

# 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Report

## Glebe vs. Sutherland

Round 14

5<sup>th</sup> July 2008

Result 2 – 2

It was sunny, warm winter day as the Glebe boys descended south to face arch rivals Sutherland at home. Glebe welcomed back Alistar Cullen to the line up, however, this was cancelled out by the late scratching of Michael Wark. Sutho hasn't been performing as well as previous years, however, the Glebe boys knew that this would be no easy game against a young & well coached team. The Glebe boys were keen to come away from the Shire with nothing less than a win and this was highlighted in the change room before the game.

Coach Pato stressed in the team talk the requirement for the back five to work the ball around the back and shift the Sutherland defence before moving forward ie. be patience, pick your pass. He also noted that the forwards had to lead & make the critical traps when posting up front.

Most of the above was taken into the start of the game as the Glebe boys controlled the pace early with a flurry of attacking raids into the Sutho circle through some nice, crisp short passing. Glebe were reward with a couple of short corners, with the latter of the corners bring the required result. A well worked corner were Alistar Cullen hit down to Daniel Cleary for a deflection which saw the dirty reds go one goal to the good.

Unfortnately, this is where our game seem to change as we started to look longer and the communication from the back dropped. Sutho started to form overlaps with there halves & gain a couple of short corners. With about 10 minutes to go, a Sutho short corner saw the scores level again as a drag flick went high & to the keepers right. The last 10 minutes of the half was an arm wrestle as both sides had a couple of chances through open play & short corners.

The half ended in a painful injury as Adam Howard was hit with a raised ball around the groin region. All men in the stands could be seen cringing at the site of what had just happened. But thankfully, from all reports, another possible future human being will be able to live to fight another day.

The half time talk stressed the need for shorting the game up to include the midfield in the game and to concentrate more on your own game rather than the umpire's decision making. Glebe seem to take these points into the game and started to get back their structure. The arm wrestle continued into the half until around the 50<sup>th</sup> minute, when one of the many strong Mark Paterson runs for the game saw him draw in a couple of

defenders, then pass the ball to Aaron Omen who then threaded the ball to Simon Wark who squeezed the ball over the oncoming sliding keeper to registered his first ever goal in 1<sup>st</sup> Grade (that's a case!).

Glebe kept up the attacking raids and had numerous shots at goals and a one on one with the keeper. Due credit must be given to the performance of the Sutho keeper who halted the hammering of the final nail into the coffin by the Glebe boys. This performance seem to boost the belief of the Sutho team, who with 10 mins to go, scored an equalizer from a scrappy short corner.

The rest of the game saw both sides have there chances to take glory, with Glebe again having another one on one & a rocketing Pat Casey backstick flawed by the Sutho keeper. Sutho had a final short corner with a minute to go, which was well cleared by the Glebe defence. Neither side would take glory on that sunny winter day, as the game ended in a 2-2 stale mate. Sutho clearly jubilant with the result and Glebe disappointed.

The Glebe boys must now assess what they did right & what they could do better in preparation for the local derby against Briars, where the Glebe boys & girls will be fighting to retain the Trenvar-Wark trophy (named after the late Harry Wark Snr). So, get to Cintra & support the Glebe contingent!!!

Finally, the Glebe boys send there best wishes & congratualtions to Dean Benefield & Helen Howe on their engagement.

Cheers

Adam Howard

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Report

Glebe vs Sutherland

Round 14

5<sup>th</sup> July 2008

Result: Sutherland 6-0

The Glebe boys journeyed down to the Sutherland Shire, for several of us the second time in two days, to play competition high flyers and arch rivals, the Hobbits of Sutherland. Sutherland were as always up for a fast and physical game and looked to counter attack early with great success scoring two early goals. Although Sutho had a couple of regular 2<sup>nd</sup> graders players playing who certainly added some zest and skill to the side, Glebe generally scrambled well in cover defence with Buschy, Gaywood and man of the match, Dan Carey repelling several attacks. The Glebe lads built up some great attacks with Jakey and Scotty C combining well with high strikers Alex and Campo to work several shots at goal and a number of short corners which we just could not convert on the day. The problem with this being that you can't keep a Hobbit down for long and if you don't make them pay for their defensive errors then they sure as well will do it back to you. The Hobbits were well placed for victory up 3-0 at half time.

Glebe battled strongly again in the second half and had several chances to score from one on one positions with the goalkeeper; from shots and deflections; and from penalty corners but could not convert. The old Hobbit in goals had an absolute blinder. In fact, it was an all round sterling weekend for Sutho goalkeepers, in particular BS who had a memorable game limiting Glebe 1<sup>st</sup> grade to only two goals.

It must be said, however, that there is a small element of players at Sutherland who do not bring credit to their fantastic club. The Hobbit on the left wing persistently engaged in foul play off the ball throughout the game as he had done the previous day in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and he surely will get his just desserts some time soon as will the other Hobbit, Frodo Baggins, a player-spectator, who yelled abuse at the Glebe players from the Sutho dugout. Once again, this Hobbit's claim to fame of kicking an ex-Glebe player in the face while he was on the ground some years ago is remembered well by the Dirty Reds and his time will also surely come in the near future.

Other than this, Sutho look to be building well for the future with a lot of very good young players coming through and in particular their 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade sides in recent years have been much stronger than they were in the 1990s. Good luck to Sutho for winning and thank Christ we don't have to go back there again this year.

Cheers

Adam Campano