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IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS: Rounds 16 & 17.

ROUND 16

Premier Division Seniors

Wollongong Lions	8-11-59
Campbelltown	11-9-75

The narrow loss to Campbelltown ranks as one of our more disappointing performances for the simple fact that we outplayed our opposition for a majority of the day but failed to make the most of our dominance. Ultimately, it was our inability to exert any scoreboard pressure on the Blues that cost us a victory. In hot conditions on the rather large Monarch Oval we started brightly, controlling possession in the first quarter. The quarter set the pattern for the game however; we controlled possession well until we got inside forward 50 where we came unstuck. After coming in at quarter time down by 7 points, we watched helplessly as Campbelltown slammed on the first 4 goals of the second quarter to extend the lead out beyond 5 goals. An inspirational last 15 minutes saw us cut the margin back to 8 points at the main break. It

appeared we had all the momentum in the third quarter, with the ball spending long periods in our forward half. However, stoic Campbelltown defence and some disappointing decision-making on our behalf meant that by three quarter time Campbelltown had in fact extended the margin to 11 points. The final quarter saw us go goal-for-goal with the Blues, but we could not get our noses in front and we eventually went down by 16 points. To highlight the close nature of the match, apart from around 5 minutes of footy in the second quarter, the lead never extended beyond 3 goals. Adam McConnochie continued his excellent season off halfback. Macca's hard running should be emulated by everyone in the club as there is nothing better than seeing him breaking opposition lines with the ball tucked under his arm!! Dave Goodley, Mick Toussis, and Kenny Ewen-Chappell continued their good form, whilst Jack Mahoney was a revelation at half-forward. We now look forward to the clash with Sydney Uni next week.

First Division

Wollongong Lions	1-10-16
Manly/Warringah	21-15-141

The First Div boys embarked on the million-hour trip to Manly (actually 30mins north of Manly), confident of causing a boilover against one of the premier sides in the competition. By all accounts, this confidence was sadly misguided as the Manly boys ran riot and gave our boys a



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good ol' pantsing. Evergreen Brad Ainsworth managed to kick our only goal of the week, whilst it was again Ryan Woodward who provided plenty of laughs on the bus trip home. Tim 'Banjo String' Robb was best on, and got good support from Alex Morton and Justin Ayre. Erin Franklin, Alex Mackenzie and Mitch Daly continued their pleasing seasons. Heads up fellas, hopefully this week's clash with Sydney Uni will see a more preferable outcome!!

Under 18s with Ross Picken

Wollongong Lions 13-20-98
Campbelltown 3-2-20

The young lions journeyed to Monarch Oval on a bright but chilly Saturday morning with a squad of 21 with Dan O'Keefe a "no show" (surf must have been up). Coach Siely once again opted for the young guns Nathan Kenny and the "diminutive" Rufus Picken as on ballers. Campbelltown only had 17 players with a couple of their first grade 18s thrown in to make up the numbers. Campbelltown made the initial raid into our defensive fifty, but were seen off and the young lions started to get into their pattern kicking 5.4 for the first quarter to Nil. Mark wanted continuous running football and Nathan Kenny and Ryan Wells led the way pushing the boys into attack at every opportunity. The second quarter was similar to the first however we allowed Campbelltown to kick 1.1 and at the long break the boys led 8.8 to 1.1. The third

quarter became a bit of a joke. The young lions made 21 incursions into their attacking fifty resulting in one goal, ten behinds and ten defensive marks to the Campbelltown "goal keeper". There were screams from the sideline for someone to tell the boys the error of their ways – Coach Siely's reply "Stuff 'em, let 'em work it out for themselves!" Unfortunately, they didn't, from 8.8 at the long break to 9.18 at three quarter time. The last quarter saw the young lions back on scoring track outpointing the young Blues 4.2 to 1.0 to come away with a 78 point victory. The back six had a comparatively easy day, with Blake Schneider not getting a touch until the second quarter. Trent Hurst continued on his scoring way kicking three (better delivery would have seen him with a bucket full). Ryan Wells had his best game for a while with strong marking and running ably supported by Nathan Kenny. Sandor Guggisberg had a strong game and was rewarded with two goals for his efforts. Beau Black was busy and strong and also nailed two. There were six single scorers, including Dan the Man Perger and Blake Schneider who hasn't scored since 2007. As usual big Jake Evans gave us good ball out of the ruck and Simon Quinn had a great running game out of the back pocket turning defence into attack on a number of occasions.

Best on ground: Ryan Wells, Nathan Kenny, Jake Evans, Simon Quinn, Taylor Bell and Brendan Hogan.



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NB: Next week is a twelve o'clock **Sunday** game against Riverview. Stay in touch as there could be changes during the week.

ROUND 17

Premier Division Seniors

Wollongong Lions	9-11-65
Sydney University	22-20-152

Well, put simply, we got smoked! To Sydney Uni's credit, they outplayed us for almost the entire day. Thankfully some inaccurate kicking by some of their key forwards prevented the margin blowing out in excess of 100 points. We trailed by 15 points at quarter time, but Sydney Uni effectively killed the contest by extending this to 49 by half-time. The third quarter was our best quarter for the game, but we were unable to make any inroads in the deficit making the last quarter a formality. We had our moments, and again showed that when we are willing to tuck the ball under our arms and take our opposition on, we are not only capable of matching it with these sides, we are more than capable of beating them. Adam McConnochie, Paul Balding, and Dave Goodley highlighted this best for us on the weekend by being clearly our best three players. Ryan Price had his best game in Lions' colours on the wing, whilst Jez 'Chicken-Hawk' McInnes got in and under (as usual) for us all day. Shane Davis returned to the midfield and looked immediately at home. Despite these

performances we were collectively down on the weekend and will need a far more focussed and dedicated performance against East Coast this week if we are to finish the season on a high.

First Division

Wollongong Lions	4-4-28
Sydney University	16-17-113

I actually believe that the final score does not do justice to the efforts put in by the First Div boys on the weekend. The first quarter was without doubt the most frenetic reserves game I have seen in Sydney AFL in the last 4 years. Our boys were ferocious at the ball (and at times the man!!), and at quarter trailed their more-fancied rivals by just 2 points. A scoreless second quarter killed our chances in the game as Sydney Uni extended this to 36 points at half time. We outscored the Students in the third to reduce the margin to 34 points at the final break, however and 8 goal to nil final quarter left the final margin at 85 points. As I said earlier, the final score line does not do justice to our efforts, and the boys can take plenty out of the match. Kyle Prout was excellent all day, winning the mug. Harry Bown returned to the best list, whilst Ryan Woodward and Tim Robb tried hard down back all day, whilst Erin Franklin and Matty Brunton tried hard in the guts. Special mention to Justin Ayre for 'whaling' former Lion Will Pearse in a bone crushing tackle. Love it!! The boys will



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need to re-group if they wish to send Ainsy off in style this weekend against East Coast.

**Wollongong Lions
Riverview**

**15-14-104
10-5-65**

The boys from St Ignatius came down by coach in their “boardies”, went to the beach for an hour and seemed to be in holiday mode. However, as the game progressed they showed they were here to compete. The game began with two quick goals to the young lions through some good movement and presentation. After that the quarter became a real arm wrestle with both sides kicking three a piece and the young lions leading 5.2 to 3.1 at quarter time. The second quarter saw the young lions take command kicking 6.7 to 2.1. Once again greed and impatience in the attacking fifty when on top led to six instead of possibly ten goals for the quarter. This gave the boys a handy 43 point lead at the long break. The third quarter saw Mark make several positional changes with Nathan Kenny, Daniel O’Keefe and Jack Mahoney on the bench, Ryan Wells to full forward and Blake Schneider and Josh Mason onto the ball, with Josh Haddan rucking. The boys from Riverview may not have the skill level of the major teams in the Premier Cup but they always play with commitment and enthusiasm, and with our combinations changed they were able to gain some momentum and won the quarter 3.3 to 1.0 reducing the lions lead to 28 points at three quarter time. The last quarter saw the Riverview

boys pumped for an upset however, the young lions increased their intensity and won the quarter 3.5 to 2.0 to finish up 39-point winners. Notable performances were from the smallest full forward in the competition, Trent Hurst who presented well all day and was rewarded with five goals, Luke Rutter who played up front for a change nailed three and Steve Tibben scoring two. Nathan Kenny continued his good form as did the ever-improving Simon Quinn. But the highlight of the day was the efforts of our winger Dan the Man Perger who presented well to get us out of defence and contested anything that came his way. The other great performance was from Taylor Bell whose toughness in defence and on the ball stopped many a potential raid from the opposition. This was a “dead” game for both sides and coach Siely used it to experiment with his young charges in preparation for the finals in a fortnight’s time.

Best on Ground: Taylor Bell, Luke Rutter, Danny Perger, Simon Quinn, Brendan Hogan and Blake Schneider.

Weekly Award Winners

Round 17

Seniors:

1. Dave Goodley
2. Paul Balding

First Division

1. Kyle Prout
2. Harry Bown



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Volunteer of the Week

Not Awarded

Lions News and Reviews

Final Round Extravaganza!!!!!!!!!!!!

As I'm sure everyone around the Lions will be aware, the Round 18 clash against East Coast will be Brad Ainsworth's 300th match in Lions' colours. This is a remarkable effort from Ainsy and hopefully we as a club can all help him celebrate the night in style!

Ladies Night!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The clash will also see the inaugural Lions Ladies' Night being run at NDP. Starting at 5pm, any female will be entitled to a \$10 bottomless glass of wine to help get the party started! A free bbq will be run at the conclusion of the seniors match to help line some stomachs! Please bring along your wife, girlfriend, sister, friends etc etc, to help support this initiative. If this year's is successful, it is hoped that we can make it a yearly thing. Again, this relies upon the players so do your part and drag along some lady-folk! Any suggestions/comments please see myself or Tim Robb on Thursday.

Other Events on Saturday Night

The Eagles' players will be staying behind after the game (well done Chad!!) to help celebrate

the night and support the club. We will be having a raffle, coin tosses, bbq, and some sort of presentation for Brad. The usual student discounts on grog will apply, and there promises to be cheap cruisers and 'boutique' beers toward the end of the night. With plenty of 'old boys' coming down to support Brad, the night promises to be a beauty, so spread the word!!

Raffle

Scotty Dennis has donated a signed Hawthorn jumper to the club which we will now be raffling. The plan is to draw it at Preso Night in October. Tickets will be available at the game on Saturday night, and in the period leading up to Preso. Please get behind this fundraiser, and also thank Scotty when you see him next!

Silly Sunday

Following (the more important) game on Saturday night, Silly Sunday will commence at the Tennis Club at 10am. Dress up theme is cheap and stupid. For suggestions/ideas just observe what Dave Goodley wears to the pub on Saturday night. We will be heading out to NDP at around midday, and at 2pm the final Kangaroo Court for the year, including the presentation of 'D*ck of the Year' will be conducted. Always a great day, so get involved!!

Excess Canteen Stock



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As mentioned in a previous edition, the club has a selection of excess stock to be sold off at cost price. These include cases of Carlton Draught and VB, Cruiser slabs, and boxes of Powerade. Please see Col Bartlett if you would like to purchase said stock!

Volunteering Around the Club

Thanks to life members Steve Rowland and Corey Werfel for running the boundary/water for the Under 18s on Sunday. Thanks also to Barb Bartlett who set up and ran the canteen with the help of Jenny Hogan for the Under 18s.

Kangaroo Court

Fines are now accruing interest!! Please bring your monies to training on Thursday; the money raised will fund some games on Saturday night, as well as funding Silly Sunday. This has been a great initiative, so do your bit and get your balance squared away!

Post-Season Shenanigans

With the season almost finished we can start to look forward to some post-season functions/get-togethers. Upcoming events include:

1. August 22: Final game of the year under lights at NDP
2. August 23: Silly Sunday at T.C, NDP, various establishments (details to follow)
3. September 12: Trivia Night at T.C

4. September 26: AFL Grand Final function at T.C.
 5. October 9: Presentation Night at T.C
- Please keep these dates free to help finish off the Lions' year in style!!

Final Note

There are plenty of reasons to get involved on Saturday night so let's get work off etc and make sure we're all down there to cheer Brad on during the First Div, have a beer during the Seniors, and hang around after the game to celebrate the season that was in style!!

**Until next time, Go Lions!
Jimmy Weavers**



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