

Round 2 Glenunga U9 Navy Blue vs Mitcham Blue  
Thomas Farms Oval, Mothers Day 9.30 am Sunday 8 May 2016

*The boys intensity and effort was sensational with 100% commitment at the footy*

*Overcast day but not windy. Finn was captain and lost the toss. First quarter very even great work in defence by Tadgh, Max S and Jesse great tackling, ball went in to the back line a lot we couldn't quite get it out much.*

*Second quarter we got the ball and got it into full forward and kicked some goals.*

*Third quarter stand outs were Max D with some great drop punts and goals and everyone trying very hard.*

*Last quarter Emerson, Elliott, Jackson and Mitchell had a great last quarter.*

*Overall it was great effort*

*Finn Wundenberg, Round 2 Captain.*



*'The Party Man' getting a clean kick away in Q2, great game from the skipper*

The sky looked threatening for the annual Mothers Day special (I say every day is Mothers day to Michelle and it usually gets me a slap at home!). I expected it to keep a few of the mums tucked up in bed but they are a bunch of troopers the U9 Mums.

A couple of debutants for the Rams, Elliott Gavin and Charlie Tonkin, fresh from a break out cricket season at the Rams. James Bafile also returned.

The first quarter was intense, with Mitcham winning a bit of the ball in the middle but they were unable to put any goals on the board. That was because the pressure that Finn, Tadgh, Jesse and Max S put on for every minute of the quarter was sensational. Max S had a standout first quarter, tackling hard but also being clean with the ball.

The practice of kicking out from full back worked really well with Jesse hitting Max S and Finn in separate kick outs.



*Max S with a lead and mark after great kick out from Jesse*



*Max kicking long down the line*

The ball didn't spend much time up forward but when it did Sam was his usual strong self and had a couple of shots for goal, slotting a long one on the run.

Max D was tough, focused and had a great start to the game in the midfield, often winning the ball in 1 on 3 contests.



*Max D breaking away with good support from Harry and Eden*

#### Second quarter

Finn and Tadgh started the second quarter well, particularly Finn who played a real captains game. The real highlight with Finn was how clean he was with the ball, keeps his feet and gets his disposal away to a target.

Max S and Jesse also kept the pressure and skills at a high level.

Max D and Eden worked really hard in the forward line. Both continued to tackle hard and were able to break out of the pack on a number of occasions.

Max D has been working really hard on his kicking and it is noticeable. He kicked a ripper of a goal, under a heap of Hawks pressure, and off balance, but managed to get the kick away, long and over the head of Jackson in the square.

Mitcham were quick and skillful. They had 12 players so were able to run their best players through the midfield for 2 quarters, and in particular their height in the ruck and in marking contests was tough to counter.

#### Third quarter

The ball kept going at a frenetic pace, end to end throughout the quarter. Elliott was relentless in the middle and kicked a couple of torpedoes long into the forward line.





*'You're not going anywhere' Elliott and James in a solid tackle*

Finn continued his great match, clean across half forward and getting it quickly and long to the goal square, with one great snap over his shoulder for a goal.

Jesse had a couple of chances to score and looked really dangerous again.

Tadgh kicked his first goal for the club, booting it over the top of the grandstand and it took 20 minutes to recover the ball.



*Tadgh with a great stretch*

In this quarter Mitchell took a great mark and in doing so split his lip but kept going and it seemed to fire him up even more.

James and Harrison really attacked the ball aggressively with Harrison getting cleaned up by friendly fire twice, but to his credit he showed how tough he can be by brushing me away and saying I'm OK.



*Max D with another chase down from behind*

#### Final quarter

We expected the boys to tire as this game was played at a finals like pace (think Crows v Hawthorn game the other night!). But they did the opposite, they stepped up the attack on the ball to another level in the last quarter.

Emerson had a great quarter, continually delivering the ball into the forward line, he used his pace and showed real confidence and balance to evade and use his skills.



*Floating through the air!*



*And on the run*

Elliott, the kamikaze kid, ran full tilt back into the pack, eyes on the ball (think Nick Riewoldt vs Swans a few years ago). He won the ball!!





*Elliott and Charlie fully committed*

Then Charlie in his first game and about a metre from the Rams cheer squad laid a bone jarring tackle. He ran at full pace and absolutely laid a massive tackle. Unfortunately it was a bit high, but the ooohs and aaahs from the parents, showed what a gutsy effort it was.

Elliott had a couple of shots for goal in the last quarter and then Mitchell snapped one over his shoulder from the boundary line and kicked a great goal.



*Mitchell having a shot*

Special mention to James, it was by far his best game for the club, his attack on the ball was great, and he showed how strong he was busting away from a number of packs with the ball.



*James with one of many great efforts with the ball*

The commitment they have for the ball is outstanding, particularly so early in the season. We certainly didn't expect this level of selfless attack on the ball and it's something that is hard to learn so we have a lot to work with.

We need to keep working particularly on our skills (kicking both legs), moving, moving the ball on quicker by foot so we don't get caught with the ball, the kick outs from full back (need to replicate how Jesse, Max S, Finn and Tadgh did this) and how the boys work as a team when under pressure.

This week, a personal rivalry match against Goodwood (some great mates of ours and boys that play at the Rams cricket club, Aston and Harry). Need BBQ bragging rights out of this one boys!