

Round 3 Glenunga U9 Navy Blue vs Goodwood Red
Webb Oval, 9.30 am Sunday 15 May 2016

Tight contest

We played against the Goodwood Saints this week. It was a sunny & still morning, good for football. We lost the toss. Our team didn't get much of the ball in the first quarter, we needed to improve. We came out much stronger in the second quarter, kicking 3 goals in a row. Great work Rams. Our super coach Ben gave us a good talk at half time. The game ended with the ball spending a lot of time in the other team's forward line. Next week Ben says we should try and move the ball on faster and kick long. We also need to tackle harder. Good 2nd quarter but we can improve next week. Go Rams!

Darcy Greenwood, Round 3 Captain.

In the first quarter we got off to a bit of a slow start, not quite as switched on as we have the past couple of weeks and Aston kicked two nice goals for the Saints.



James carrying on his good form from last week

In particular we didn't play in front across the oval and in particular the ball came out of our forward line too easily.

Finn battled hard and kicked a goal, keeping up his average of 1 goal per week.

In the second quarter we really stepped up the intensity. Elliott, Tadgh, Will and James had a great quarter in the middle of the ground, regularly moving it forward with great team play. The point to

like here was we took a number of marks under pressure, went back and thought about where we were kicking.



Tadgh taking a strong grab after leading to the right spot

The only problem, not so much in this quarter but across the game was we kicked into the man on the mark about 5 times (something to keep working on at training).

The partnership up forward of Max D and Emerson was guaranteed to work, but it was the way they worked together, shared the ball around and again both took a number of clean and strong marks.



Emerson getting air again, with clean hands – my money is on Emerson taking mark of the year this year!



Max D taking one of a number of great marks for the day

The other highlight was how well Charlie played, he attacked the ball strongly, had clean hands and won plenty of the ball.



Charlie getting plenty of the ball

Both Maxie D and Emerson slotted 2 goals each and could have had a couple more.

In the third quarter we tried a different tactic to clear it out of the zone and it worked a treat. Jesse (twice) and Finn both played on from full back and one of Jesse's kicks ended up past the centre after getting over the back of the players at the edge of the zone. We will keep doing this in future weeks.

Seb had a great quarter, he has a real knack of pinching the ball from the bottom of the pack, spinning out the back and onto his left.



Seb getting the ball to boot

Eden and Harrison also had a terrific quarter, strong at the footy and gutsy.



Harrison going for a run

The Saints had a few real stars and Johnny asked Sam to match up on their best player for the quarter (an U9 run with role? – not quite, but make sure he stuck with his opponent). Sam was fantastic in this role, really focused and disciplined. Starting to pencil him into a role for U12's!

Goodwood had plenty of chances but we pressured really well.

We had our chances in the last quarter but just couldn't convert. Eden and Sam continued to battle hard and Eden was rewarded with a goal.

Elliott had another great game. He is ferocious, quick and loves the contest.

They managed to sneak a few goals with the balls going over the back and with a lucky bounce or two managed to score 2 goals quickly.

The boys should be proud of their effort. In particular we marked really strongly, continued to use the ball much more by hand, our clearance from full back was great, the boys are now working out the ruck set ups on their own and they are holding the positions we asked for in the forward line.



Finn taking a strong grab in the middle and Elliott ready to pounce.

We will keep working on the regular themes of:

- improving our consistency of attack on the footy (first to last siren);
- playing in front, everywhere, all the time;
- making sure we get back over the man on the mark after a free kick or mark;
- using our voice to help each other out (particularly handball out of trouble); and
- basic kicking skills.