

Premium Sporting Products

2018 BATTLEWIN PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 21 (18/19 AUGUST)

By Alistair Kennedy

FIRST GRADE SCORES

AVOCA	3	EAST GOSFORD	3
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	4	THE ENTRANCE	2
TERRIGAL	6	UMINA	0
KANWAL	2	BERKELEY VALE	1
GOSFORD CITY	2	KINCUMBER	1
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	2	TOUKLEY	2

SUMMARY

- With one round remaining in the 2018 Battlewin Premier League competition four of the five semi-final places have now been settled with Terrigal (41 points), Kanwal (39) and Berkeley Vale (38) now qualified although the Wombats may only go through on their +30 positive goal difference. Southern-Ettalong (37) or East Gosford (35) will be take the final spot depending on next week's results.
- Terrigal and Kanwal have been the big surprises in what's proving to be arguably the most unpredictable, and consequently most enjoyable, season in the 39-year history of the Premier League. Both clubs will break long droughts having each only played once before in semi-finals, Kanwal in 2000 and Terrigal in 2001. If Southern-Ettalong do qualify then it will their first appearance since 2006 although they do have a very proud heritage going back to the 1980s and 90s. Should East Gosford qualify it will their first time since 2011.
- For the record the most number of semi-finals appearances are Umina (29 – including 18 straight between 1980 and 1997), Southern United/SEU, Wyoming and Wyong (15 each), The Entrance (14), Berkeley Vale and Killarney District (11) and East Gosford (10).
- The battle to avoid the second relegation spot has taken another turn with Toukley coming from 2-0 down to grab a crucial point against SEU while Umina were well beaten by Terrigal. The Gunners are now one point ahead and have also removed their inferior goal difference from the equation as the two clubs get set for their decisive match at Harry Moore Oval next Sunday.
- There was plenty of news coming out of the penultimate round in Division One with Woongarra's hopes of winning all 18 matches ended with a 2-1 loss to Ourimbah. The struggle for the second promotion spot took a big turnaround with Woy Woy and Wyoming now in equal second place on 31 points ahead of Budgewoi and Ourimbah (29).

PRE-SEASON TRIAL • FRI 31 AUG



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- To whet your appetite for the upcoming finals series a BPL Select team will play a trial match against the Mariners on Friday week at Central Coast Stadium. Joint coaches Chris Ackerley and Dale Eggleton will name their 20-man squad later this week – see the CCF website and Facebook page for details. Such is the prestige of the Battlewin Premier League that the match is to be televised both on Fox Sports and ESPN. There is a suggestion that the appearance of a certain legendary West Indian could be a factor although we're still awaiting confirmation that Keith G has made himself available.

AVOCA 3 EAST GOSFORD 3

- A result that didn't help either team with Avoca squandering a 3-0 half-time lead to end their remote chance of reaching the top five and East Gosford now two points adrift of fifth place and needing a win plus other results going their way to qualify. The first half was a showpiece of the talents of the Sharks former NSL and FNSW POTY player James Monie who opened the scoring in the 3rd minute then provided assists for goals to Stuart Adams in the 23rd and 34th minutes although he did miss a one-on-one chance against the East 'keeper Beyhan Irmako late in the half which would probably have sealed the win.
- As it was the Rams rallied strongly in the second half steadily gaining momentum after Dave McKellar scored early. A disputed penalty that was converted by Rob Walton not only brought the score to 3-2 but also saw Shane Knight off the field for around four minutes getting treatment for a blow to the nose. Shortly after his return the Sharks were again down to 10 players, this time for even longer with another key player in Stuart Adams receiving treatment for a shoulder injury. Neil Woodcock then equalised for East ensuring a frantic final 10 minutes as both sides tried desperately for a winner.
- As it turned out the Sunday results meant that a win wouldn't have helped Avoca make the semis although they can influence the final positions when they play Berkeley Vale next Sunday at Mingara Sports Field. East Gosford will start firm favourites in their match against Kincumber at Hylton Moore and will also be looking for at least six goals to cancel out Southern-Ettalong's current goal difference advantage should the Lions draw in their match against Gosford.

KILLARNEY DISTRICT 4 THE ENTRANCE 2

- These local derbies are always tight encounters with this one having the added twist of being a scheduled home match for The Entrance's but played at EDSACC North. Bryce Fielder's early goal gave Killarney an early lead but it seemed to lull the league champs into a false sense of security which The Entrance pounced upon, first equalising and then taking the lead through goals to Reece Duggan in the 25th minute and Zac Anastas just prior to the break. With 20 minutes to play the score remained at 2-1 when the Terriers finally came to life equalising through Nick Barnier before sealing their 15th win, and 50th point, of the season with late goals to Matt Hall and Will Hamilton.
- The Entrance will wrap up what has been a promising but overall disappointing season given their successes in recent seasons next Sunday against the emerging Terrigal team at Duffys Road. Killarney of course are already untouchable at the top spot but can influence the final structure of the top five when they play Kanwal, once again at EDSACC.

TERRIGAL 6 UMINA 0

- Yet another very impressive performance by this exciting young team that has now emerged as Killarney's main challengers for the premiership. As has been the case with Kanwal it's been a remarkable resurgence for a club that would have been in Division One this season but for the expansion of the BPL competition. After a draw and a loss in their first two matches they've been beaten just three times in their last 19 and just once since Round 10.
- Late season injuries have really damaged Umina's chances of remaining in the top tier and, after a solid first quarter of the match, they were eventually swamped by the in-form Terrigal outfit. Chris Altuneg opened the scoring from a corner with Dan Tuddenham doubling the lead after half an hour. Terrigal cut loose from early in the second half with Ben Flakus and Anthony Pace scoring a brace each.
- Umina's loss, together with Toukley's draw against Southern, means that the fine balance between the two clubs has now swung in the Gunners favour who now only need a draw in next Sunday's play-off at Harry Moore Oval to stay in next season's BPL. Terrigal can lock in second place with a win over The Entrance at Duffys Road.

GOSFORD CITY 2 KINCUMBER 1

- One of the rare matches with nothing hinging on the result, Kincumber already being relegated and Gosford in the middle zone, unable to reach the semis but safe from relegation. All the goals came in the first half with Ryan O'Hara giving the Roos the lead in the 12th minute only to have it cancelled out by Gosford's Ryan Hoare in the 35th minute followed by an own goal just two minutes later that summed up Kincumber's frustrating season.
- Both teams will finish the season next Sunday with matches against semi-final contenders that can help influence their opponents. Gosford meet fifth-placed Southern-Ettalong at Gavenlock Oval while Kincumber take on East Gosford, one point behind SEU at Hylton Moore Oval.

KANWAL 2 BERKELEY VALE 1

- For the past month or so, despite their consistently strong form, Kanwal have been eyeing their draw for the last two rounds against Berkeley Vale and Killarney knowing that they would likely need to pick up some points from them to qualify for the playoffs. Now, with a round to spare, they've done so and are now guaranteed a semi-final spot, potentially one in the top three even if they lose next week against Killarney. Regardless of what happens next

it's been a remarkable season for the Bulls and their coach Brad Porter who's been building for this since taking up the role in 2013.

- Kanwal took the lead midway through the first half when a contested ball with the Berkeley Vale keeper fell free for Ryan Walker to score. The same player then almost scored again 10 minutes later when a chip kick bounced off the crossbar and out of play. The Wombats struck back immediately after the break through Troy Mumford with his 10th goal in the last six matches. Despite being in control for much of the match Berkeley Vale couldn't convert and a late counter attack by Kanwal saw substitute Danny Rotondo curl a shot from outside the Berkeley 18-yard box into the top right-hand corner.
- With both teams now safely into the semi-finals there's a fair chance that they'll meet again within the next month. The big challenge next week will be securing the crucial second or third place which take on increased importance in the new five-team finals series with their second-chance opportunity. Kanwal look to have the tougher task, up against Killarney District at EDSACC while Berkeley Vale at home against an Avoca team that is now out of contention.

SOUTHERN-ETTALONG 2 TOUKLEY 2

- Toukley and Umina go into next week's battle with contrasting second half performances in their respective Round 21 matches on the peninsula. Both went into the half-time break 2-0 down but while Toukley fought back for a 2-2 draw here Umina slumped to a 6-0 loss. Southern's first half goals came from James Steer and Matt Mitchell in the 33rd and 42nd minutes with Jai Kelly scoring twice in the second half for the Gunners, the first from the penalty spot in the 55th minute and the equaliser in the 77th. Toukley had a great chance to snatch a last-gasp win but couldn't capitalise in a goal mouth scramble.
- Both teams will now put their season on the line next weekend. Southern are in clear fifth place, two points ahead of East Gosford, and meet one of their bogey teams, Gosford, at Gavenlock Oval. A draw will be enough to consolidate their semi-final place provided that East Gosford don't win by six goals or more in their match against Kincumber. Likewise a draw will be sufficient for Toukley in their do-or-die match against Umina, one with the dual advantages of playing at home and at full strength.

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	21	15	5	1	65	19	46	50
TERRIGAL	21	12	5	4	54	34	20	41
KANWAL	21	12	3	6	52	43	9	39
BERKELEY VALE	21	12	2	7	55	25	30	38
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	21	11	4	6	48	32	16	37
EAST GOSFORD	21	10	5	6	39	28	11	35
AVOCA	21	9	4	8	44	37	7	31
GOSFORD CITY	21	6	6	9	34	41	-7	24
THE ENTRANCE	21	7	3	11	40	61	-21	24
TOUKLEY	21	4	3	14	33	64	-31	15
UMINA	21	3	5	13	37	64	-27	14
KINCUMBER	21	1	3	17	25	78	-53	6

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

ROUND 22 BPL FIXTURES

SUNDAY 26 AUGUST			
TOUKLEY	vs	UMINA	Harry Moore Oval
GOSFORD CITY	vs	SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	Gavenlock Oval
TERRIGAL	vs	THE ENTRANCE	Duffys Oval
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	vs	KANWAL	EDSACC North
BERKELEY VALE	vs	AVOCA	Mingara Sports Field
EAST GOSFORD	vs	KINCUMBER	Hylton Moore Oval

DIVISION ONE

FIRST GRADE SCORES

OURIMBAH	2	WOONGARRAH	1
WYOMING	1	BUDGEWOI	0
WYONG	2	DOYALSON	0
KARIONG	2	WOY WOY	0
GWANDALAN	2	TUGGERAH	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	17	16	0	1	103	10	93	48
WOY WOY	17	9	4	4	50	26	24	31
WYOMING	17	10	1	6	49	34	15	31
BUDGEWOI	17	9	2	6	54	27	27	29
OURIMBAH	17	9	2	6	44	35	9	29
KARIONG	17	8	4	5	45	30	15	27
WYONG	17	7	1	9	40	45	-5	22
GWANDALAN	17	7	0	10	24	47	-23	21
DOYALSON	17	2	1	14	18	64	-46	7
TUGGERAH	17	0	1	16	9	118	-109	1

ROUND 18 DIVISION ONE FIXTURES

SUNDAY 26 AUGUST			
WOY WOY	vs	OURIMBAH	Austin Butler Oval
DOYALSON	vs	WOONGARRAH	Doyalson RSL Oval
GWANDALAN	vs	KARIONG	Tunkawallin Oval
BUDGEWOI	vs	TUGGERAH	Budgewoi FC
WYONG	vs	WYOMING	Baker Park