

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

Glebe vs. South West Strikers

Round 2

30<sup>th</sup> March 2008

With the Glebe team coming off a hard fought win against GNS it was time to back up on Sunday after noon against a youthful and enthusiastic SWS team was had nothing to loose but everything to gain playing one of the Premier Leagues top teams in Glebe. The talk before the game was not to be complacent and to work on what we needed to do too win the game. But with all the theory before the game very little was but into practice out on the pitch with the Glebe team unable to connect with each other and the basic skills went missing. It was a totally different team out on the pitch compared with Friday's night performance as the Glebe team's performance became infectious and the game turned into a real ugly affair of riddled mistakes and unattractive hockey. Although the team did manage to score 3 goals and secure the points it was an awakening performance for the team as we came to the realisation that we are still a long way off from where we want to be. But with all said and done after the game it is important for the team to learn from that performance and to focus on training this Tuesday as well set our sights for this Saturday's game.

Result Glebe 3 – SWS 0

Cheers

Mark Paterson

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

Glebe vs Manly

5<sup>th</sup> April 2008

Result: Manly 4-0

Well, this match was never going to be easy and it wasn't. With the late withdrawals of experienced team members Paulie and Whacka and with Scott Cleary and Princess again required for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, Glebe 3rds did very well to compete evenly with Manly, the 2007 Premiers, for large periods of the match. Glebe, in fact, had most of the opening 15 minutes of the play and should have been a couple of goals up after a couple of great one-on-one chances with the Manly goalie and some good penalty corner opportunities. However, inexperience and taking bad options resulted in Glebe not capitalising and Manly were only too happy to take the initiative, slotting a well worked team goal against the run of play and then following up not long later with a clever drag flick from last year's top goal scorer in SHA 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

The second half was a bit disappointing as the midfield became wide open after sustained pressure from Manly and the Glebe forwards struggled to prevent Manly from working the ball quickly around them and then on to their high strikers. Rob Blamire again was impressive in goals making several great reflex saves to deny Manly from inflicting further goals against our young side. Daniel Carey again won Player's Player after a typically rugged and whole hearted performance. Alex Sheard was again a standout of the younger players and worked well with his fellow U/17 Jake Ribarovski. Aleks Manou again played a gutsy game, coming up about even with Manly's excellent centre-half and captain.

While the 4-0 loss was a big improvement on our 8-1 drubbing to Manly in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round in 2007 and relatively impressive given Manly's annihilation of Briars last week 9-1, realistically, there was and is a considerable gulf which exists between the two teams in terms of experience, level of basics and physicality, which will have to be made up in other areas over the course of the year, in terms of fitness, creativity and opportunism. I am confident that in reflecting on this game that Glebe 3rds will be extremely competitive in all it's remaining games against the other 9 sides other than Manly. We play Sydney Uni next week and need to give 'The Books' a good touch-up to get our premiership campaign back on track.

Cheers

Adam Campano