

# MATCH REPORT



Eagals Intraclub game.

DATE 25.4.2026

Rofe Park.

The Eagals returned to Rofe Park boosted by several external players and blessed with perfect autumn sunshine. After a well-observed Anzac tribute, the Wombats and Hornets got stuck into a fast, physical contest that showcased the depth and spirit across the squad.

It was the Wombats who settled quickest, with Ash and Ting Ting hitting the scoreboard early. Strong midfield pressure from Jo, Ali, Cathy, and Janine kept the ball moving at pace, while Rachel launched a long bomb that sailed through and clipped the goal umpire on the way. Stacey and Jemima had some link play going, Jo took some confident marks, and Bronny was never far from the action showing good ground skills.

The Hornets fought hard, with Jemima producing a brilliant long goal. Danielle added physicality around the stoppages, but the Wombats' accuracy and power gave them a healthy lead. Jo and Ali were enjoying a battle royale, especially at the ball ups. Both were giving 100% and we'd expect nothing less on Anzac day! Cathy and Clare were seeing a lot of ball out wide. A chaotic finish to the half included a disputed post-siren "goal", a remarkable bouncing reverse-spin goal from Ash that looked a behind all the way, and a rushed behind off Katie's shin. A touch so fine Katie barely recognised it herself.

The Hornets took the home advantage of shade beneath the clubhouse roof, with the Wombats gathering under the warm sunshine, but it was the Wombats making the Hornets suffer pressure on the scoreboard. Half-time estimate: Wombats well ahead. Jack and the goal umpires were trying to keep up with the scoring, but the goals were coming thick and fast and the action was frantic.

The contest stayed fierce in the second stanza. Bronny and Bones had a quick tug of war with the Sherrin. Breda and Danielle were heavily involved as both sides lifted their tackling and pressure. The Hornets generated repeat entries, but the Wombats' defence — led by Ash, now stationed down back — held firm.

Ting Ting added another major, Janine finished off a clean chain, and Rachel continued to find space. Clare went close to scoring but the wind against helped Cathy gather the ball to save a goal. The Hornets surged late, with Stacey and Jemima threatening, but cruel bounces and tired legs kept them to behinds. Ash kicked the final goal (one of many for herself) after nailing a huge tackle. Fatigue set in during the final minutes, producing some memorable "kick the ground before the ball" moments and a late friendly-fire high tackle from Danielle to close out the match with a laugh.

The football was outstanding. The Wombats took the honours on the scoreboard; the Hornets matched them for effort, pressure, and spirit. Most importantly, the squad and welcome visitors from Macarthur enjoyed a competitive, good-natured hit-out that sets the tone for the season

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ahead. Ash was the standout player having kicked multiple goals before helping in defence. The final score? Who knows? Footy was the real winner on the day.

The players finished with well-earned drinks, food, and plenty of stories from a lively afternoon at the Eagles Nest.

A big thank you to the goal umpires and supporters, and to Steve Wall. His ball ups might have been a little bit wonky, but he managed the game and encouraged the players with aplomb. Thanks to Brendan for help setting up, and for braving the playing area on occasion to take photos.



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