

1st Grade Report

Glebe vs. Bankstown

Round 5

19th April 2008

Result 2 - 5

It was built up as the first grudge match of the season as two former prominent Glebe First graders had defected to Bankstown during the off season; and the current crop of Glebe players were out to make a point. The talk before the match was to start with intensity, give the quick and simple ball and to really take our opportunities in our attacking circle.

The match started off well for the Glebe team with good ball movement around the park allowing the team to have good field position early on in the first half. This was soon capitalised on when a quick free hit was taken on the 25 yard line finding Michael Wark lurking in the circle to deftly flick the ball over the advancing Bankstown goal keeper. This gave Glebe the early ascendancy in the match. Bankstown however lifted a gear and converted a penalty corner through a drag flick which our goalkeeper Dean Benfield almost saved. This only inspired the Glebe team to hit back soon after; with some great free flowing attacking play down the right hand side which lead to multiple shots being taken at the Bankstown goal only for the ball to be cleared to Mark Paterson on top of the circle who neatly slotted home Glebe's second goal for the match. However the scores would be locked up at 2-2 going into halftime with Bankstown scoring a goal not long before the break.

The half time talk stressed the need to maintain the intensity which had been prominent in the first half and to also keep up our defensive effort which had been great before the half time break.

Coming into the second half with the match locked up at 2-2 it was matter of who was going to make the critical blow and score the first goal of the half. Glebe had the better of possession with multiple goal shots saved and deflected away by the keeper who was keeping Bankstown in the match. Glebe could have been 2 or 3 goals ahead midway through the second half instead the team would find themselves behind on the score board when after a defensive laps allowed one of the Bankstown players to receive the ball inside the circle uncontested to slot home the advantaged. This didn't dampen the Glebe team's resolve as soon after the team was presented with a great goal scoring opportunity but it was squandered with some poor decision making in the circle. Bankstown would score two more unanswered goals late in the second half which sealed the match and the 3 points. The game it self was a better performance then previous weeks, the team did some great things out on the park but also made some ghastly mistakes which will have to be kept to a minimum if we are to be a real force in the competition this year. The loss was soured even more so with a serious hamstring injury suffered by Zac Farlow which will see him on the sidelines for upto 4 weeks.

While there is still work to be done it was an encouraging performance one on which we can build on. Glebe's next game is against Sutherland at Sutherland so i encourage the loyal Glebe supporters to get down there and lend there voices to what is always a tough encounter against the shire boys.

Cheers

Mark Paterson

2nd Grade Report

Glebe vs. Bankstown

Round 5

19th April 2008

A game that Glebe new was going to be a tough encounter, the Reds failed to come out with a strong performance in the opening half, with poor ball security and ugly basics, the men from Glebe managed to snag a goal from the scrappy affair, through a short corner hit from Brad. This did not turn the minds of the Glebe defense who were far from their best, with little impact in the first half of the match. This opened the door for an array of attacking opportunities for the Green and Gold. Most of which were spoiled by scrappy cover defense or their own lack of concentration. How ever they managed a few short corners, which were troublesome for the Glebe corner defense, with another being scored of a straight hit.

This sent both teams into half time locked at 1-1. At half time, Les spoke about the need for basics and composure across the park.

Improvement was shown with trapping and hitting proving significant in a half with little structure from both teams. Despite Glebe's improvement, Bankstown began to take hold of the game, when they capitalized of yet another series of short corners, one of which managed to strike the backboard. The break in the deadlock shot new life into the Reds as they managed to trouble the opposition defense, this however was undone by poor trapping and lack of experience and creativity in front of goal, as turn over after turnover became apparent. Some of the great attacking skills shown by Scott Cleary were soon undone as the reds defense sloppily letting a loose ball through to a leading striker who had no trouble finding the net.

Whilst the opposition retained a two-goal margin and time on their side, Glebe needed to react. This came at the hands of Peter Wark, who had two precisely placed drag flicks (between the keepers legs) to level the scores. After the quick flurry of goals, the game seamed even, until Simon Wark found himself with an unclear squeeze shot which somehow managed to deflect into the net. With the Reds on top, and end-to-end hockey in motion, it was only a matter of time until an equalizer or game sealer was found. Bankstown had the opportunity, only for an opposition striker squandered the amazing chance in front of goal. This was enough to give Glebe the 3 points and the comfort of coming from behind to win an ugly and untidy hockey match.

Result: 4-3

Sam Noller

3rd Grade Report

Glebe Vs Gordon-North Sydney

Round 5

Sunday 20 April 2008

Won 1-0

It was made quite clear to the team prior to this match that the season could potentially be over pretty much before it started if we were unable to win this game against GNS. The boys started confidently and made some terrific passing movements to progress downfield but which unfortunately again broken down in the opposition final third of the field, more often than not by a mistake or poor decision on our behalf rather than by great defence from GNS. GNS proved to have some very skilful older players and at times they were able to move the ball freely through midfield despite a strong and enthusiastic glebe presence. Aleks Manou and Ben Gaywood were again dynamic in midfield and gave terrific ball and support to their inners and high strikers. There were some good shots at goal which narrowly missed to either side. At least we were finally getting shots on goal. The game was again well contested in the second half with a number of opportunities to score from deflections narrowly missed by our strikers. The game then took a turn when some skilful work from our U/17 strikers resulted in Alex Sheard back-stick scooping a ball into an open net after the goalie had been beating by some slick passing. The game then deteriorated soon after when the niggles which had been apparent all game was too much for GNS' best player of the day, when he deliberately struck Cris Campano across the top of his chest, with his hockey stick while he had his back turned, narrowly missing his face. Chris had to leave the field and the GNS player was somehow able to leave the field with only a yellow card against his name. No doubt the GNS player will be sweating it out to see if he is the subject of being cited by the SHA judiciary in the near future. A most unsavoury and unnecessary incident. The game ended soon after another couple of near chances meaning that Glebe won narrowly 1-0 despite again having the majority of the game. The boys will now enjoy the Anzac weekend off.

Cheers

Adam Campano