

First Grade Match Report:
Round 13 Glebe Vs Sutherland
Saturday 20th of June 2009
Sylvania Heights Reserve 3:30pm
Result: 0-2

Glebe always knew this was to be a tough encounter, and couldn't quite stand up to the task.

They let themselves down early with some poor marking, allowing a Sutherland forward to stroll into the circle and score with a reverse stick shot in the opening five minutes. With Glebe's inability to score goals in recent weeks this was not a good start.

As the game got into its rhythm Glebe were able to compete with Sutherland in defence and through the midfield but struggled to mount any real pressure up front, persistently turning over the ball.

The match was played in pouring rain on a water-logged field, which, if anything advantaged Glebe as it took the gloss off what, by all accounts, is a slick attack from Sutherland this season. Glebe did look dangerous on occasion on the counter attack when they could hold the ball long enough, but passing needs to happen quicker.

The second half saw Sutherland go another goal ahead. Perhaps they then took their foot off the gas, or perhaps Glebe put theirs down, as the pendulum certainly swung the Maroon way. Numerous short corners were forced, with some even getting shots on goal! Somewhat of a rarity in recent times. But the Sutherland keeper was up to the task. Ross Bougoukas caused some consternation for their defence, using his pace and skill to good effect.

Glebe's effort was ever willing and the legs were still pumping at the final siren and the basic skills started to gel a little more this week. The young forward line also has much improved on this outing. But the harsh reality is Glebe were beaten soundly and have not won a game in the past five matches.

Players Player: Dean Benfield. It's never a good thing when a team gets beat and the keeper wins Player's Player, as this would infer that it could've been plenty more. Which I suppose is true. If it wasn't for some freakish saves from Dean, saving shots from all angles and ranges Glebe may've had a much less respectable score sheet.

Regards,

Patrick Wark

3RD GRADE:

GLEBE VS THE HOBBITS

GLEBE LOST 2-3

The only I can think of worse than having to travel down to Hobbitville twice in a weekend to play the aforementioned Hobbits is well... there's not anything else. Maybe if it's pissing down rain and if we lost both games. However, an under strength 2nd grade's terrific effort in drawing with the competition leaders on the Saturday set the tone for hopefully a successful Sunday for the mighty 3rds who had stormed into 3rd position after being undefeated for the past 6 weeks.

Anyway, Glebe got off to a cracking start working consistently upfield with a mix of good build up play from halves and some direct long passing from the backs to create a number of opportunities early on despite the constant Hobbit press and the constant menace that the Hobbit strikers possess on the counter attack. Man, Hobbits are so much faster than what they are given credit for. Maybe that's what waxing does for you.

Anyway again, Scotty Bortfield had a cracker deflections shot from a Corey Morrow cross from the right corner which was incredibly saved by the Hobbit goal keeper. Five minutes later, the exact same scenario except Pete Busch was providing the cross and this time Scotty made extra yards to slap deflect the ball into the backboard for the first goal of the game. Seven minutes later Glebe earned a short corner and Captain Peter Busch somehow found the only unprotected part of the Hobbit cavern they call a goal – bottom right corner chick chick boom.

2-0 up at half-time and I was having a nice grin at the Hobbit's expense as they were becoming quite upset at the officiating. It's a bit rich to be upset at the umpiring at their own home ground after years of how shall I say 'alleged favourable treatment' at their HQ. I certainly would not want to be wearing a fluoro orange shirt at Sylvania Hockey Turf while the assorted Hobbit Heads scream abuse/encouragement from way up above in Hobbit Heaven (that's the balcony area of the Hobbit's wonderful clubhouse for those not in the know).

We reassessed and reassembled at half-time knowing that the opening minutes of the first half would be when the Hobbits were most dangerous. True to form, the Hobbits came out and performed like a locomotive train that couldn't be stopped in the first ten minutes of the 2nd half applying intense pressure on the Glebe defence resulting in two very, very soft goals. In this time and the time soon after, Glebe had a number of chances to regain the lead, including a couple of short corners but a 3rd goal wasn't to be. The Hobbits then scored their 3rd soft goal for the game and the game had been lost by Glebe rather than won by the Hobbits. The Hobbits may be inclined to disagree but it's all academic at the end of the day. The Hobbits picked up 3 needed points to bring them back into finals contention, while Glebe for now, takes one tiny step back. The Glebe team effort as always was outstanding, especially given that a number of players were backing up from the previous day's bruising encounter with the Hobbits in 2nd grade. The execution will continue to improve as the season continues. Well done boys.

The best thing about this report is that I made it all the way through without saying 'Sutherland'. Awesome.

Adam Campano

5th GRADE

Glebe 0 drew Sutherland 0

The return bout in Sylvania of Glebe v. Sutho was a very different encounter to the clash in round 2 earlier this season.

Injuries and unavailability's have crippled the club and 5th grade is certainly no exception to this pandemic that could rival the spread of Swine Flu. Both fullbacks and all 3 halves that tackled Sutherland in round two were missing in action for our second crack at the shirelings and we were left with a make shift half line that matched the heart but not quite the execution - I sure as hell don't come close to filling the shoes of K.W. in the middle! - and a mix of wisened experience and budding confidence in the back with Alan Doughty and Sam Bagley teaming together for the second straight week.

The game was about as ugly as they come and I can't be more honest then that, it was a tough, digger in the trenches type of battle that went back and forth for the full 70 minutes and only having 1 badged umpire made the game difficult on both sides as calls became inconsistent for both teams but that's all part of the game.

Both teams were fired up and a lot of aggression was released early as many a long ball was lifted and had players ducking for cover. Glebe managed to wrestle control for a good stretch of 10 minutes early in the first half keeping the ball in our attacking half but failed to find the right execution in the attacking 25 to pressure the Sutherland keeper.

Sutherland eventually hit back and had their best opportunity to score when awarded a short corner, the initial hit was partially deflected by Sam's charge out of the goals and Jack showed great reflexes to push himself up just enough to get a glove to the ball in what was a spectacular saved brought undone when Al on the post was unfortunate to be called for an obstruction offence when clearing the pads, luckily the resulting short corner was defused and balance was restored.

We retired to the break scoreless and had a minor reshuffle as Sam pushed up into right half and Nali dropped to fullback next to Al.

The second half played out much the same as the first and as the game grew on so did the tension levels on the field with a lot of players putting bodies on the line proving that hockey is certainly not a non-contact sport and eventually a green card was issued to a phantom player much to the confusion of both teams on the field. The Glebe attack found some renewed focus in the attacking 25 as we made managed to make good use of our fullbacks and halves to bring the ball out beyond the 25 to reset and have some patience on our free hits

and we managed to build and apply pressure to the Sutherland defence. A quick self hit just outside the circle saw Jason get into the D and pick up a short corner for the reds which brought us agonisingly close to breaking the tie. The initial hit from Jason was deflected by a Sutherland runner straight into the path of the keeper's gloves and the rebound fell to the feet of James Hurrell who composed himself for the flick over the outstretched keeper on the ground but unfortunately saw his effort sail just above the crossbar.

As the game wore down it became increasingly clear that neither side was going to break the deadlock as the attacking runs into the circle dried up on both ends and the depleted 5th grade side had to be thankful for the 1 point of the draw.

It was still a great effort given by all the boys on the field especially given the unavailability's Tom and James Hurrell seem to have boundless energy, Sam continues to grow in to his dad's solid defensive shadow, Alan Doughty seems to be absorbing in some of the youth that's surrounding him, Tommy S. keeps proving his resiliency in all positions on the field and as for me, well I'll leave the criticism's to my team mates, hopefully they're not as tough on me as I am on myself.

As we look forward to take on St. George's 3rd grade side next week, we pray that some familiar faces are able to return to the battlefield.

P.s. thanks to Eoghan and Pete Kelly who backed up from 6th grade, they toiled hard all day up front for little results but they left nothing on the field.

Jason McDonald

GDHC Men's 6TH GRADE - MATCH REPORT - GAME 13

Glebe 2 defeated by Sutherland 3

11am Sunday 21 June 2009

The Shoire

Thar be Orks in The Shoire and with this thought in mind, Glebe started confidently in the first half . A revamped forward line which borrowed from 5th grade in the form of Paul Diaper, John Cullen and Glen Dittering, moved forward confidently with penetrating sprays down the left and right flanks and several straight up the guts. The difference in the team from the previous few weeks was noticeable, more nimble and hungrier. Despite this, Glebe went into the break 2 goals down as Bilbo and friends had managed a couple of short corner goals during this time.

The second half was Glebe's for the taking and take we did. Lester Currie finished off a short corner attempt, pushing the ball in from the ruck in the D. Googa was again denied from a short as he smacked a volley squarely into the goalie's pad, which then thundered out again to be cleared by their defence. Bernie too was denied (missed) an (*ahem*) open goal and as a result has once again been overlooked for 1st grade selection next week. Thankfully Nar did not miss and got Glebe's second goal for the match.

Umpiring was again a factor in the game and Glebe felt denied when a short corner hit which was of a legal height, was deflected up off a defender's stick and was then blown for being too high. Similarly when at the other end, shorts were awarded for what appeared to be minor infringements outside of the D and for clearing shots which were deemed to have been taken after the whistle, regardless of the fact that the stick was swinging at the time the whistle was blown.

Still, stranger things have happened in the Shoire, and despite Sutho taking home the precioussssss pointsssss for the day, it was a game played in terrific spirit.

Adrian McKeown