

MATCH REPORT



HBE U12 vs Pennant Hills Demons U12
Round 7: 31st May 2026
Ern Holmes Oval

After a shake-up big loss following our move up to Division 2 last week, nerves were rife for the Eagles, not certain how we'd fare against the Pennant Hills Demons. Added to the fact that we missed out on a training session due to wet weather, our self-belief that we belonged to Div 2 was yet to be proved. However, with a thorough warm-up session and the heavens shining brightly, the mood was positive for a good game of footy.

Right from the first ball-up, the Eagles were applying excellent pressure against the Demons, perhaps catching them a little unawares. Ryan was looking dangerous in the forward defense position, having great control with his marking and kicking game. Arlo and Dion made some fantastic hand passes with Dion never tiring the whole match. Alex dominated with his aggressive rucking, helping to secure the ball. Still, the Demons are a tight team; they never let up, giving it back to the Eagles just as much. Cameron (captain) also controlled much of the defensive play, with some beautiful marking. Our new recruit, Charlie, showed a really solid effort, always attacking the ball while also showing off his impressive speed. Luke made plenty of runs and finished with a goal, keeping up neck and neck with the Demons.

In the 2nd quarter, the pressure on both sides continued with the Demons making some beautiful handball chains against us. Nathan, in the mids, made the opposition work hard to try and bring him down with his 'bulldozing' and he showed them who was boss with a goal! The teams displayed some excellent marks all-round with Alex, Ryan and Arlo executing some good kick-marks.

By the 3rd quarter it was anyone's game. Dion was constantly on the ball with Elliot showing finesse with his calm and collected marking and accurate kicking game. There was a brilliant kick-chain down the field where the Eagles looked unstoppable. Lewis was looking strong in the mids, while Dion scored a worthy goal after his continuous effort. By three-quarter time it was 2.8.20 (Demons) to 3.1.19 (Eagles). A tight one indeed!

In the 4th Quarter, there was still some great play (Cameron doing an excellent backward kick and Nathan 'bulldozer' doing his thing!), but unfortunately, the Eagles just seemed to lose the edge on the edges of play, whereas the Demons took advantage with a few quick goals in the last half of the quarter. Ryan played a huge defensive game and made a rush behind, but it wasn't enough for the Eagles to stay in the game.

Overall, it was anyone's game for most of the game and the boys proved that they are worthy of going up to Div 2. Excellent effort!

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Player of the Match awards went to Dion who never stopped, and Charlie who showed a real hunger to get the ball first!

Final Score:

Pennant Hills Demons: 5.11 (41) to Hornsby Berowra Eagles: 3.1 (19).

Great goals from Dion 1.1, Luke 1.0 and Nathan 1.0 (particularly enjoyed that one).

Report by Marcus Pater.