

## Premium Sporting Products

### 2019 BATTLEWIN PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 8 (11/12 MAY)

*By Alistair Kennedy & Lachlan Herd*

#### **FIRST GRADE SCORES**

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

#### **SUMMARY**

- After a week in which the unexpected became expected in the football world the top two teams in the 2019 Battlewin Premier League competition have been beaten. It started on Saturday night at Pluim Park with leaders Killarney Districts' hopes of repeating their 2017 undefeated league championship season being thwarted by Terrigal. That result meant that Southern-Ettalong would move into first place in the MPL competition for the first time in at least 20 years with a win over Avoca – only to crash to a 4-1 loss to a resurgent Sharks team that's starting to build some momentum.
- The results compressed the top half of the competition to such an extent that just four points now separate first and sixth place with both promoted clubs, Woongarra and Wyoming now in the top five. Indeed the Wildcats with their win over Gosford City have joined Killarney at the top of the table while Wyoming have moved into equal fifth place with three clean-sheet wins in the past seven days including an impressive 4-0 win over East Gosford in their Round 2 deferred match on Wednesday night.
- Also tightening up is the battle for the 2019 BPL Golden Boot with Keith Gumbs from SEU and Gosford City's Jesse Parnell joining Pat Mills from Wyoming on 8 goals, one ahead of Mills' teammate Matt Hall with Ben Runge from Woongarra one further back on 6 goals.
- The teams at the bottom third of the table continued to struggle with The Entrance, Kanwal, East Gosford and Gosford City all beaten.
- The Central Coast 2019 FFA Cup campaign is now over with the last team standing, Umina United, going down after a gutsy performance by Pittwater RSL FC at Pluim Park on Wednesday night.

#### **TERRIGAL 2 KILLARNEY DISTRICT 1**

- Both Terrigal United and Killarney District descended on Pluim Park for their Round Eight Battlewin Premier League clash, in what shaped as the match of the round on paper.

Terrigal were looking to close the gap to just three points between themselves and the Terriers with a win, whilst Killarney needed a win to restore the gap between themselves and second placed Southern and Ettalong United after they dropped points last weekend. Terrigal came out of the sheds on the front foot, getting themselves on the ball and settling into a fairly comfortable pattern throughout the opening 10 minutes, and they were rewarded with the first goal of the match after 14 minutes as Daniel Bird found the net. Bird found himself free at the back post and was picked out well with a good cross, before he finished easily to give the United side the lead.

- The lead was almost doubled only minutes later as both teams found themselves involved in a scrappy goal mouth scramble, with the Terriers just managing to clear their lines before the ball was bundled over the line. Killarney then went up the other end and almost found the equaliser through Matt Hall, with the winger finding himself free down the left, with his shot drawing a smart save from Aaron Zavolokin at his near post. The high-octane start to the match certainly wasn't sustainable for the full half with both sides showing a little more defensive discipline as the half wore on, resulting in a rather uneventful but competitive end to the first stanza.
- The second half began much the same as the first half ended with both sides jostling for the ascendancy, however neither could manage any significant openings. In the 72<sup>nd</sup> minute Terrigal United were awarded a free kick on the edge of the Killarney penalty area, with Jack Rodger taking on the responsibility from the dead ball. His powerful strike produced a full length save from Terriers keeper Andy Sheldon, as his finger tip save pushed the ball onto his left upright. The save appeared to spark the Terriers into life as they went straight down the other end of the pitch, with the ball falling to midfielder John Whelpdale outside the penalty area who let fly with a fizzing half-volley that crashed into Zavolokin's left upright before going behind.
- The Terriers stepped up a gear as they went in hunt of an equaliser and they found one at the death as Daniel Moffett struck from the edge of the box in the 88th minute, sending the Killarney supporters into delirium in the Pluim Park grandstand and bar area. It was a goal that the Terriers probably deserved given their 10-15 minute period of dominance leading up to the goal, however it was hard not to feel sorry for Terrigal after what had been such a huge effort from Martyn Griffiths side. However, the Terriers goal was not to be the end of the drama. Straight from the restart the Olads worked the ball down the left flank, managing to get to the by-line before a cut back found Anthony Pace free a mere 8 yards from goal. Pace re-arranged his feet well and finished with aplomb, re-gaining the lead for Terrigal and triggering joyous celebrations from the Terrigal fans.
- It was a fitting end to what was a high-quality game of Premier League football, with both sides leaving nothing in the tank as the referee drew the curtains on the match. Terrigal face a trip to Berkeley Vale next weekend whilst Killarney have a match with The Entrance next Sunday afternoon.
- Terrigal Coach Martyn Griffiths was delighted with his sides performance adding: 'I thought we were the better side throughout the match, thankfully finding the winner at the end. We look forward to another tough game this weekend at Berkeley Vale where we must ensure we back up the great performance that we produced on Saturday night'.

## **WYOMING 2 THE ENTRANCE 0**

- After a stuttering start to their season the new-look Wyoming team are starting to hit their straps with three wins in seven days all built around a defensive line that has been transformed from one which conceded 15 goals in their first five matches to become the only team this season to string together three straight clean sheets. The 4-0 win over East Gosford on Wednesday night was arguably the Tigers best overall performance of the season with a margin that could have been much greater but for a number of missed scoring chances. The four goals were shared around between Matt Hall (penalty), Jared McNee, Sam Dooley (his first since re-joining the club) and Ben Farrell.
- With The Entrance close to full strength the Sunday match was always going to be a tough encounter and so it proved. The pivotal points of the match came within the first few minutes of each half with Jared McNee slicing through The Entrance defence to score a superb individual goal in the third minute and then in one of the first plays of the second half Tigers winger Ben Farrell was brought inside the box by Sea Eagles 'keeper Adam Parkinson leaving Matt Hall to convert the resulting penalty and give Wyoming the 2-0 lead that they preserved for the balance of an evenly-contested second half with the defences led by two of the best in the business, Matt Page and Ian McAndrew, cancelling each other out.
- Wyoming will be hosting Toukley at Alan Davidson Park next Sunday and certainly won't be taking anything for granted against the tenacious Gunners. The Entrance are still three matches away from ending their home ground suspension although they won't be travelling far when they meet Killarney District next Sunday at EDSACC North.

## **AVOCA 4 SOUTHERN-ETTALONG 1**

- Avoca have maintained their status as the BPL's most unpredictable club with a big win over the in-form Southern-Ettalong at James Browne Oval. They've bounced back strongly since their 8-2 loss to Wyoming with three wins and a draw in their subsequent four matches capped off by this upset win over SEU who were looking for their sixth straight win and overtaking Killarney at the top of the competition table.
- The Sharks took to the field boosted by the presence of 2017 and 2018 BPL Player of the Year Stuart Adams on their bench having missed the previous five matches with work commitments. Southern began strongly and almost scored three times from long throws into the Avoca box that were desperately scrambled clear by the Sharks defence. The breakthrough then came at the other end of the field when 2016 BPL POTY Shane Knight was on the SEU back post to head home a perfect cross. Avoca then doubled the lead with the goal of the match from Ben Green who chested down a high cross, turned and volleyed the ball into the Southern net.
- Southern hit back 15 minutes into the second half through Keith Gumbs before Avoca restored their two-goal margin when their 20-year-old substitute Dylan Di Sciascio, five minutes into first grade debut, found himself one-on-one against Lions goalkeeper Luke Carnevale and scored, albeit at the second attempt. The result was then put beyond doubt when Stuart Adams also came off the bench to score in the 81st minute.
- Southern's coach Dale Eggleton had no excuses to offer. "We were beaten by a better team on the day. Full credit to Avoca, they were more enthusiastic and determined than we were despite the big incentive that we had. It should be a lesson to the youngsters in our team that they must bring their main game along every week in this tight competition. They'll

certainly need to do so next week against East Gosford who we had a draw and a loss to last season”.

- Having beaten one top-two team Avoca will be out to repeat the dose next Sunday when they take on joint-leaders Woongarra at Pluim Park which, because of extended wear and tear on the Erina High School field, becomes the Sharks home ground for the remainder of the season. After four straight matches at home SEU travel to Hylton Moore Oval determined to get back into winning mode against East Gosford.

### **BERKELEY VALE 3 EAST GOSFORD 1**

- Berkeley Vale and East Gosford faced off on Sunday afternoon at Mingara with both sides looking to bounce back from losses in their last outing with the Wombats looking to get back to winning ways following a hard-fought loss to Southern and Ettalong United and the Rams heading into the match on the back of a disappointing 4-0 loss to Wyoming mid-week. East Gosford started the match with promise however as the match wore on the classy Berkeley Vale outfit began to overrun them. A second goal of the campaign to Robbie Walton was ultimately not enough, as a brace from Troy Mumford and a single goal to Michael Tawyer proved enough to secure the points for the Wombats. The win sees Berkeley Vale close the gap between themselves (6th) and Killarney (1st) to just four points, whilst the Rams remain in the bottom two but a much healthier 7th in the BPL club championship.
- Berkeley Vale coach Mark Pratt was pleased with the overall performance from his side, adding: “Happy with the overall team performance, no individual standouts, just solid as a group. We’re starting to head in the right direction”.
- Likewise, Rams boss Chris Powell remained positive following his side’s sixth loss of the season: “I Felt we dug in and matched them for the 90 minutes. Just came down to those crucial moments in the end’.
- Berkeley Vale will look to string together successive wins for the first time since the opening two weeks of the season (their form guide since Round 2 reads (LWLWLW) when they face an in-form Terrigal United side at Mingara, whilst the Rams face another tough test as they welcome Southern and Ettalong United to Hylton Moore on Sunday afternoon.

### **WOONGARRAH 4 GOSFORD CITY 1**

- Woongarra and Gosford City faced off at Hamlyn Terrace in what was the Wildcats’ first home match of the campaign after seven weeks on the road to start the season. This strange quirk in the draw only emphasizes how impressively Woongarra have taken to life in the top flight, with a win in this fixture sending them into a share of the lead on the Battlewin Premier League table. Of course, they can now look forward to a string of matches at Hamlyn Terrace to end the season where they’ll no doubt be hoping home ground advantage will give them an edge on their opponents in the run into the finals.
- Predictably, Woongarra controlled large portions of Sunday afternoons encounter, managing two goals within the opening half before going on to add another two. The goals were spread throughout the side with Ashley Henderson, Alex Govorcin, Matthew Johnson, and Ben Runge all getting on the scoresheet. Gosford City managed to pull one goal back late as Jesse Parnell converted from the penalty spot, his seventh of the campaign. It was another disappointing loss for Gosford City as they struggle to pick up competition points, however they do look forward to crucial matches with fellow strugglers Kanwal and East Gosford in the coming weeks.

- 'Cats boss Luke Rogers was pleased with his side's game management, adding: "Happy with how we controlled the game and field position, with Gosford not getting their first shot on goal until the 65th minute. Glad to get the three points, especially as we were playing our first game at home".
- Dragons coach Errol Baker remained up-beat despite the loss: 'The scoreline again doesn't reflect our effort, we just gave them too much respect in the middle third. It's coming, we just need to find the balance".

### **TOUKLEY 1 KANWAL 0**

- Another excellent northern derby played in a good spirit and featuring plenty of quality football from both sides. Kanwal were on top for much of the first half with a series of one-on-one attacks being either saved or pushed wide by the Toukley goalkeeper. That 'keeper was Jake Purches, one of the best in the BPL until work commitments saw him miss last season, but who is now back as a temporary replacement for the injured Robert Ryan. His saves meant the teams went into the break at nil-all. The Gunners came back strongly in the second half with Purches again making a couple of important saves. At the other end Kanwal's goalkeeper Aaron Hammond was injured in the 70th minute and was replaced by 17-year old Reserve Grade keeper Lachlan Raychaudri as had been the case in big Round 3 derby between Kanwal and Woongarra at Wadalba. With seven minutes of normal time remaining Toukley made the breakthrough when substitute Troy Runge was deemed to have been fouled in the penalty area. The experienced Runge, on his comeback from injury, sent the young keeper the wrong way to put the Gunners in front.
- Although that was the end of the scoring there was plenty more action. First up Kanwal defender Rick Lea was red-carded for retaliation after a tackle, only for the decision to be reversed after the referee consulted with his assistant. There was no such reprieve for Toukley's Michael Dunlop who was sent off with a second yellow card deep into added time. Other players (1 from each team) received yellow cards for becoming involved in the incident leaving the Gunners to hold out for the remaining few minutes with ten men.
- It was yet another frustrating defeat for Kanwal, their sixth of the season but five of them being by a single goal. They take on last-placed Gosford City at Gavenlock Oval while Toukley will be just across Narara Creek playing Wyoming at Alan Davidson Park.

	<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	8	6	1	1	26	10	16	19
WOONGARRAH	8	6	1	1	24	14	10	19
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	8	6	0	2	21	17	4	18
TERRIGAL	8	5	1	2	19	9	10	16
WYOMING	8	4	0	3	23	13	10	15
BERKELEY VALE	8	5	0	3	14	7	7	15
AVOCA	8	4	1	3	15	19	-4	13
TOUKLEY	8	3	1	4	13	17	-4	10
THE ENTRANCE	8	2	0	6	9	17	-8	6
KANWAL	8	1	1	6	12	18	-6	4
EAST GOSFORD	8	1	1	6	6	18	-12	4
GOSFORD CITY	8	0	1	7	11	34	-23	1

	<i>P</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Reserve</i>	<i>U21</i>	<i>Points</i>
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	24	57	38	22	117
TERRIGAL	24	48	32	16	96
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	24	54	32	9	95
WOONGARRAH	24	57	24	14	95
WYOMING	23	45	20	19	84
AVOCA	24	39	12	18	69
EAST GOSFORD	23	12	36	10	58
BERKELEY VALE	24	45	10	1	56
THE ENTRANCE	24	18	30	3	56
KANWAL	24	12	20	13	45
TOUKLEY	24	30	12	3	45
GOSFORD CITY	24	3	6	3	12

8	Keith Gumbs (Southern-Ettalong), Pat Mills (Wyoming), Jesse Parnell (Gosford City)
7	Matt Hall (Wyoming),
6	Ben Runge (Woongarra)
5	James Caban (Southern-Ettalong), Ben Flakus (Terrigal), Jared McNee (Wyoming), Troy Mumford (Berkeley Vale), Ryan Walker (Kanwal), Kane Woolston (Woongarra)
4	Brendan Hall (Killarney District), Steve Harpur (East Gosford), Ashley Henderson (Woongarra), Jai Kelly (Toukley), Erik Riquelme (Terrigal), Cameron Wilkinson (Terrigal)
3	Bryce Fielder (Killarney District), Alex Govorcic (Woongarra), Ben Green (Avoca), Ethan Hall (Killarney District), Matt Hall (Killarney District), Mitch Harrison (Avoca), Daniel Rodger (Killarney District), Troy Runge (Toukley), Blake Silvers (Killarney District), Michael Tawyer (Berkeley Vale)

## BPL ROUND 9 FIXTURES

SUNDAY 19 MAY			
WYOMING	vs	TOUKLEY	Alan Davidson Park
GOSFORD CITY	vs	KANWAL	Gavenlock Oval
THE ENTRANCE	vs	KILLARNEY DISTRICT	EDSACC North
AVOCA	vs	WOONGARRAH	Pluim Park 2
BERKELEY VALE	vs	TERRIGAL	Mingara Club Oval
EAST GOSFORD	vs	SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	Hylton Moore Oval

## DIVISION ONE

### FIRST GRADE SCORES

GWANDALAN	7	DOYALSON	0
WOY WOY	4	OURIMBAH	3
WYONG	2	UMINA	2
KINCUMBER	4	KARIONG	0
BUDGEWOI	Bye		

### 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>
KINCUMBER	4	4	0	0	13	3	10	12
UMINA	4	3	1	0	18	3	15	10
WYONG	5	3	1	1	15	8	7	10
OURIMBAH	4	2	0	2	11	9	2	6
KARIONG	5	2	0	3	7	9	-2	6
BUDGEWOI	4	2	0	2	11	9	2	6
WOY WOY	5	2	0	3	13	12	1	6
GWANDALAN	4	1	0	5	10	12	-2	3
DOYALSON	5	0	0	5	1	35	-34	0