

MATCH REPORT



HBE U13 vs ST IVES SAINTS U13 DIV.3
ROUND 14 – 3 AUGUST 2025
VENUE: ROFE PARK

Score: HBE 9.1.55 won to St Ives Saints 2.5.17

Goals: Jesse 2, Noah 1, Lewis 2, Ryan 2, Archie 1, Onni 1

Report by: Drew Benesh

Callum Mills Award: Jake

Player of the Match: August

Wet, wet, wet, wet, wet, wet, wet. It's fair to say it was wet as the **Hornsby Berowra Ducks** took on the **St Ives Egrets** at **Lake Rofo**.

The ground was wet. The coaches were wet. The players were wet. The supporters were wet. The balls were wet. The footies were wet as well. Mercifully, the bacon and egg rolls were dry.

After a wet warm up, Coach Byrnesy checked everyone knew how to swim and the team paddled out onto the ground.

But the focus on the extreme weather conditions can't take away from what was one of the best performances of the year from HBE against the top side on the ladder.

The first quarter was an even contest. HBE took some time to adjust, continuing to play with their usual handball game throughout the first quarter resulting in plenty of missed targets and dropped footy. HBE put the first goal on the board but this was followed by a period of St Ives locking the play in their front half. A goal to St Ives evened it up and St Ives went into the first change with a one-point lead.

But after only a few minutes in the second quarter it was apparent that the Eagles wanted it more. August was showing his class with clean hands off the deck despite the conditions and won plenty of the ball across half back. Ben's straight line attack on the ball generated plenty of drive and combined with Luke, Malachy and Otto, and with Onni and Ryan pushing up towards the middle of the ground and winning the ball, HBE started to surge through the centre and Lewis, Jesse and Noah capitalised in the forward line.

Three goals to one for the quarter put the Eagles on up by 10 points at half time, but it felt like more and the supporters could feel the team's self-belief building.

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By the 3rd quarter the rain had decided to blow in sideways but that couldn't stop the momentum from the 2nd quarter as the Eagles continued to fight harder at every contest and extended the lead with a massive four goals to one for the quarter.

Unsurprisingly the final quarter was wet, with the rain still refusing to stop. Ultimately the Eagles ran out with a very impressive win in freezing cold and wet conditions where every player dug deep and fought out every contest.

Thanks to Milo who stepped up to help out (and maybe wished he hadn't as hypothermia set in). And credit also has to go to the umpire who had to do the whole ground by himself and umpired the game to suit the wet and slippery conditions.

Thank you to coaches and volunteers who also got soaked for a full four quarters.



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