

MATCH REPORT



HBE UNDER 13YG v North-West Lightning
ROUND 12 - 20/07/2025
Mike Kenny Oval, Cherrybrook

A top of the table clash this week on Mike Kenny Oval - and the first half showed the quality of the two teams.

The Eagles were under pressure throughout the first quarter with the ball seemingly living in our defensive fifty, but close defense saw the Lightning only kicking a single goal.

The second was a lot more even, holding the Lightning goalless and getting on the board ourselves, with the ball pinging around midfield for a lot of the time.

They started getting on top in the third but a headcount found them with 16 - apparently they'd been playing with an extra player since the start of the game, which probably accounted for some of our struggles moving the ball into our forward line.

The teams reset the score to what it was at the beginning of the third quarter heading into the fourth, but the Lightning kicked away with a few late goals with the girls exhausted. Bring on the (almost) inevitable matchup in finals!

Players

- Eliza had a day out and received Player of the Week for her efforts in defense, sticking tackles and getting on her knees to win any ball she could and hand balling out to teammates.
- Olivia F stabilised the team down back, ensuring Lightning shots on goal became behinds as she escorted or spoiled them over the line and was a big part in ensuring they were held to only one goal for the entire first half.
- Maia hovered around the half forward and full forward line competing for marks and bringing the ball to ground to try and win, highlighted by a fantastic handball over her head.
- While Sofia continued to charge head first over the ball, it was her long chases to pressure and tackle Lightning ball carriers that saw her teammates congratulating her on the field.

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- Sandy worked her heart out on Sunday - popping up all over the field, from deep in defense, up through the wings, and all the way to half forward. Her long kicking was a key part of the game plan on the large Mike Kenny Oval.
- Whenever she was given half a chance, Juliet showed her confident ball gathering work to collect it off the ground and kick it forward.
- Zahra ran up and down the wings all day, ducking and pushing through contact against the bigger girls.
- Emily C was a welcome addition to the team - leading everyone to the ball and also laying some strong shepherds to bring team mates into it. She also generated a couple of highlights ripping the ball out of Lightning players' hands.
- Olivia B worked hard to provide physicality around the contest, flying across the ground to pressure and tackle players.
- Willow had the hard matchup with the ruck contest but flew with her jumps to contest the taller Emma, all the while showing her clean hands the ball hit the ground after the tap.
- Nya put some tough work in up forward, spending a long day working to the drop of our kicks forward and hassling any Lightning player if they got there before her.
- Kira was nimble in the contest with quick hands and quick kicks forcing the ball forward off the half back line.
- Pippa hassled, tackled, won hard balls and tried to barge through NWL players all day, including drawing several free kicks for holding the ball and players holding her.
- It was a day for Isabelle's tackling as well as some accurate handballing out of congestion and some shoving to try and clear space for others to win the ball.
- Hazel kept the Lightning full back occupied, working her around the ground and chasing her down if she had the ball.
- Emily P led the team to the ball across the half forward line, racing towards the ball and locking it in to give the team time to regroup.
- Maddie was a continuous presence across halfback line, collecting the incoming ball and rebounding it, before moving into the mids. She was the general of the backs, projecting her voice across the field.

Score

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Hornsby-Berowra Eagles 0.2.2 dft by North-West Lightning 6.12.48

Goals

N/A.

Report by Donald Shepherd (Photos available on Teams)