

MATCH REPORT



HBE UNDER 13's vs Forest Lions
PRELIMINARY FINAL – DATE 24/08/2025
VENUE – ELS Park, North Ryde

The shiny thing in the sky—rumoured to be the sun—finally made a match-day appearance after a three-week hiatus. Perfect autumn conditions set the stage for a blockbuster 2nd vs 3rd clash. The Eagles were fired up, one win away from the big dance, and ready to take on the Lions.

Q1 – A Fierce Start

Hornsby struck first, with Ryan slotting the opening goal. The Lions responded quickly, and for the first 10 minutes, it was an arm wrestle. The Lions had the edge in contested marks, but the Eagles weren't backing down.

Ryan laid some crunching tackles, while Augie showed blistering pace down the flank. Lewis then nailed our second goal and celebrated with his signature backflip—because why not add some gymnastics to footy?

Quarter time: Eagles 12 – Lions 8

Q2 – Eagles Take Flight

The Lions' height advantage was proving tricky, but the Eagles had other plans. Within two minutes, Jackson slotted a beauty on the run, followed by a strong mark from Jesse and cool finish.

Some slick teamwork on the flank from Ben, Noah, Malachy, Onni and Malakai kept the pressure on. The Eagles surged ahead with smart ball movement and relentless effort.

Half time: Eagles 26 – Lions 10

Q3 – The Arm Wrestle

The third quarter turned into a gritty contest. Noah, Luke, and Archie laid some bone-rattling tackles. Forest got the first goal of the term, but from there, it was a scrap. Tackles flew, bodies hit the deck, and the scoreboard barely moved. Jake stood tall in defence, keeping the Lions' scoring chances to a bare minimum.

Three-quarter time: Eagles 29 – Lions 18

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Q4 – Heart Rates Rising

The final quarter kicked off with a clean centre clearance and a burst of energy. Jack, Augie and Luke all laid huge tackles, setting the tone.

Then came a team goal straight out of the textbook—Archie to Jackson, bang! Moments later, Liam won another centre clearance, launching it into the forward 50. Jackson lined up for a set shot, but in a classic “chewy on your boot” moment, it clipped the post.

The Lions weren’t done yet—they hit back with a goal, narrowing the gap with just minutes to go. Tension? Sky high. Parents? On edge. Ambulance? Hopefully on standby for the adrenaline –induced heart palpitations on the sidelines.

But then—the siren. Sweet, glorious, game-ending siren. The Eagles had done it. A hard-fought, well-earned win built on grit, determination, and a refusal to give in.

Final Score: Eagles 37 – Lions 27

Onwards to the Grand Final, Eagles!

And Happy Birthday, Oleg—what a gift the boys delivered!

Callum Mills Award – August

Player of the Match – Jake

