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# IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS: Round 4

## Premier Division Seniors

**Wollongong Lions**                      **8-9-57**  
**Balmain Dockers**                      **11-8-74**

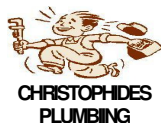
Unfortunately our winless start to the season continued on Saturday arvo. We went into the game full of confidence after a strong second half showing the previous week against Pennant Hills; however it was Balmain who came out of the blocks quickest as they established a 12 point lead at quarter time. The next two quarters we controlled a large majority of possession, but frustratingly we could not convert on the scoreboard. In particular, our ball use when entering our forward 50 let us down and we could not take full advantage of our dominance all over the ground. At three-quarter time, we trailed by 6 points. Balmain effectively killed off the contest in the first half of the last quarter, kicking 4 quick goals. We managed to score a couple late in the match to bring the final margin back to 17 points. Again, it is a disappointing result for the senior boys, but we get the chance to redeem ourselves at home against North Shore this weekend. Clint Wells continued his strong form, defending stoutly for most of the day, then

becoming a viable forward option when swung forward late in the game. Matthew Adamson's rebirth as a half-back flanker continued, whilst Shane Davis ran hard all day and never stopped trying. Congratulations must go to Jack Mahoney who played his first senior game on the weekend. Jack found plenty of the ball, and no doubt with a few more games under his belt, he will develop into a very valuable senior footballer for the club. It is imperative for the entire club to stick together in these tough times and in particular for the senior boys, as a win is just around the corner.

## First Division

**Wollongong Lions**                      **8-5-53**  
**UTS**                                              **14-9-93**

Coming into the weekend's match, UTS' senior side had a percentage of over 350%, so to say it was going to be a tough ask for the first division boy's to get over the line is a bit of an understatement. Having said that, the boys played their best footy of the year, and gave their more-fancied opponents a real scare. After a brilliant first quarter and a tight second quarter in which UTS slowly got on top, the boys came into half time trailing by just 12 points. This came on the back of the best quarter of footy played by the first division in recent memory. UTS however slowly wrested control of the game, and after half time looked the more polished team. Having said that, the boys hung in



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all day, and to lose by only 40 points, is in my opinion a wonderful effort. Remember that UTS do not play in the Premier Division, so the boys played their first grade side on the weekend. There were plenty of positives to be taken out of the game. In particular, the response of the boys who have spent time in the seniors was very encouraging. Barron Hanson and Dave Gardner showed some excellent signs, both playing their best games for the club. Luke 'Favola' Favetta also played well, getting a mountain of possession. It was nice to see Shane Morgan snag three goals, whilst Guy 'Josef' Bartlett's game in the ruck, was also very encouraging. As with the senior boys, it is important that the first division lads keep working hard on the track, as that first win is just around the corner.

### Under 18s

**Wollongong Lions**  
**Balmain Dockers**

**25-13-163**  
**5-7-37**

After last week's shellacking at the hands of the Demons, the young lions needed to prove that they were still a force to be reckoned with. The first quarter started well and we were leading 4.2 to 0.4 until a couple of errors lead to two goals to the Dockers and it appeared they were still in the game. At quarter time Coach Siely told the boys to open up the game, and in the second quarter the lions scored 5.4 to 1.2 and went to the long break with a handy 36 point lead.

The combination of Mal Picken's strength and Trent "The Silent Assassin" Hurst's football nous was causing the Dockers back six all sorts of headaches. In the third quarter the boys cut loose scoring 8.1 to Nil, with Dan O'Keefe, Nathan Kenny and Richard Oehme running amok on the dominance of big Jake Evans in the ruck. The back six of the lions were practically impregnable causing the Dockers all sorts of frustration which eventually boiled over with Rufus Picken wanting to take on all six of the Dockers forwards. Thankfully the boys quickly returned to football and no blood was spilt. The final quarter was a repeat of the third with the young lions scoring 8.4 to 2.1. Up front Steve Tibben bagged six, Trent Hurst five and Mal Picken four goals for the game. There was strength all over the park with notable performances from Dan O'Keefe, Richard Oehme, and Mitch Simpson delivering to what turned out to be a lethal forward line. Big Jake Evans continued his success in the ruck, with only a brief respite supplied by Mal Picken. Jake works tirelessly every week in the ruck and his performances have been commendable. Next week is another test with the North Shore Bombers coming to town. They are presently undefeated and boast an imposing record. The young lions will need to be at their best if they are to take this one.

(Thanks to Ross Picken for reviewing the weekend's game, JW).



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## Lions News and Reviews

### \$1000 Draw Review

It's that horrible time of year where it is now a full year until the next \$1000 Draw!! I'd just like to start by thanking everybody who got involved in any way with the night, and helped make it a great success again. This year, we decided to aim for the ambitious target of 250 ticket sales (up 150 from last year). Whilst we didn't sell all of them, over 200 (including player incentive awards) were "live in the draw; meaning a new record sales figure for the draw was achieved. Estimated profit is over \$4K, down slightly on last year's approx \$4.5K, however the last minute loss of the product sponsorship, and the consequent product expenditure for the night means excellent profit was still forthcoming this year.

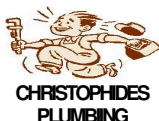
Massive wraps must go to Daniel 'face like a smashed crab' McClure, who did a mountain of work to get the night together. His effort was all the more impressive as he returned to help out after spending time in the emergency room nursing a broken nose. Special thanks also to Doug Sweeney who also helped to plan the evening, and in particular helped spruik tickets at training.

Other thanks must go to:

- Brad Patterson: tickets, putting, draw

- Tim 'MC Toothless' Robb: MC, horse races, tickets
- Nathan Wood: spruiking tickets and horse races
- Vinnie Patterson, Wooma, Guy 'Fritzl' Bartlett, Alex Perger, Trevor Burnett for manning the bar;
- Barb Bartlett: Buying the food, cups etc, food & bar assistance & clean-up after the event
- Silvana & Pete Patterson: food & bar assistance & clean-up after the event
- Ian & Jude Ferguson: food preparation, serving & general help
- Dave G: Bbq
- Col B: getting the drinks & general assistance [interference]
- Milky for supplying the music

And finally, to all of you who bought tickets, sold tickets to friends, brought friends and family along on the night itself, and who got involved and had a good time on the night itself, thank you all for helping contribute to a great night. Final congratulations to Adam McConnochie for taking home the \$1000 prize (and for immediately putting some of it across the bar for those remaining!!). Looking forward to an even bigger and more successful event next year!!



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### Farewell JT

It would be remiss of me not to mention that club favourite Josh Tier takes off for a 2 year overseas sabbatical this week. Josh epitomises the courage and sacrifice that is required to play each week at this level and I can't think of anyone who is as proud as Josh to run out in the red and white each weekend. On top of that, he is a top bloke who is universally liked within the club and respected by everyone who has played with him at the Lions. Good luck overseas Tier from everyone at the Lions.

### Farewell Perja's Rat-Tail

It would be remiss of me not to mention that club 'least-favourite' Alex Perger's rat-tail made a timely and well overdue departure from the club on Saturday night. A big thank you must go to Michael Love who really was the catalyst behind the 'snip'. Hopefully, everyone will now sleep a little better at night!

### Kangaroo Court

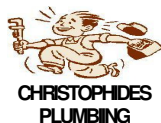
Kenny is going to have a field day this week after the shenanigans of the \$1000 Draw. Some early-week contenders would have to be Mitch Thompson, Ryan Wells, Nick Mitchell, and Ben Hyndes in particular, for their performances on the night itself!! Get your nominations in order for what will no doubt be a very busy week in court!

### Match Day Rosters

Remember to check which weeks you are required to help out around the club on game-days. Every player has been placed in a group led by one of the senior match-day leaders. Please ensure that on the days you are required to help out on, that you get down early (at least 20 minutes before you're due to start) for the Under 18s and help out wherever required. It helps create a more communal feeling within the club, and also eases the burden on those on the committee. Do it!!

### Volunteer of the Week

The committee has decided to commence awarding a 'Volunteer of the Week' award as a reward for those players who give up their time during the footy season for the club. This person will generally be selected by the player leadership group, and will be a player within the club. Prizes may include tickets into Lions' functions; raffles etc and provide a great incentive to get involved. It has been made retrospective to the start of the year with the initial weeks awards going to Wk 1: Simmo (for the preseason assistance), Wk2: Ryan Woodward (who sat on the scoreboard most of the day against Uni with a refreshing breeze in his face most of the day), Wk3: S Morgan following his exemplary Touch catering performance first



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thing Sunday morning, Wk 4: Jack Mahony for his tireless water running duties through the day. Last week's award went to Daniel 'Layne Beachley' McClure for his tireless efforts in organising the \$1000 Draw this year. Boony shamelessly plugged the draw on the inter-web, put together flyers, organised prizes, helped set everything up, and helped pack everything back up at the end, all while nursing a broken nose. Without these efforts the night would not have been as successful as it was. Well done Boony!

### Match Day Awards

The committee has decided to reinstate the Match Day Awards, albeit in a slightly modified way. They will be retrospective to the start of the season.

Awards will variously consist of ticket(s) to Lions functions, Swans home games, Lions raffles etc. For the seniors they may occasionally comprise a cash component. For the Under 18s, the cash prizes of \$150, \$100, & \$50 will still be given out to the top 3 finishers in the Best & Fairest.

Awards are only made to financial members as per the issued guidelines.

The previous weeks winners were:

*Week 1:*

Snrs- M Hogan, K Temple  
1<sup>st</sup> Div- N Mitchell, J Lewis

*Week 2:*

Snrs- C Wells, D Jefferis  
1<sup>st</sup> Div- J Lewis, N Mitchell

*Week 3:*

Snrs- S Davis, M Adamson  
1<sup>st</sup> Div- J McInnes, Pete V

*Week 4:*

Snrs- M Thompson, M Adamson  
1<sup>st</sup> Div- A McKenzie, T Robb( Ineligible)

*Week 5:*

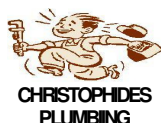
Snrs- C Wells, M Adamson  
1<sup>st</sup> Div- B Hanson, D Gardener

### Memberships now Overdue!!

Please get your memberships finalised ASAP. Those not fully financial prior to the commencement of Round 6 will be ineligible for match day awards for the rest of the season. Please see a committee member if you have any issues with this.

### Go LIONS!!!!

**Jimmy Weavers, unfortunately not \$1000 richer this week.**



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