

Premium Sporting Products

2018 BATTLEWIN PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 20 (12 AUGUST)

By Alistair Kennedy

FIRST GRADE SCORES

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

SUMMARY



- It's been inevitable for the past month or so, indeed probably all season, but Killarney District have now wrapped up the 2018 BPL league championship with a scoreless draw against Terrigal at Duffys Road. They become the first club to win three straight league titles in the Premier League era (1980 onwards) although they still need one more to equal Wyoming's four-in-a-row between 1975 and 1978 in the previous First Division competition.
- There is one record that the Terriers can now focus now – becoming the first club to win three successive league championship/premiership doubles. That hasn't ever been done in the 53 years since the Central Coast senior competition began back in 1965.

- Also previously inevitable, and now decided, is Kincumber's fate and they'll return to Division One in 2019 after just two seasons back in the Premier League. They will be accompanied by either Toukley or Umina who are both now on 14 points and regardless of their results next week against Southern-Ettalong and Terrigal respectively the decision will go down to the final match of the season on Sunday week at Umina Oval.
- The contest for the four other finals spots remains as tight as ever with still only four points separating second and sixth place. Avoca's loss to Southern-Ettalong leaves them six points behind fifth place with just six points available in their two remaining matches (against East Gosford and Berkeley Vale) and effectively out of contention.
- There were no matches in the Division One competition in what was a spare weekend set aside for the wet weather postponements that just haven't happened during this long dry winter.

TERRIGAL 0 KILLARNEY DISTRICT 0

- Despite the combination of blustery winds, Duffy Road's sloping pitch and no goals this was a fast-flowing and entertaining match. Running downhill but upwind Terrigal had the majority of chances in the first half most of them created through breaks down the right wing by Ben Flakus but without having anyone on hand to score from his crosses. The best chance of the half, possibly even of the match, came just before the break when Erik Requelme beat the Killarney defence then pushed his shot wide of the posts when one-on-one with Killarney's keeper Declan Drake. The match swung the Terriers way in the second half but with a series of brilliant saves by Terrigal goalkeeper Aaron Zavolokin keeping his team in the match while a similar save late in the match by Drake prevented the home team from snatching a late win.
- Having wrapped up the League title with two rounds to spare Terriers coach Chris Ackerley has a bit of a dilemma facing him with two matches where the results don't matter (against The Entrance and Kanwal) followed by the week off that comes with the new five-team finals series. So their next significant match won't be until the major semi-final on Sunday September 9.
- The draw means that Terrigal have now been joined by Berkeley Vale in equal second place but with a minus-17 comparative goal difference. In their favour their finals two matches are against Umina and The Entrance while Berkeley Vale play Kanwal and Avoca.

BERKELEY VALE 3 TOUKLEY 2

- With its renovated surface and light traffic load Mingara Sports Field is easily the best ground outside of Plum Park on the Coast and contributed to a quality match between two teams with clear targets albeit at opposite ends of the table. The Toukley team was close to full strength and well-organised but struggled against their higher calibre opponents.
- Berkeley Vale took an early lead through Michael Tawyer's 11th goal of the season in the 13th minute with Paul McGinley doubling the lead just before the half-time break. Poor finishing by the Wombats prevented them from opening up a bigger break and after going 3-0 up in the 72nd minute they almost paid the price when Toukley scored two quick goals through Phil Watson and Sam Hudson within the last eight minutes.
- The win puts Berkeley Val back into equal second place alongside Terrigal on 38 points but with a goal difference advantage that ensures they'll finish ahead if the two teams end on

equal points. With two matches remaining Killarney are still the only club guaranteed of a top five place although a win over Kanwal next Sunday will ensure that the Wombats maintain their outstanding consistency by qualifying for the 9th time in the past 10 seasons, the best record of any club during that period.

- After being semi-finalists in 2016 Toukley have slipped down the ladder in the past two seasons and now must win at least one of their last two matches to stay in the BPL next season. Next Sunday they take on SEU at James Browne Oval without a key player in Will Haines who was sent off for two yellow cards late in the Berkeley Vale match. They then return home the following week to Harry Moore Oval for the potential decider against Umina.

SOUTHERN-ETTALONG 2 AVOCA 0

- A crucial win for Southern after taking just a single point from their two previous matches. The match was a bit of a dour arm-wrestle on a poor surface at Erina High School that began with Stuart Adams striking the football/rugby crossbar inside the first five minutes before James Caban gave SEU the lead in the 21st minute. The youngest of the Caban brothers, Jacob, then doubled the lead early in the second half with what was one of only a few chances that his team created but at the other end Avoca just couldn't convert their chances.
- After promising so much in their spectacular run of success in the second half of last season and the first half of this one it's been a disappointing end to the season for Avoca. While mathematically they can still make the semi-finals realistically they're now out of contention with their last two matches against East Gosford and Berkeley Vale.
- By contrast Southern-Ettalong have now found the consistency that coach Dale Eggleton has been searching for the last couple of seasons. While they've lost six of their 20 matches only once have they been beaten in successive matches. This win keeps them in equal fourth place with Kanwal but with an 8-goal superior goal difference and with matches against Toukley and Gosford ahead of them they have a second-to-none chance of playing in the Premier League finals for the first time since 2006. They will go into the match against Toukley without their leading scorer with James Caban sent off late in the Avoca match, one of five players to suffer the same fate this round.

GOSFORD CITY 4 THE ENTRANCE 2

- For each of the past three seasons these two clubs have played in the finals series including the 2016 grand final. This time around, sitting in 8th and 9th places, they were playing in the first match all season that couldn't affect either finals series or relegation. Both clubs had to build new squads following the formation of Central Coast United and neither completely recovered from poor starts to the season losing each of their first four matches.
- Gosford were in control for most of the match taking the lead through Ryan Hoare within the first 10 minutes and going 2-0 up through Reece Caira midway through the first half. Corey Atkinson then pulled a goal back for The Entrance late in the first half and the game remained in the balance until two goals in as many minutes by Jared McNee in the last quarter of the match settled the result.
- Both teams lost players late in the match with Chris Paterick (Gosford) and Aaron Gallen (The Entrance) sent off for second bookable offences.

KANWAL 4 KINCUMBER 0

- A comfortable and predictable win for Kanwal as they strive for a Premier League semi-final spot for the first time since 2000. They took an early lead when a shot by Ryan Walker was parried by Kincumber goalkeeper Tom Jenkin with Bailey Chaplain on hand to score. Jenkin was again in action midway through the half making a fine one-on-one save but he couldn't prevent the Bulls from doubling their lead seven minutes from the break with Jason Cozens latching onto a through ball from Chaplain and stepping around Jenkin to score. Cozens was the provider 15 minutes into the second half setting up a goal for Ryan Walker to move to 3-0 with Chaplain again involved delivering a through ball for Danny Rotondo to seal the result.
- Regardless of what happens from here on it's been an excellent season for Kanwal who came back into the BPL after a gap of four years determined to stay there. With two matches to play they're sitting in equal fourth place with Southern two points ahead of East Gosford. A win in one of these two matches should secure a finals spot however they are against Berkeley Vale and Killarney while both SEU and East Gosford play teams in the bottom half of the competition.

EAST GOSFORD 1 UMINA 1

- Another disappointing result for East Gosford following on from the previous week's loss to Toukley and one that has seen them drop out of the top five spot that they've held for most of the season. The Rams should have had the game won by half-time but for the combination of poor finishing and a brilliant performance by Umina's stand-in goalkeeper Kyle Lawther. Although Umina fought back strongly in the second half East eventually did take the lead through Rob Walton in the 72nd minute before Benji Gosson scored the equaliser with 10 minutes to play.
- The one point here could well prove crucial for Umina going into their last two matches. While the seven matches that they've lost by a single goal during the season have been very frustrating they do mean that they now have a 10-goal better goal difference than relegation rivals Toukley. Should they go into their last-round decider on equal points this will mean that a draw in that match will be sufficient for them to survive.
- East Gosford will certainly appreciate the change in venue for their next match a late Saturday afternoon clash with Avoca that's been moved from Erina High School to Plum Park 3. Even if they win they will still be depending on other results going their way to move back into the five although they do have a final round match against Kincumber the following week.

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	20	14	5	1	61	17	44	47
BERKELEY VALE	20	12	2	6	54	23	31	38
TERRIGAL	20	11	5	4	48	34	14	38
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	20	11	3	6	46	30	16	36
KANWAL	20	11	3	6	50	42	8	36
EAST GOSFORD	20	10	4	6	36	25	11	34
AVOCA	20	9	3	8	41	34	7	30
THE ENTRANCE	20	7	3	10	38	57	-19	24
GOSFORD CITY	20	5	6	9	32	40	-8	21
UMINA	20	3	5	12	37	58	-21	14
TOUKLEY	20	4	2	14	31	62	-31	14
KINCUMBER	20	1	3	16	24	76	-52	6

battlewin^{*}

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

ROUND 21 BPL FIXTURES

SATURDAY 18 AUGUST			
AVOCA	vs	EAST GOSFORD	Pluim Park 3

SUNDAY 19 AUGUST			
KINCUMBER	vs	GOSFORD CITY	Frost Reserve
THE ENTRANCE	vs	KILLARNEY DISTRICT	EDSACC North
UMINA	vs	TERRIGAL	Umina Oval
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	vs	TOUKLEY	James Browne Oval
KANWAL	vs	BERKELEY VALE	Wadalba Sports Complex

DIVISION ONE

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	16	16	0	0	102	8	94	48
WOY WOY	16	9	4	3	50	24	26	31
BUDGEWOI	16	9	2	5	54	26	28	29
WYOMING	16	9	1	6	48	34	14	28
OURIMBAH	16	8	2	6	42	34	8	26
KARIONG	16	7	4	5	43	30	13	25
WYONG	16	6	1	9	38	45	-7	19
GWANDALAN	16	6	0	10	22	47	-25	18
DOYALSON	16	2	1	13	18	62	-44	7
TUGGERAH	16	0	1	15	9	116	-107	1