

Premium Sporting Products

2018 BATTLEWIN PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 12 (17 JUNE)

By Alistair Kennedy

FIRST GRADE SCORES

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

SUMMARY

- The 2018 Battlewin Premier League is shaping up as one of the most even and competitive in many years and is justifying CCF's decision to expand the competition from 10 to 12 clubs. Following on from the four draws in Round 11, the start of the second half of the season featured two more from the five matches played with the other game, between The Entrance and Kanwal at Pat Morley Oval being postponed following the serious incident in the Third Grade match which has been widely reported elsewhere.
- The biggest news was Southern-Ettalong's win over Berkeley Vale giving the Lions their second big scalp of the season having beaten Killarney District in Round 7.
- Last weekend's rain saw the postponement of the BPL and SWL North vs South representative matches which were to have been played on the Monday of the long weekend. Efforts are being made to re-schedule the matches but at this stage with the tight competition fixtures it looks unlikely. More information will be posted as it comes to hand.

KILLARNEY DISTRICT 0 EAST GOSFORD 0

- The combination of cold, windy weather and a rapidly-deteriorating EDSACC North pitch didn't favour quality football and the resultant scoreless draw between two top-five teams wasn't a great surprise. The Rams had the best chance when awarded a penalty midway through the first half but a brilliant double-save by Terriers' goalkeeper Declan Drake, firstly from Rob Walton's shot and then from the rebound, kept his team from going behind. East 'keeper Beyhan Irmako made a similar contribution with a great save in the second half.
- Killarney have the first of two successive night matches next Saturday against their 2016 and 2017 grand final opponents Gosford City at Plum Park to be followed by Umina at Umina Oval the following week. East Gosford can potentially join Berkeley Vale in equal second place when they meet at Hylton Moore Park.

GOSFORD CITY 1 TERRIGAL 1

- For the second match in a row Gosford City have had winning points snatched from them late in a match very late this time with Terrigal substitute Chris Altuneg sending a curling free-kick into the top corner of the Gosford net with the last touch of the match. Earlier, in a very evenly-contested game Terrigal had the best of the first half with Gosford on top in the second and taking the lead in the 75th minute through a mis-directed defensive header back to the Terrigal goalkeeper coming loose for a tap-in for Jared McNee.
- For both teams it was their second successive draw. Their next opponents are at opposite ends of the table with Gosford playing competition leaders Killarney District at Plum Park on Saturday night and Terrigal away to last-placed Kincumber.

TOUKLEY 3 KINCUMBER 1

- After going pointless for their first nine matches Toukley have sprung to life, picking up seven points from their last three matches – surprisingly, more than any other team in that period. Despite going down to 10 men in the 27th minute when Aaron Beehag sent off for a second yellow card offence a gutsy effort from Kincumber had then stay in contention right up to second half injury time. All four goals came in the final third of the match with Will Haines giving the Gunners lead in the 68th minute but cancelled out just five minutes later by the Roos with Justin Hunt's third goal of the season. With 10 minutes to play Toukley regained the lead through Jai Kelly but it wasn't until a second goal to Haines sealed the result well into injury time.
- Despite now falling back into clear last position Kincumber have shown enough in recent matches that Terrigal will need to be on guard when the two teams meet at Frost Reserve next Sunday. Next target, and a bigger test, for the in-form Toukley will be the out-of-from Avoca who have slumped to three straight losses.

SOUTHERN-ETTALONG 3 BERKELEY VALE 1

- After picking up just one point from their previous three matches Southern-Ettalong have bounced back to form with this crucial win over second-placed Berkeley Vale. As pointed out by host Les Hornery during the highly-entertaining Facebook streaming of last Saturday night's CCU first grade match (<https://www.facebook.com/centralcoastunited/>) Mark Pratt is a master defensive coach. This writer then provided confirmed by posting that the Wombats had easily the best defence in the BPL with just nine goals conceded in their previous 11 matches but has since been berated by coach Pratt for jinxing his team and been blamed for increasing their goals against tally by 30% in just 90 minutes. However once the great man calmed down he did acknowledge that the absence of three key defensive players in Pat Dalton, Damien Lobb (both suspended) and Paul McGinley (injured) may also have been contributing factors.
- Goals to Southern-Ettalong (who also went into the match missing some key players) in the opening minutes of each half proved crucial to the eventual result with – depending on who you ask – either Keith Gumbs or a Berkeley defender putting the ball into the Wombats net in the third minute **. The home team did hit back with Adam Smith scoring his fourth goal of the season to take the team to the break at 1-1. The extra pace of the young Lions continually stretched the Berkeley defence and a mix-up at the back allowed James Caban to restore the SEU lead within minutes of the resumption. The same player then scored what proved to be the clincher in the 67th minute an moving into double figures for the season.
*** Note: The BPL Disputed Goals Panel (ie. me) is seeking supporting evidence one way or the other.*

- The win, together with other results sees Southern move up to clear third place. They return home next Sunday to take on The Entrance while Berkeley Vale will meet a very confident East Gosford at Hylton Moore Park.

UMINA 1 AVOCA 0

- A real morale-booster for Umina in what has been a very frustrating season so far. After returning from the briefest of sojourns in Division One with a reasonably strong and experienced squad they were expected to at least be challenging for a place in the top five. As it was they won just one match in the first half of the season conceding 39 goals in the process.
- In a significant turnaround not only have they now picked up a vital three points but also maintained a clean sheet for the first time, indeed it's only the second occasion that they haven't conceded three or more goals. By contrast there has been a marked turnaround in Avoca's fortunes who went on a remarkable run of 21 matches with just two defeats (both to Killarney) to being beaten in each of their last three matches.
- The crucial goal in the match came in the 39th minute from Matt Fullwood, his first in Premier League since the opening round of the 2016 season.
- Avoca will need to get back to their winning ways when they host the resurgent Toukley team at Erina High School. Likewise Umina need to show that this win was no fluke when they travel north to Wadalba to play Kanwal.

battlewin

	<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	12	9	2	1	36	14	22	29
BERKELEY VALE	12	8	0	4	26	12	14	24
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	12	7	2	3	31	17	14	23
EAST GOSFORD	12	6	3	3	21	16	5	21
AVOCA	12	6	2	4	25	16	9	20
TERRIGAL	12	5	4	3	29	23	6	19
KANWAL	11	5	2	4	27	29	-2	17
GOSFORD CITY	12	4	2	6	20	24	-4	14
THE ENTRANCE	11	3	2	6	19	34	-15	11
UMINA	12	2	3	7	27	39	-12	9
TOUKLEY	12	2	1	9	20	40	-20	7
KINCUMBER	12	1	3	8	17	34	-17	6

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11	James Caban (SEU), Ryan Walker (Kanwal)
10	Keith Gumbs (SEU), Andy Klijn (Killarney District)
9	Matt Kenny (The Entrance), Tim Knight (Killarney District), Josh Schumann (Umina)
8	Stuart Adams (Avoca),

7	Will Haines (Toukley), Jai Kelly (Toukley), Michael Tawyer (Berkeley Vale), Rob Walton (East Gosford)
6	Aaron Beehag (Kincumber)
5	Ben Green (Avoca), Paul McGinley (Berkeley Vale), Daniel Rodger (Killarney District), Daniel Tuddenham (Terrigal)
4	Zac Anastas (The Entrance), Daniel Bird (Terrigal), Brett Cowling (Toukley), Jeff Hall (Gosford City), Mitch Harrison (Avoca), Ryan Hoare (Gosford City), Brad McLean (Kanwal), Ryan Oehm (Kanwal), Anthony Pace (Terrigal), Adam Smith (Berkeley Vale)

ROUND 13 BPL FIXTURES

SATURDAY 23 JUNE			
GOSFORD CITY	vs	KILLARNEY DISTRICT	Pluim Park 1

SUNDAY 24 JUNE			
AVOCA	vs	TOUKLEY	Erina High School
EAST GOSFORD	vs	BERKELEY VALE	Hylton Moore Oval
KINCUMBER	vs	TERRIGAL	Frost Reserve
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	vs	THE ENTRANCE	James Browne Oval
KANWAL	vs	UMINA	Wadalba Sports Complex

DIVISION ONE

FIRST GRADE SCORES

WOONGARRAH	3	BUDGEWOI	0
OURIMBAH	3	WYOMING	2
DOYALSON	6	TUGGERAH	0
WOY WOY	6	GWANDALAN	1
KARIONG	2	WYONG	2

COMPETITION TABLE

	<i>P</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>GF</i>	<i>GA</i>	<i>GD</i>	<i>PTS</i>
WOONGARRAH	10	10	0	0	61	6	55	30
WOY WOY	10	6	2	2	37	12	25	20
BUDGEWOI	10	6	1	3	37	17	20	19
WYOMING	10	5	1	4	33	21	12	16
WYONG	10	5	1	4	32	21	11	16
OURIMBAH	10	4	2	4	26	25	0	14
KARIONG	10	3	3	4	29	25	4	12
GWANDALAN	10	3	0	7	14	38	-24	9
DOYALSON	10	2	1	7	14	39	-25	7
TUGGERAH	10	0	1	9	5	83	-78	1