

Premium Sporting Products

2018 BATTLEWIN PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 16 (15 JULY)

By Alistair Kennedy

FIRST GRADE SCORES

BERKELEY VALE	1	KILLARNEY DISTRICT	1
TERRIGAL	2	EAST GOSFORD	1
AVOCA	3	THE ENTRANCE	1
KANWAL	3	SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	1
TOUKLEY	0	GOSFORD CITY	0
UMINA	4	KINCUMBER	1

SUMMARY

- Round 16 of the 2018 Battlewin Premier League has seen Killarney District retain their eight-point lead after a hard-fought draw against Berkeley Vale who sit just ahead of a chasing pack of six teams within four points of each other in contention for the four remaining finals series places. With the likelihood of these six other contenders taking points off each other the Terriers remain on target for their third straight league championship.
- Once again Kanwal continued to confound their critics with a win over Southern-Ettalong that saw them move into the crucial third place. The Bulls returned to the top division this season after four years in Division One with the clear goal of avoiding relegation. That task was ticked off by the mid-point of the season and, with a run of eight matches without defeat, their sights have now been raised to at least a semi-final place.
- At the other end of the ladder the other promoted team, Umina, are still locked in a five-way battle to avoid relegation but picked up a vital win over last-placed Kincumber. A scoreless draw between Toukley and Gosford didn't help either of their fellow strugglers.
- It was a spare weekend for the Division One competition with Woongarra now guaranteed of promotion into the Premier League for the first time since its formation in 2010.

KILLARNEY 1 BERKELEY VALE 1

- Many are already predicting that these two teams will contest this season's BPL grand final and this tight and evenly-contested match seemed to support that possibility. As it's been for most of the season the Berkeley Vale defense was rock-solid against a series of Killarney attacks including a number of free kicks from the edge of the Berkeley Vale box. Most of the action took place in the last 20 minutes with three successive shots from Killarney scrambled off the line by a desperate Berkeley Vale defense. The breakthrough finally came when Andy Klijn scored from another goalmouth scramble in the 78th minute. The setback spurred the Wombats into action and a series of attacks saw Alex Burrell equalise inside the last five minutes and but for a brilliant save deep into injury time by Terriers' goalkeeper Declan Drake they could have snatched a late win.

- Next up for the Terriers is a trip to Erina High School to meet Avoca while Berkeley Vale coach, Mark Pratt, will be sure to remind his team that their shock loss to Kincumber at Pluim Park 1 last season effectively cost them second spot when the two teams clash at the same venue next Sunday.

TOUKLEY 0 GOSFORD CITY 0

- Just the fourth scoreless draw in the 96 games played to date and one that didn't help either side with Toukley dropping back into second-last place and Gosford still 12 points behind an unlikely fifth place although almost safe from relegation. After two back-to-back big losses the Toukley defense was more solid against a Gosford team that had most of the field position. Both goalkeepers made vital saves including a last-minute effort by Gosford's Dan Rogers.
- Toukley will be trying to close the four-point gap with The Entrance when they meet on the neutral venue of Pluim Park. Gosford play East Gosford in their derby at Gavenlock Oval.

AVOCA 3 THE ENTRANCE 1

- Avoca looks to have steadied its ship after their serious mid-season slump with two wins and a draw in their last three matches although there are some heavy seas on the horizon with all six of their remaining games against teams either level with or ahead of them on the table.
- A rare brace to defender Louis Kellerman scored within a three-minute period midway through the first half had the Sharks 2-0 up just prior to the half-time break when The Entrance pulled a goal back through Aaron Gallen, his first in Premier League. The pivotal moment of the match came in the 65th minute when the Reddies looked to have equalised only for the goal to be disallowed with an off-side call. A typically skilful goal to Avoca's Stuart Adams in the 70th minute proved to be the decider.
- With their home ground ban in place The Entrance return to Pluim Park 3 next Sunday for an important encounter against Toukley while Avoca take on what's likely to be toughest of the matches against the top six, Killarney District at Erina High School.

TERRIGAL 2 EAST GOSFORD 1

- For the remaining six rounds of the competition there's going to be a series of matches contested by the six teams currently clustered within four points of each other between second and seventh places. So fluctuations such as occurred after Terrigal's last-gasp win here which saw them step up from sixth to fifth place and East Gosford drop from fourth to seventh are likely every week in what should be a fascinating run to the playoffs.
- Two of the three goals came from the penalty spot with Rob Walton, back on target after his miss against Kanwal last round, to give East the lead in the 35th minute and the clincher in the 90th from Cameron Wilkinson. Earlier Anthony Pace had equalised for Terrigal earlier in the second half.
- This was the first time all season that the consistent Rams have suffered consecutive losses and they'll be desperate to get back on track when they play traditional rivals Gosford City at Gavenlock Oval. Terrigal play Kanwal in the only one of the 2nd-to-7th clash next Sunday at Wadalba.

UMINA 4 KINCUMBER 1

- While the top two teams were battling it out at Pluim Park the bottom two were in desperately seeking the three points as the relegation battle heats up. All the scoring took place in the second half with Kincumber's hopes of a second-only win for the season lifting when they took the lead in the 58th minute. Unfortunately for the Roos that goal spurred Umina into action and just four minutes later goals to Ryan Frame and Josh Schumann had the locals in front. A second to Schumann and a late free-kick from Michael Payne – the first goal for the 2013 MPL Golden Boot winner since his return to Umina and after struggling with injury – sealed a crucial win for Umina one that takes them a point clear of second-last place and looking forward to their traditional Peninsula Derby against Southern-Ettalong at home.
- The loss was a serious blow to Kincumber's chance of avoiding relegation. The bad news is that their next match is against Berkeley Vale, the good news is that it's being played at Pluim Park Field 1. The Roos have only won three of their last 35 matches – but all three have been played on the main field at Pluim, including a shock 3-0 win last season over the Wombats and another, by the same score, against Wyoming in the play-off match that ensured their survival in the BPL.

KANWAL 3 SOUTHERN-ETTALONG 1

- For the second match in a row Kanwal have leap-frogged fellow finals contenders and as a result have now moved into a season-high third place on the competition table. They've also extended their unbeaten run to eight matches (five wins and three draws), only Killarney District with nine straight (six wins and three draws) have a better record this season.
- The Bulls performance is all the more impressive because they've been without leading scorer, Ryan Walker, for the past four matches through suspension and will be for another two. In his absence the attacking trio of Jason Cozens, Danny Rotondo and Brad McLean have stepped up. They did so again here with a cross from Cozens, headed home by McLean in the 13th minute, and another from Rotondo in the 54th again finding McLean. After missing a number of chances Southern finally pulled a goal back midway through the second half through Jimmy Caban before defender Ryan Oehm sealed maximum points for his team with his fifth goal of the season.
- It's the same scenario next Sunday for Kanwal up against another top-five rival, this time Terrigal at Wadalba. Southern will need to be focused when they take on a confident Umina in their peninsula derby at Umina Oval.

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	16	12	3	1	49	16	33	39
BERKELEY VALE	16	10	1	5	38	17	21	31
KANWAL	16	9	3	4	38	33	5	30
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	16	9	2	5	39	25	14	29
TERRIGAL	16	8	4	4	41	30	11	28
EAST GOSFORD	16	8	3	5	29	20	9	27
AVOCA	16	8	3	5	36	23	13	27
GOSFORD CITY	16	4	4	8	24	32	-8	16
THE ENTRANCE	16	4	3	9	26	49	-23	15

UMINA	16	3	3	10	32	51	-19	12
TOUKLEY	16	3	2	11	26	53	-27	11
KINCUMBER	16	1	3	12	22	51	-29	6

battlewin

14	Rob Walton (East Gosford)
13	Keith Gumbs (SEU), Rob Walton (East Gosford)
12	James Caban (SEU), Matt Kenny (The Entrance)
11	Andy Klijn (Killarney District), Josh Schumann (Umina), Ryan Walker (Kanwal)
10	Stuart Adams (Avoca), Jai Kelly (Toukley), Tim Knight (Killarney District)
9	Michael Tawyer (Berkeley Vale)
7	Jason Cozens (Kanwal), Will Haines (Toukley), Mitch Harrison (Avoca), Brad McLean (Kanwal)
6	Aaron Beehag (Kincumber), Ben Flakus (Terrigal), Ben Green (Avoca), Anthony Pace (Terrigal), Blake Silvers (Killarney District), Daniel Tuddenham (Terrigal)
5	Chris Altuneg (Terrigal), Zac Anastas (The Entrance), Paul McGinley (Berkeley Vale), Ryan Oehm (Kanwal), Alex Osborn (Kincumber), Daniel Rodger (Killarney District), Adam Smith (Berkeley Vale), Brad Smythe (Berkeley Vale)

ROUND 17 BPL FIXTURES

SUNDAY 22 JULY			
KINCUMBER	vs	BERKELEY VALE	Pluim Park 1
GOSFORD CITY	vs	EAST GOSFORD	Gavenlock Oval
KANWAL	vs	TERRIGAL	Wadalba Sports Complex
AVOCA	vs	KILLARNEY DISTRICT	Erina High School
THE ENTRANCE	vs	TOUKLEY	Pluim Park 3
UMINA	vs	SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	Umina Oval

DIVISION ONE

FIRST GRADE SCORES

KARIONG	1	OURIMBAH	0
BUDGEWOI	7	WYONG	1
WOY WOY	3	WYOMING	0
WOONGARRAH	8	TUGGERAH	0
GWANDALAN	1	DOYALSON	0

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	13	13	0	0	81	8	73	39
WOY WOY	13	7	4	2	42	14	28	25
BUDGEWOI	13	7	2	4	47	22	25	23
KARIONG	13	5	4	4	37	26	11	19
WYONG	13	6	1	6	37	32	5	19

WYOMING	13	6	1	6	35	32	3	19
GWANDALAN	13	6	0	7	20	39	-19	18
OURIMBAH	13	5	2	6	36	33	3	17
DOYALSON	13	2	1	10	16	51	-35	7
TUGGERAH	13	0	1	12	7	101	-94	1