

1st Grade Report

Glebe vs. North West Strikers Yates Cup

29th June 2008-08-18

Result 4 - 3

After a lively outing on Saturday afternoon and an even livelier evening at popular clubman and all-round good bloke Scotty Howard's 21st on Saturday night there were some tired legs and sore heads fronting up at Cintra Park on Sunday afternoon.

The Alan Yates Memorial Shield is contested by the top two teams after the first complete round of matches. Reigning title holders Norwest Strikers went through the half-way mark in first position, having lost only one game, against Moorebank. Glebe was in second spot having lost one match to Bankstown 5-2 and second to Norwest 5-1.

So it was with a healthy desire for vengeance that the Glebe team padded up on Sunday, for no-one in the team is use to nor enjoys the sort of defeat that Norwest had meted out. Team captain Mark Paterson emphasised the need for us to remember the club spirit and give it everything, regardless of what had gone on the previous night.

The team started a little patchy, giving Norwest a couple of chances to get on the board early. Thankfully Stefan's keeping was good and their finishing was bad, and the score stayed at 0-0. Glebe also had a number of good chances which weren't buried.

An incisive run along the backline from a Glebe striker popped the ball back up toward the seven, but a Norwest defender pounced and seized possession. Somehow he then managed to spill the ball to his opposite number, and the Glebe forward had a bit of work to do before finding the net to put Glebe ahead 1-0.

Glebe continued to attack with confidence, creating more opportunities, more of which went begging until Mark Paterson found some space along the backline before tracking off it and firing it into the net past a hapless keeper.

Shortly afterward Michael Wark crabbed laterally across the top of the circle before clinically rattling the sideboard with a tomahawk shot. Glebe had put themselves in the unexpected position of leading 3-0 against Norwest Strikers and it wasn't even halftime yet.

In a stunning role-reversal from the previous day, Glebe's opponents were denied a goal right on the half-time siren after Norwest danger mouse Troy Sutherland replicated Mark's efforts with a run and classy finish along the left hand backline, only to have a breach called from the other end. Glebe breathed a sigh of relief.

Glebe knew Norwest would come at them in the second half and continued to play strong attacking hockey. However Norwest still managed to claw back three unanswered goals to level things up at 3-3. The teams butted horns for some time and a draw looked inevitable

until Peter Wark stepped up to the plate with a well taken a short corner goal to put Glebe back in front, which is where they would stay until the final siren.

The victory this year in the Yates Shield marks the fourth consecutive year Glebe has taken the title in, a significant achievement. It is a testament to the achievements and dedication of the strong core and ongoing injection of young talent, as well as the tireless efforts of coach Geoff Paterson and manager John Nilan. Well done to all concerned. Special mention must also go to the Glebe supporters who were there in numbers for the Sunday game.

Cheers

Patrick Wark.

2nd Grade Report

The Yates Cup: Glebe vs. Sutherland

29th June 2008

Having both 1st and 2nd grade in the Yates cup/shield play off, Glebe took a very undermanned side out to Cintra on what provided to be a lovely afternoon for hockey. However, from the opening whistle the men from Glebe did not look to be on their game. With many of the team backing up from the previous game and Battler's 21st, Glebe seemed to struggle in the heat as arch rivals Sutherland discovered some early form going up 1-0 within the first 5 minutes, through some sloppy defence in the circle from the Glebe backs.

It was not a day to be remembered for the dirty reds as they struggled to with hold decent basics. Missed traps and stray passes became vital as Glebe continued to turnover possession across the field. Many of the 50/50 calls struggled to go Glebe's way as they continued to fight their way back into the game. Some loose marking led to a blue shirt being found near the circle, thus providing a clear shot at goals leaving Rob to make any kind of save facing into the afternoon sun. Giving Sutherland a 2-0 lead going into half time.

Through out the half time talk, it was stressed that Glebe needed a better completion of the basics, quicker ball movement around the back whilst moving a transfer and more cohesion up front.

The talk seemed to spark some motivation into the men from the inner west, with more attacking hockey being displayed, and the first short corner of the half being obtained within minutes. However, poor execution seemed to follow Glebe all across the field, as they were unable to produce the amount of dominant hockey to compete with Sutherland. Again Sutherland managed to find unmarked men, and continually attack the Glebe defence with numbers. This provided the Shire men with plenty of chances, which fortunately were unable to be converted. However, they managed to capitalize of one of the many shot corners with an undirected drag flick finding the backboard. Giving Sutho a 3-0 lead running into the last 10 minutes. Glebe however managed to find a little bit of form, however the goal post, Sutherlands goal keeper and scrambling defence found better ideas to keep Glebe scoreless. Giving Sutherland the cup for another year.

Many pointers of Sutherland's game plan will be taken into Tuesday nights training as Glebe attempts to regain pride and 3 more competition points with a win against Sutherland next Saturday down in the Shire. The team will welcome back some regulars as returns are expected for next weekend's fixture.

Cheers

Sam Noller