



# NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YOUTH GIRLS

## MATCH REPORT

NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YG 11 Div 2 (Blue) (3.4.22) vs MAROUBRA SAINTS  
(2.4.16)

ROUND 11 - SUNDAY 30 JUNE 2024

HEFFRON OVAL, MAROUBRA

The team ventured over to Heffron Park in Maroubra for our first game against the only other team running both a Div 1 and a Div 2 team. Many thanks to Brendan for scouting before the game, because it turned out it's 44 hectares and without pointers to the AFL fields several parents remarked they would have scattered to the winds.

Speaking of winds (and rain), Sunday's game featured some real winter weather – rain overnight left one end featuring several impressive mud puddles while the other end was solid enough to bounce a ball on. Funnily enough, it was the muddy end that ended up being the scoring end though – Pippa got us off to a great start with an early goal and a lead we held after the first after keeping the Saints scoreless. A massive second quarter by the Saints saw them overtake us going into the half, although only by two points after Georgia kicked the only goal of the game at the “dry” end.

The rain started and then didn't stop – despite an interrupted third quarter (timekeepers mixed up half time vs the actual third quarter) Sam put us ahead with a goal in the third, and it proved to be the only major for the rest of the game, giving us a six point margin as we ended up holding them scoreless in three of the four quarters with a display of truly impressive tackling and pressure, as well as very disciplined and skilled defence behind the ball.

### Highlights:

- Aurora set up well behind the ball and made several willing attempts to attack Maroubra players, topping it off with a clever kick out of the middle for a clearance..
- Isabelle was a tackling machine in defence, midfield and attack, helping limit several Saints forward forays to behinds and demonstrated commitment running up and down the field in the last quarter after moving into the middle.
- Olivia F was a very well-deserved Player of the Week for her work walling off the half back line for any Maroubra ball movement near her. She moved well to chop off any rushed kicks, took several intercept marks, and forced the Saints to settle for behinds instead of goals a couple of times as the last line of defence.
- Georgia G started with a bang in the midfield, getting plenty of clearances and effective kicks forward. The Saints started focusing on defending her, but she



# NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YOUTH GIRLS

continued to persevere and made an impact in every quarter including a number of clever kicks to space to follow up on as well as a goal after several evasive efforts.

- Alisha was very consistent today, attacking the ball on the ground, breaking into space, and then following up with tackling efforts.
- Eliza was strong wherever she played, with smart play seeing her negate opponents in every area of the field.
- Lucy tried hard in the conditions, taking on the bigger Saints girls with the ball in hand and was always willing to move the ball forward.
- Elora had several impressive moments where she got the ball and used her pace to fly into space or try to run over the top of her opponent. She was unlucky not to get a couple of goals at the end of these efforts.
- Pippa was the first on the board with a goal and worked hard off and with the ball to provide an energetic option forward.
- Kira played the role of fixer today, as she was thrown around the field depending on what was needed and she shored it up every time with her regularly clean possession in challenging conditions and long kicks putting the Saints on the back foot.
- Olivia B was courageous with her attack on the ball. She just kept grabbing it despite knowing she'd be wrapped up by multiple Saints players, ensuring they couldn't take it and kick it into our defensive area.
- Valentina was very solid, with good reading of the ball and when the ball was there for her to get she won it just about every time – and followed it up with well-executed kicks forward to get us space.
- Sam alternated between midfield/ruck and a high half forward role and provided an impact on both, either getting us first hands to the ball or playing a key part in guaranteeing the ball heading into our forward line and often following it up to keep it locked in there with some strong tackling.

## **Score:**

NWL Div 2 (Blue) 3.4.22 dft Maroubra Saints 2.4.22

Report by Donald Shepherd.



# NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YOUTH GIRLS





# NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YOUTH GIRLS





# NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YOUTH GIRLS





# NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YOUTH GIRLS





# NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YOUTH GIRLS





# NORTHWEST LIGHTNING YOUTH GIRLS

