcing it forward, legs churning even in the toughest of tackles. Watch out when she gets space, as she hit the scoreboard again for a couple of goals.
- Georgia B provided some great structure and very smart positioning as well as a solid effort when filling in.
- Lucy just kept pushing, wanting to be a part of everything she could get her hands into, including popping up at the end of several ball movements forward for a goal and a behind.
- Anna proved vital for the team's structure structure, kept everyone honest in defense initially before pushing into the middle and putting in over and over again in the ruck against Balgowlah's clear strength in the middle.
- Isabelle started with a bang setting up the first goal with her kick and the second with her tackling, and followed it up with her usual pressure while also stepping up with a better ability getting to the drop of the ball and several great kicks for territory, as well as a willingness to ruck in the forward line despite giving up several inches in height again.
- Flossy had some effective forward work, getting her hands to the ball and managing to lock the ball in including getting a behind off her own boot.
- Hazel provided a safe set of hands behind the contest, cutting off Balgowlah's rushed kicks forward to keep the ball in Lightning hands.
- Georgia G was everywhere around the contest and up forward, both winning the ball and showing her goal sense with five goals and two behinds.
- Tia started a tough morning not feeling too well but came on in the 3rd for several strong contests up forward and giving the girls a target to aim for.
- Alanna was initially Lightning's rock in defense before being moved forward and demonstrating extra strings to her bow by nailing a great kick for goal.
- Sam was a well-deserved Player of the Week, working herself into the ground in the ruck with enthusiastic and clever ruck work leading to clean taps one after the other. Even when she filled in for Balgowlah she was a clear impact player around the contest which was great to see.

Score:

NWL Div 2 (Blue) 11.7.73 dft Balgowlah Suns 0.0.0

Report by Donald Shepherd.



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