

## **First Grade Match Report: Glebe Vs South West Strikers Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 2009 Cintra Park 3:30pm**

### **Result: 7-1**

South West Strikers (SWS) are a side who are too strong for 2<sup>nd</sup> division, but since their promotion to 1<sup>st</sup> division in recent seasons they have struggled to match up against most teams. This year their results indicate that they have improved a fair amount; if not winning games, then certainly losing by a much lesser margin.

Glebe had taken note of this improvement in their performance and entered the game determined not to take their opponents lightly.

The game plan centred on patient, controlled hockey, using the backs and halves to transfer the ball from side to side and only sending it into attack if an opportunity presented, rather than for the sake of it. The attack would need to be disciplined in its approach also, using the full width and depth of the field and playing a selfless passing game to combat the tenacious tackling and play-stopping tactics of SWS.

Glebe stuck to this game plan well for the most part and dominated proceedings throughout the game. Against weaker sides getting early goals can have a large bearing on the nature of the game, as once Glebe went a couple ahead the SWS team's play dropped in confidence and enterprise. This allowed Glebe to further assert their dominance on the match.

Glebe went up by two after only ten minutes and once again had numerous chances besides. More short corner practice is required. Glebe would enter half-time 4-0 in front, reasonably happy with the first 35-minute stanza.

Glebe scored two more unanswered second half goals before SWS struck back with a scrappy, runaway goal which tainted an otherwise strong performance from the Glebe defence. A final goal to Glebe would see the scorer shut up shop for the day at 7-1. Remarkably, 4 of the Glebe goals came from penalty strokes, with some overly aggressive defence from SWS leaving the umpires little other option. Mark Paterson ably slotted the first two before Michael Wark took over for the second pair. Michael also had 100% success but will be keen to get some more practice in at training before he steps up again. Along with a first half field-goal via an upright backstick, fading away with a bouncy ball, Michael managed a hat-trick for the afternoon. Congratulations Michael.

Mark Paterson began at the Australian Institute of Sport in Perth on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of May, so today was his last game with Glebe for the year. As always, Mark's performance was outstanding and the team and the club wish him all the best for his tenure in Perth. Congratulations Mark.

Not to be outshone Ian Paterson had a strong game this afternoon, constantly popping up at the right place and time for Glebe, using his electric pace and silky skills to wreak havoc on the defence. His efforts would earn him the players-player award for the afternoon. Congratulations Ian.

**Players Player:** Ian Paterson

Regards,

Patrick Wark.