

Premium Sporting Products

2018 BATTLEWIN PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 7 (6 MAY)

By Alistair Kennedy

FIRST GRADE SCORES

TERRIGAL	2	BERKELEY VALE	1
AVOCA	3	KANWAL	1
KINCUMBER	2	THE ENTRANCE	2
GOSFORD CITY	5	UMINA	2
EAST GOSFORD	3	TOUKLEY	1
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	3	KILLARNEY DISTRICT	0

SUMMARY

- Just when the pundits (well this one at least) were predicting that Killarney District and Berkeley Vale were on the verge of breaking away from the pack to fight out the 2018 BPL league championship both teams have been beaten, Killarney for the first time since the 28th of May last year and Berkeley Vale since the opening round of this season.
- While there were extenuating circumstances involved in both results neither coach would blame their FFA Cup travelling on Wednesday night (and Thursday morning in Killarney's case) for their losses. Unfortunately all three BPL clubs were beaten in their Round 5 Cup matches, Berkeley Vale going down 2-1 against Hawkesbury City at Richmond; an understrength Killarney – as if they needed extra time and penalties after their long trip to Bombaderry – lost that shootout 6-5; while Terrigal put in an excellent performance to hold NPL1 team Sydney Olympic to just a 2-0 loss at Plum Park.
- On the positive side the other local club, Central Coast United, scored a last second (and that's no exaggeration) goal to defeat fellow State League opponents Hurstville Minotaurs 2-1 on a disgraceful pitch at Peakhurst Oval. Thanks to Les Hornery and his team for their live stream of the match on Facebook. Most matches are shown there so check out the CCU page each week.

TERRIGAL 2 BERKELEY VALE 1

- Lighting problems at Mingara Sports Field saw this match moved from the scheduled Saturday night timeslot back to Sunday afternoon which probably suited both clubs after each played midweek FFA Cup matches as well as allowing players and spectators to watch the A-League grand final.
- Consistency is generally a problem with inexperienced players and such has been the case with Terrigal who went into the match with two wins, two losses and two draws behind them. There's no doubt that the young Terrigal team went into the match with their

confident boosted by their excellent performance against NPL1 competition leaders Sydney Olympic, albeit not at full strength, on the previous Wednesday night.

- After a strong start by Berkeley Vale including a series of unconverted corners the first indication that an upset was on the cards came in the 20th minute when, after Terrigal's Max Vegter was tackled in the Berkeley Vale box and Daniel Bird gave his team the lead from the resultant penalty. Much of the action in an otherwise scrappy game then came in the last quarter with Ben Flakus doubling Terrigal's lead in the 75th minute. The Wombats then lifted and dominated the balance of the match with Michael Tawyer's 85th minute goal (his fifth in the past five matches) but despite pressing strongly they couldn't snatch the point that they probably deserved.
- With the lighting issue at Mingara still unresolved Berkeley Vale's scheduled Saturday night match against Kanwal has now been moved to Pluim Park. Terrigal will be looking to build some momentum and move back into the top half of the ladder at home against struggling Umina at Duffys Road.

AVOCA 3 KANWAL 1

- A dominant performance by Avoca to bounce back into the winners list after a loss and a draw in their two previous matches, at the same time leap-frogging Kanwal into fourth place on the table. Goals to Ben Green and James Monie in the 22nd and 36th minutes respectively had the Sharks 2-0 up at half-time. Kanwal fought back strongly in the first 10 minutes of the second term and stretched the Avoca defence before Stuart Adams capped off an excellent match, including an assist for his team's second goal and a shot that hit the crossbar, to score the clincher in the 63rd minute.
- Kanwal have their second Saturday night match in three weeks when they take on Berkeley Vale at Pluim Park (note the change of venue from Mingara Sports Field) while Avoca travel just down the road to play East Gosford at Hylton Moore Park.

KINCUMBER 2 THE ENTRANCE 2

- A result that didn't help either team as they both languish just off the bottom of the table. Twice Kincumber took the lead, firstly with Justin Hunt scoring from the penalty spot in the 10th minute then against just before half-time through Alex Osborn. The Entrance's equalizers came from Corey Atkinson in the 15th minute and Zac Anastas in the 65th .
- The Entrance's derby matches against Killarney are usually tight affairs with three of the past four competition matches having been drawn. Next Sunday's clash at EDSACC sees the two teams sitting at opposite ends of the table but it's likely to be much closer given the rivalry between the neighbours. Kincumber travel to Gavenlock Oval where they'll be trying to stop Gosford from extending their one point margin over the Roos.

GOSFORD CITY 5 UMINA 2

- After a disappointing start to the season Gosford City appear to have turned the corner with this their second win in the last three matches sandwiched between an impressive performance although beaten against Berkeley Vale. In what was easily their best match of the season they were in control for most of the match and, unlike previous matches, they finished they put in a powerful second-half showing.
- It was the sixth time this season that matches involving Umina have featured at least six goals although the others have either been drawn 3-3 or decided by a 4-3 margin (one win and two losses for Umina).

- The first three goals all came within a 10-minute period at the end of the first half with Ryan Hoare giving Gosford the lead with his second goal in successive matches. Josh Schumann then equalised against his previous team before City's player/coach Reece Caira restored his team's lead just prior to the break. Second goals to both Caira and Hoare gave a decisive 4-1 lead to the Dragons within the first ten minutes of the second half, extended to 5-1 with Jared McNee's first goal of the season. Gareth Slater then scored a consolation goal for Umina deep into injury time.
- Gosford will be at home at Gavenlock Oval for the third round in a row next Sunday against Kincumber while, by contrast, Umina will be away for the fourth straight week (and for the sixth time in eight rounds) up against Toukley at Duffys Road.

EAST GOSFORD 3 TOUKLEY 1

- Toukley's woes continue with their seventh straight loss another frustrating one in which, after taking an early lead through Luke Paddon, they played for much of the game with ten players after Will Haynes was sent off after receiving two yellow cards. East Gosford equalised on the half-hour mark through Rob Walton then taking the lead in the 40th minute with Neil Woodcock grabbing his first goal since his return to the Rams at the start of the season. Haynes' send-off came just prior to half-time and swung the match firmly in East's favour with Dan Auton then settling the result 12 minutes from full-time.
- Toukley have shown enough in the three matches since their 8-1 thrashing by Terrigal to show that they cannot be taken for granted. Having said that they'll need to be at their best against the in-form Southern-Ettalong at Harry Moore Oval next Sunday. In the only match between two Round 7 winners East Gosford will be looking to overtake Avoca and move into at least fourth place when they meet at Hylton Moore Oval.

SOUTHERN-ETTALONG 3 KILLARNEY DISTRICT 0

- Although it's still early days the SEU Lions are clearly the big improvers of the 2018 season and for the second time in their last three encounters they've managed to topple the premiers. Even more impressively this time it was done it at Fortress EDSACC where Killarney have been beaten just once since the start of the 2016 season. The Terriers went into the match without key striker Tim Knight who was injured in the Cup match at Bomaderry, one of only four regular first team players who were able to make the trip.
- Southern took the lead midway through the first half with their ageless striker Keith Gumbs chipping the Terriers goalkeeper for a clever finish. We often talk of the importance of the five minutes either side of half-time and so it proved here with Lions 'keeper saving a penalty just prior to the break followed three minutes into the second half with Killarney going down to ten men when playmaker John Whelpdale was red-carded for swearing. The visitors then doubled their lead in the 65th minute with James Caban stepping outside of the defence and beating the goalkeeper at the near post. Caban then sealed the win when he followed up rebound off the goal post to score.
- The win moves Southern-Ettalong into clear second place, just two points behind Killarney and their highest position since returning to the Premier League in 2015. Their astute coach Dale Eggleton will be hammering home the point that they can't afford to take any team lightly when they travel north next Sunday to play the pointless Toukley at Harry Moore Oval. Likewise with the Terriers mentor Chris Ackerley who knows the challenge of local derbies when they take on The Entrance at EDSACC, also on Sunday.

	<i>P</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>GF</i>	<i>GA</i>	<i>GD</i>	<i>PTS</i>
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	7	6	0	1	24	10	14	18
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	7	5	1	1	18	6	12	16
BERKELEY VALE	7	5	0	2	17	5	12	15
AVOCA	7	5	1	1	16	9	7	14
EAST GOSFORD	7	4	1	2	14	10	4	13
KANWAL	7	4	0	3	15	16	-1	12
TERRIGAL	7	3	2	2	18	12	6	11
GOSFORD CITY	7	2	0	5	12	16	-4	6
UMINA	7	1	2	4	18	26	-8	5
KINCUMBER	7	1	2	4	10	21	-11	5
THE ENTRANCE	7	1	2	4	12	24	-12	5
TOUKLEY	7	0	0	7	9	28	-19	0

8	Keith Gumbs (SEU), Josh Schumann (Umina)
7	Matt Kenny (The Entrance), Andy Klijn (Killarney District), Ryan Walker (Kanwal),
6	James Caban (SEU), Rob Walton (East Gosford)
5	Stuart Adams (Avoca), Tim Knight (Killarney District), Daniel Rodger (Killarney District), Michael Tawyer (Berkeley Vale)
4	Aaron Beehag (Kincumber), Ben Green (Avoca), Will Haines (Toukley),
3	Alex Burrell (Berkeley Vale), Reece Caira (Gosford City), Jeff Hall (Gosford City), Ryan Hoare (Gosford City), Paul McGinley (Berkeley Vale), Daniel Tuddenham (Terrigal), John Whelpdale (Killarney District)

ROUND 8 FIXTURES

SATURDAY 12 MAY			
BERKELEY VALE	vs	KANWAL	Pluim Park 1
SUNDAY 13 MAY			
TOUKLEY	vs	SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	Harry Moore Oval
GOSFORD CITY	vs	KINCUMBER	Gavenlock Oval
TERRIGAL	vs	UMINA	Duffy's Oval
EAST GOSFORD	vs	AVOCA	Hylton Moore Park
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	vs	THE ENTRANCE	EDSACC North