

Round 9 Glenunga U9 Navy Blue vs Mitcham
Webb Oval, 9.30 am Sunday 3rd July 2016

Back to tough, contested footy

It was exciting & very fun to be captain! I thought the team played very well and I think it was a good win!

Emerson Rhigas, Round 9 Captain

We knew this was going to be a tough game, having never been able to get across the line against Mitcham in the past 3 attempts. The boys refocussed this week on winning the contested footy, getting out tackle pressure back to what it was earlier in the season and keeping improving in our teamwork and leading.

Mitcham started well and had the better of us in the first quarter. It looked like we might be in for a long day.

Charlie in defence and Emerson up forward started like a house on fire, hard at it, clean hands and setting the standard. We missed a few opportunities to score goals as the pressure was well applied by Mitcham.



Emerson very hard at it, great commitment



Charlie continuing his great form

The midfield battled hard and it was pretty even, but Mitcham were able to score a couple of goals with quick movement.

In the second quarter the boys lifted their attack on the footy. Sam, Charlie, Tadgh and Jackson winning plenty of the footy and the forwards working really well together.

Elliott up at the edge of the zone winning the contested footy pumping it long, Jesse, Max and Mitchell working well by shepherding, handballing and leading well just as we had practised at training Friday night.

Jesse scored a great goal, breaking through the line with pace and continued his good first quarter. In particular he really improved in winning the contested footy and using his electrifying pace to break away. He also made good decisions with the footy, looking for leading teammates and kicking well.



Jesse going for a run



Harry balanced and in control

Elliott also kicked a great goal after Max and Mitchell won the ball in the pack, making space for Elliott to score.

Jackson pulled off the pick-up of the day, gathering a clean half volley from a ball that went high in the air and then getting the handball to a team mate.

In the third quarter we were very good defensively, holding Mitcham scoreless. Emerson, Eden, Will and Max defending strongly. Impressively they really stuck on their man and didn't give them an inch.

Finn had a great quarter, as did Harry. Harry taking a number of very strong marks and kicking beautifully. Bash and Harrison also had a ripping quarter, with Bash constantly getting belted but beating his opponent and getting that trusty left foot to the ball.



Finn, ball tucked under the arm and off for another run, Harrison leading well in the background

Harrison lit the 3rd quarter up, he was everywhere, tackling, winning every contest, kicking the ball well, marking well. The best quarter I've seen Harrison play and on the back of 2 really good matches, his footy is really developing well.



Harry with a great kick to Tadgh for a goal

The ball went forward a lot but Mitcham defended really well. It took a spectacular play from the midfield to Tadgh, who gathered, broke a couple of tackles and kicked a long goal.



Tadgh, breaking away and about to slot a nice goal

The last quarter was tight, the ball spending a lot of time in the midfield, with both defences on top.



Eden focussed on that footy

Finn had another great quarter, as did Seb, Harry and Will. Jesse finished off a fine game with a number of clearances from defence.



Jesse clearing from defence with a long kick

Tackling was back on, team work on display, leading and voice improving.

Well done boys, you are playing the game with great respect and spirit.