

## Premium Sporting Products

### 2018 BATTLEWIN PREMIER LEAGUE FINALS – WEEK 1

By Alistair Kennedy

#### RESULTS

<b>ELIMINATION FINALS (4<sup>th</sup> vs 5<sup>th</sup>)</b>				
FIRST GRADE	SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	4	KANWAL	1
RESERVE GRADE	EAST GOSFORD	4	GOSFORD CITY	2
THIRD GRADE	SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	3	BERKELEY VALE	2

<b>QUALIFYING FINALS (2<sup>nd</sup> vs 3<sup>rd</sup>)</b>				
FIRST GRADE	BERKELEY VALE	2	TERRIGAL	0
RESERVE GRADE	BERKELEY VALE	4	UMINA	2
THIRD GRADE	UMINA	3	EAST GOSFORD	1

#### SUMMARY

- Week One of the first ever four-week BPL Finals Series with Killarney District having the week off as a reward for taking out the league championship. In each of the two matches winning teams were successful over their opponents for the first time this season with Berkeley Vale having been beaten twice by Terrigal and Southern-Ettalong losing one match and drawing the other against Kanwal.
- In Division One Woongarra have moved through to their second straight Grand Final coming from behind to defeat Wyoming at Budgewoi Oval while Ourimbah have eliminated Budgewoi.

#### **SOUTHERN-ETTALONG 4 KANWAL 1**

- An emphatic victory by a Southern-Ettalong team that's shown throughout the season that they can lift for the big occasion. Indeed looking at their results it's surprising that they didn't finishing higher than their eventual fourth place. Against Killarney they've had a 3-0 win (the Terriers only loss all season) and a 1-1 draw; they defeated Terrigal 2-0 in both matches; and had a 1-0 loss and 3-1 win over Berkeley Vale.
- Southern took the lead in the 14th minute through BPL Golden Boot runner-up James Caban. The youngest of the three Cabans, Jacob, bolstered by his selection in the BPL Select squad, then doubled the lead midway through the first half from a free-kick after Matt Mitchell was brought down just outside the penalty box.
- The pivotal point of the match came in the seven minutes prior to the break when Kanwal had an off-side goal disallowed and then a Ryan Walker penalty saved by Southern goalkeeper Luke Carnevale, his 4th of the season. The Caban brothers then sealed the win

with goals to Jacob, again from a free-kick, in the 63rd minute and James, who sliced through the centre of the Kanwal defence and slotted home his 19th goal of the season. Jason Cozens scored a late consolation for the Bulls in the 84th minute.

- The win means that Southern-Ettalong retain fourth place and will meet Terrigal in next Saturday's Major Semi-Final.
- While the Bulls will obviously be disappointed by their elimination they should reflect on what has otherwise been an outstanding season. As with all newly-promoted clubs their first priority at the start of the season would have been to avoid relegation, a target that they reached by midway through the year. To then continue and eventually reach the semi-finals for just the second time in the club's history was a credit to what is predominantly a homegrown squad that has been steadily developed over the past six years by their ex-Mariners coaching team of Brad Porter (himself as Kanwal junior) and Adam Kwasnik.

### **BERKELEY VALE 2 TERRIGAL 0**

- A tight and even match featuring the experienced Berkeley Vale defence up against the speedy young Terrigal attack with a total of six players backing up from Friday night's trial against the Mariners. One of these six, Berkeley's young winger Michael Tawyer, made an immediate impact when he was tackled inside the box allowing Troy Mumford to convert from the resultant penalty.
- The game remained in the balance until a crucial indirect free-kick was awarded to the Wombats for a disputed back-pass just six metres out. With both teams crammed in front of the posts the ball ricocheted several times before rebounding into the Terrigal net.
- The loss ended an 8-match unbeaten run by Terrigal and was just their second defeat since Round 9, that loss being against Southern-Ettalong who will be their opponents in next Saturday's Minor Semi Final.

## **BPL FINALS SERIES WEEK 2**

<b>SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER – MINOR SEMI-FINALS AT PLUIM PARK 1</b>		
FIRST GRADE	TERRIGAL vs SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	7 PM
RESERVE GRADE	EAST GOSFORD vs UMINA	5 PM
THIRD GRADE	SOUTHERN-ETTALONG vs EAST GOSFORD	3 PM

<b>SUNDAY 9 SEPTEMBER - MAJOR SEMI-FINALS AT PLUIM PARK 1</b>		
FIRST GRADE	KILLARNEY DISTRICT vs BERKELEY VALE	5 PM
RESERVE GRADE	KILLARNEY DISTRICT vs BERKELEY VALE	3 PM
THIRD GRADE	KILLARNEY DISTRICT vs UMINA	1 PM

## **DIVISION ONE**

### **RESULTS**

<b>MINOR SEMI-FINALS (3rd vs 4th)</b>				
FIRST GRADE	OURIMBAH	2	BUDGEWOI	1
RESERVE GRADE	WYOMING	4	WYONG	3

<b>MAJOR SEMI-FINALS (1st vs 2nd)</b>				
FIRST GRADE	WOONGARRAH	3	WYOMING	1
RESERVE GRADE	OURIMBAH	3	WOONGARRAH	1

## **DIVISION ONE FINALS SERIES WEEK 2**

<b>SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER – PRELIMINARY FINALS AT PLUIM PARK 3</b>		
FIRST GRADE	WYOMING vs OURIMBAH	6 PM
RESERVE GRADE	WOONGARRAH vs WYOMING	4 PM