

MATCH REPORT



HBE UNDER 13YG v North Shore Swans

ROUND 10 - 22/06/2025

Rofe Park, Hornsby

Back to Rofe this week, and thankfully a lunch time game by which time the weather had warmed up nicely (as those of us there for the earlier games can attest to). The team provided a dominant whole game performance, scoring two goals in each of the first three quarters before putting three on in the final to break the 60 point margin for the full game.

The really impressive part was the structured and willing defense barely allowing the Swans passed half field, and even more rarely into their forward 50 let alone having shots at goal – holding them to zero points for the game. This was managed even with the girls rotating more through different positions as the game went on, so is a credit to every one of them.

Players

- Isabelle was a rock in defense and didn't lose a contest down back all game - either winning the ball, tackling the Swans, or smart little tap-ons to teammates working back with her, shutting down an entire wing from the Swans. She even got sent forward for a quarter and her kick out of congestion to set up Lucy up for a goal.
- Willow continued her role in the midfield with aplomb, with persistent second efforts and tapping the ball ahead of her to keep advantage and win the ball, and using her strong core in breaking tackles.
- Nya's three goals sees her second in the goal kicking list for Div 3 Blue as a whole, and her ballwinning in the forward line just lets you know that she's going to hit the scoreboard more often than not.
- Olivia B brought some solid forward pressure - both on the Swans and on the ball. She gets so low getting to the ball that it's just about impossible to shift her (and a few Swans will probably hear her footsteps tonight).
- Olivia F moved into the middle after having a quiet game down back due to great defense further up the field, and her efforts were impressive - she was hitting contests hard and keeping the ball in front of her to work it out of congestion for the Eagles. She was so close

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to completing a sweep of the usual defenders for either a goal or goal assist too, with a well-delivered shot drifting just offline.

- Sofia spent the week perfecting a trademark move - dive on the ball, roll over, jump up and burst away. One impressive effort saw it followed up with a kick nailing a teammate on the chest, kicking off a kick/mark chain leading to a goal. She also put in some underrated defensive efforts, absolutely flying back to help out the halfback line with real speed.
- Juliet cycled around the field this week, and popped up with a couple of nice kicks out of defense to release pressure from the Swans.
- Kira started forward and was buzzy, including a really good overhead mark in congestion that she converted for a goal. She then rotated down to fullback and helped keep the Swans off the scoreboard.
- Maia provided structure in keeping the team aligned up forward in her role at full forward, ensuring that the Swans had to account for all the space in the forward line. She had a couple of nice shepherds and tackles to ensure we kept the ball locked in.
- Sandy played more ruck than usual and showed some real click with Willow in the middle - she nailed a perfect tap down to Willow, while reading several of Willow's ruck contests to similar effect. She demonstrated great effort with strong runs to follow up her own disposal to tackle any Swan daring to collect it as well as a fantastic three bounce run streaming up the field to set up a goal.
- Maddie spent the first half stopping the ball getting past half forward, winning and sending it back. Almost got herself a goal from CHB in the first. Got one from the middle in the third. Tiny handballs perfect advantage.
- Lucy's hands were on fire this game, reading the bounce of the ball and collecting it with nary a fumble. She took the opportunity to emphasise the day with a goal before rotating through defense and helping to keep the Swans scoreless too.
- Emily started off well, reading Swans kicks well to position for intercept marks, and holding her position over the ball and laying shepherds to allow teammates to collect the ball, and then continued to step it up over the game - sending kicks back into the forwards and even scored a goal up forward with a lofty kick out of a group of players, drifting it over the outreaching defenders in the goal square. Her whole ground contribution saw her named Player of the Week.

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- Hazel had some real highlight moments, nailing a fantastic tackle unrewarded against a much bigger Swans player, and a big contested win deep in defense saw her disposal skills shine and sent the team forward.
- Zahra provided a great example of wing work - keeping her space when needed, but also doing the hard work when required - dropping in, winning the ball, and releasing handballs to let other members of the middle to work into space and escape the congestion.

Score

Hornsby-Berowra Eagles 9.9.63 dft North Shore Swans 0.0.0

Goals

Nya Nicolson: 3; Lucy Herweyer: 1; Emily Pace: 1; Willow Nicolson: 1; Sandy Hebblewhite: 1; Kira Breden: 1; Maddie Dunlop: 1.

Report by Donald Shepherd (Photos available on Teams)