

MATCH REPORT



HBE 14s vs CANADA BAY CANNONS
ROUND 13 – 28th JULY 2024
ROFE PARK

I've never been great with directions so making my way out to these various AFL grounds is always a challenge. Google Maps even seemed intent on taking me on a bit of a journey this morning, sending Lucas and I to surrounding parks in the Concord area - I even got to see where the magic happens for Wests Tigers at their training premises. Eventually we made it to the AFL oval, late but not overly. The conditions were fine and sunny but also very windy for our match against the Canada Bay Cannons. Despite being almost impossible to find (by me), the St Luke's Park was a nice footy oval. It came complete with a white picket fence, an impressive electronic scoreboard and a scoreboard attendant who clearly had no idea who was actually playing. According to the info on the board we were the Hornsby Berowra Hawks... Close enough I guess.

Soon enough we were underway and a dubious free-kick gave the Cannons an early clearance. Callum intercepted with a fine mark and sent the ball on its way to Tyler. He fired it into our forwards and after a scramble up front and a near miss from Jake S, Emmett was able to boot the ball through the posts for our first goal. The Cannons had a few forward entries after this but Callum, Ronin, Josh T, Josh W and Henry always sent the ball back in the correct direction. Ethan and Luke were combining well and clearing the ball from our midfield which resulted in another two goals to our total, courtesy of Josh H and Jake S. Following this, it was Alistair's turn to grab a 6, nailing his 3rd goal in 3 consecutive weeks. He cleaned up some scraps in front of goal and shot it through the posts! Josh H added to the pile-on, kicking a goal from a distance after an unselfish hand-pass from Luke. All of these attacking opportunities were made possible from a stack of intercept marking and hard work from Henry and our other backs. 31 - 0

The second quarter was a fairly uneventful one. We grabbed a few behinds from Zac, Ollie and Jake S but the goal scoring from the first quarter had really dried up even though we had the better of the play. There were no real standout players in this quarter, it was just a solid overall team effort as we kept the Cannons scoreless.

MATCH REPORT



Onto the 3rd and according to the scoreboard we had now morphed back into our original form of Eagles, just like in Neal's 'animal' match report from earlier in the year. Jake S broke the goal drought with an early major for us. Jack A was also unlucky not to score, he was getting involved and looking sharp up front. Jake G was also showing his presence in the middle with a few nice touches. Lucas continued to work hard in the ruck, getting some handy tips despite carrying a bit of an injury. 43- 0

Into the final quarter and Ethan was rewarded for his consistent efforts in the middle with the first goal of the last term. This came after another precision forward entry from Luke. Archie continued his 'hitman' role, scaring the daylights out of unsuspecting Cannons willing to breach his territory. His usual toughness is now being complemented with his improving skills with the ball. A nice passage of play which went from Ronin to Tyler was pretty to watch but unfortunately didn't result in points. Following this, the home team got a few calls their way and finally got a decent attacking chance. A shocking bounce left Josh T in trouble and the Canons player had an open goal in front of him. However, it wasn't the home side's day at all as his relatively easy shot missed to the left of the posts. Final score 52-1.

It was a strong win from our boys and it was good to get back on track after last week's demolition at the hands of Ramsgate. The Eagles were dominant throughout and never in any real danger. There were plenty of classy touches and teamwork from all players. A special mention to our defensive battery who keep turning up each week and always deliver, it doesn't matter if we're up by 50 or down by 50. Great work boys! Onto next week as we continue our march towards finals footy...

Callum Mills Award - Jack A

Player Of The Match - Josh H

Words - Greg Allan