

MATCH REPORT



HBE U15 GIRLS v NORTH WEST LIGHTNING ROUND 2 – 26 APRIL 2026 ROFE PARK

The inaugural HBE U15 girls team taking the field to play was always going to be a momentous occasion. Fielding 8 girls in their very first season of AFL, as well as 11 girls backing up from the U13s playing their second game of the day, the team took to Rofe Park in the twilight fixture against North West Lightning. There were zero expectations from coaches heading into the game – simply a plan to get the girls on the field and hopefully have a bit of fun! The script though, couldn't have been any better.

The game was a tight affair with limited scoring opportunities from both teams and the ball moving to both ends of the field throughout the game. Our girls were held scoreless in the first quarter, then wrestled back the score through the 2nd and 3rd quarters to find themselves only 1 point behind North West Lightning. The girls could sense that they were well and truly in the game at this point. You could see the girls (and coaches) slowly learning their strengths and how the game actually works, as the game progressed. A behind early in the 4th quarter drew scores level. Sustained pressure in the forward 50 brought about another, and the girls drew a point in front for the first time in the game. Shortly thereafter, a goal slotted in from a tight angle in the forward pocket saw the Eagles land 7 points clear. The girls then hung on for an emphatic victory. The joy on the faces of the girls after the game was clear for all to see and they sang the club song in the middle of the ground....a first for many of the girls!

A few highlights from the game:

- Kiara taking a great mark in front of goals and slotting her first goal.
- Ava taking the game on like a season campaigner in her first game and calmly moving the ball around the ground.
- Grace fiercely going into the contest and bouncing up after a solid tackle.
- Violet showing composure and moving the ball by hand.
- Lucy being thrust into the ruck without any prior experience or instruction and performing more than admirably.
- Madi attacking the ball through the midfield and also kicking her first goal.
- Daisy finding herself in great positions in both attack and defence to make an impact in her first game.
- Matilda continually running through the middle of the ground, showing speed and skill.

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- All of the U13 girls to their leadership in helping direct the girls in their first game.
- And who can forget, Lucy leading the cheer at the end of the quarter break with “3, 2, 1, Magpies!” which I’m sure the girls aren’t going to forget anytime soon.

Looking forward to next week already!

Score: Hornsby Berowra Eagles 4.3.27 defeated North West Lightning 3.2.20

Goals: Vally 2, Kiara 1 & Madi 1

