

1st Grade Report

Glebe vs. Sydney University

Round 4

12th April 2008

Result 4 – 1

This week's fixture saw the Glebe team come up against cross town rivals Sydney University. The match was always going to be a tough encounter as the matches between the two clubs are played with hard fought aggression on the pitch. The match started off well for the Glebe team with some slick ball movement down the left hand side forcing a short corner within the opening couple of minutes. The good work was capitalised on when a straight hit rebounded to a waiting Glebe player who pounced on the opportunity to open the account for the afternoon. The Glebe team was playing well with the defence re-bounding all attacking raids mustered by the Sydney Uni team and this set the foundation for the Glebe team to spring board themselves into attack. As the team pressed forward to assert their dominance over the game the forwards couldn't capitalise as some fantastic opportunities were squandered right in front of the goal mouth. Half way through the first half Glebe was to go another goal up through a well worked penalty corner; although the advantage we had on the score board shortly disappeared with Sydney University scoring a goal right before half time to give them a sniff of a come back. With injuries to James Benson (back) & Ian Paterson (groin) the second half was always going to be an uphill battle.

The talk at half time was to lift our intensity all over the park and to be clinical in our finishing in front of the net.

The second half started a bit like the first with yet again the Glebe forcing good attacking outcomes through quick ball movement around the park. Glebe's third goal came from a scrappy clutter of players in front of the Sydney University goal mouth which led to the ball falling to an unmarked Glebe player who calmly flicked the ball over the goalkeeper to beat the Maroon and white's 2 goals clear. Although this did nothing to dampen the Universities team resolve as they were still fighting tooth and nail to stay in the match. Glebe finally scored the knock out punch when a Matthew Wark overhead was missed by the Sydney Uni full back to a waiting Michael Wark who pivoted around the goal to coolly reverse stick the ball into the net to seal the match and more importantly the 3 points.

The post match analysis of the game drove home some truths about how the team has not been playing its usual free flowing hockey, these will need to be addressed as next weekend's game sees the much anticipated Glebe vs. Bankstown.

Cheers

Mark Paterson

3rd Grade Report

Glebe Vs UNSW

Round 4

Friday 18 April 2008

Lost 1-2

Pre-game talk was that UNSW had been well beaten in a couple of games this season. As I have stressed to the team before every game this season, there are no easy games in this competition. UNSW had dropped down an entire Division from 2007 and were looking to obviously dominate a competition after being embarrassed in all games it competed in the Premier Division 1 competition in that year. So it was no surprise then when UNSW started strongly and were able to break down Glebe's attacking raids and muster some counter attack of their own. However, the Glebe backs seemed to have the UNSW strikers well at pay and it was some surprise when UNSW scored first with their only penalty corner of the half, with a well placed, but not particularly forceful drag flick into the bottom right corner of the goal. Glebe then continued to attack and attack and were constantly broken down on entering the circle and more often than not just outside the circle. For the amount of possession and field position which Glebe enjoyed (conservatively about 75%), we had absolutely nothing to show for it. We also had no return from a smorgasbord of penalty corners with the pushes not coming out straight, the traps not being trapped and the hits being intercepted or just missing their intended targets. The second half was more of the same and it looked like Glebe would be unable to get themselves back into the game until a loose ball at the top of the circle ended up with one of our UK imports, Ben Gaywood, dashing to contest the ball and flick it low into the left corner of the goal to tie the game. However, the game was soon decided with only a few minutes to go, when one of several horrendous umpiring errors in this match led to a situation where Glebe should have received a penalty corner down one end, the ball came to the other end, where UNSW earned a highly dubious penalty corner and then slotted the winner much to the merriment of the UNSW boys. Congrats to these boys. They have not had a win for some time and fully deserved it given that they were able to continually frustrate Glebe into turning the ball over and then showing patience in mounting their counterattacks. This level of discipline looks to be beyond our reach at this point in time.

Cheers

Adam Campano