

MATCH REPORT



HBE UNDER 9 Girls vs St Ives
ROUND 7 – DATE 31 May 2026
VENUE – Rofe Park

Summary of Game

After a week of rain that had everyone questioning if we'd need flippers instead of footy boots, the sun finally showed up at Royal Rofe, just in time for what can only be described as a top-of-the-table blockbuster between the two best sides in the comp.

A special moment pre-game as Maddie led the team through the banner for her 50th game, an incredible effort given she's still 8 years away from attaining her driver's licence. A big milestone and thoroughly deserved.

Unfortunately, due to urgent BBQ responsibilities (someone had to keep the snags from burning), your match reporter only made it back for the start of the second quarter. The first quarter review was therefore outsourced to my very reliable 11-year-old daughter, who delivered the hard-hitting analysis: "St Ives had all the ball." Insightful and straight to the point. So, we'll lock that in. St Ives started strongly and controlled early play.

The second quarter tightened right up. Evie was rock solid in defence, while Mila, Erica and Livia went to work in the contest like seasoned pros. Abigail, Alannah and Mieke started to swing momentum our way, and the run began to come through Sophia, Charlotte and Chloe, who were turning defence into attack with real intent.

The third quarter belonged to HBE, with two goals on the board, the first to milestone star Maddie (of course) and another to Charlotte. Lastly, Saphira was everywhere. A quick knock at the end of the first half and a quick chat with dad at halftime had her back to her best in the second half, dominating both the midfield battle and handstands.

By the fourth quarter, HBE had their noses in front and kept pressing, adding a couple of behinds and holding firm in a tight finish to come away with the win.

A cracking game that absolutely lived up to the pre match hype. The team now heads into a well-earned long weekend break.

A big shoutout to the coaching staff, who continue to do a fantastic job, developing skills, building confidence, and creating a fun environment for the girls. Some would argue that the u9s have the better Davis brother in their coaching ranks.