

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

Glebe vs. Ryde

Round 22

30<sup>th</sup> August 2008

Result 5 – 4

Saturday saw the second placed Glebe side take on the Ryde Panthers who in front of a parochial home crowd were looking to end their season on a high and send off a number of retiring first grade players with a memorable team performance. Glebe on the other hand already guaranteed of semi – finals action needed a win to cement their second place on the competition table and book themselves a major semi – finals berth by notching up their 17<sup>th</sup> win of the season.

The game was typical of what Glebe can expect come finals time against tough and skillful opposition. The first half was a seesawing affair with the Ryde team first to score through well worked short corner which saw a ball flicked hard and into the right hand corner of the goals despite the attempts of Goal Keeper Stephen and left postman Peter Wark. Glebe however enjoyed the majority of the attack with quick ball movement and using the full width of the field to spread and separate the Ryde defense who were stacking their circle and defensive half in hope of a turnover on which they could launch their counter attacking style of hockey. After numerous chances and shots on goal Glebe would soon hit back through Michael Wark who crunched a short corner variation into the back of the net to draw the scores level. Michael was not out of the action long as he turned from scorer to provider this time for his older sibling Patrick (MCPC 141) Wark, as straight from the restart of play Mick made a Kenny Wark like tackle; beat the full fullbacks, faked a shot on goal which drew the keeper and laid the ball on a platter which Patrick took with a sliding slap shot into the back of the net. In a moment of Calypso hockey which saw the Glebe side now with a one goal advantage that they would take going into the half time break.

The halftime talk stressed the need to maintain the intensity in our game through short passes and possession hockey. Geoff also called for the team to utilize Aaron in the middle to transfer the ball through the midfield and in the attacking 25. The team also knew Ryde would attack in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half as they had nothing to lose but everything to gain.

Glebe took this onboard and absorbed all Ryde threw at them in the opening minutes of the second half. Glebe would score their 3<sup>rd</sup> goal of the match when they were awarded a Penalty stroke when a resulting shot on goal was saved by a Ryde player's foot. No mistake was made with flick which gave Glebe a vital 2 goal buffer. This only awakened the Ryde team who piled on 2 goals to draw level with 20 minutes of play left. But what Ryde can do Glebe could do better, as Daniel Clearly added his name to the scores sheet

when he pounced on a rebound off the Ryde keeper to flick the ball hard and low into the goals. Daniel imitating Michael's first half effort also turned provider after a clever one on one strip saw him shift the ball quickly to Michael who shimmied to his left and with a left to right diving drag around the keeper pieced the diving Ryde defense to claim his second for the match. With the score now 5 – 3 Ryde where no way finished or disheartened as they soon hit back again with a short corner which again pierced the goal keeper and left postman to bring the game back to 5 – 4 with minutes left to play. Glebe was able to withstand the taunts and motivational cheers from the Ryde crowd as well as all that Ryde could muster in the dying minutes. With the resounding hooter signaling the end of play Glebe knew they had tackled a formidable opponent and more importantly secured 2<sup>nd</sup> place on the table.

Glebe now turns its attention to September action which will see the team take on North West Strikers who finished 1<sup>st</sup> on the table after the completion of the home and away fixtures and are the regaining premiers. It's an exciting time of the season which pits the best against the best in Sydney.

Stay tuned for Match times and schedules

Cheers

Mark Paterson

## 3rd Grade Report

### Glebe vs Ryde

#### Round 22

August 30th 2008

Result: 1 - 0

For the second time in a row, Glebe were able to take the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade 2008 Minor Premiers right down to the wire again with several close shaves and saves along the way. I don't know what it is, but on two occasions this year, Glebe has saved up its best hockey for its two round games against Ryde, who went through the season losing only one game to Manly. However, our best hockey has not always translated into goals this season and that was again the case in this game. The game was a cracker and appeared to impress all the Glebe and Ryde faithful who were watching the entrée before the main course that was to be 2<sup>nd</sup> and then 1<sup>st</sup> grade games to follow. Attack was end to end from both sides and often broken down at the last instance by desperate defence, in our case from debutant goalkeeper, Jack Stocker, and all round tough kid, Chris Holmes.

There were periods where we seemed to have the Ryde boys on the rack with Jakey and Alex weaving their magic in the midfield providing good field position for our central strikers Paulie and Campo to exploit. One such raid ended in Corey having a lovely push shot at goal where he shaped to go near post and pushed right, beating the goalie but just missing to the right, while two other Glebe strikers pulled up thinking that the ball was going in. This truly was the story of our season. So close and yet so far. Our ongoing inability to score this year (only 37 goals in 20 games) was hammered into us by a ruthless Ryde team who took advantage of a situation in which Campo dribbled into the circle along the backline, appeared to get hacked twice by the same defender, before being dispossessed of the ball, which was then sent down field, before pass, pass, pass, pass, diving deflection, goal. What we thought was going to be a penalty corner play for us turned out to be the winning goal for Ryde seconds later. Ryde were then unlucky to go further ahead when their centre forward hit the right post dead centre with a devastating shot that had the Glebe keeper well beat.

Ryde have been fortunate to have a great mix of youth and experience this year and all things being equal should go on and win the title. I'll certainly be cheering for them over Manly, Sutho and Briars, THAT IS FOR SURE.

Thanks to all 35 boys who played 3rds this year. You all tried your hardest while on the field. Here's hoping to greater consistency next year and a smaller turnover of players. Good times. Over and out.

Adam Campano

Points Table - Division 1 First Grade

<b>Team</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GD</b>	<b>Points</b>
<b>Ryde</b>	20	19	0	1	0	75	26	49	57
<b>Sutherland</b>	20	14	1	5	0	63	35	28	43
<b>Manly</b>	20	13	2	5	0	77	37	40	41
<b>Briars</b>	20	10	4	6	0	48	40	8	34
<b>Glebe</b>	20	8	1	11	0	37	44	-7	25
<b>NWS</b>	20	6	7	7	0	32	39	-7	25
<b>Sydney University</b>	20	6	3	11	0	27	42	-15	21
<b>Easts</b>	20	5	5	10	0	40	56	-16	20
<b>Moorebank</b>	20	6	2	12	0	39	57	-18	20
<b>University NSW</b>	20	4	5	11	0	21	46	-25	17
<b>GNS</b>	20	2	4	14	0	21	58	-37	10