

Premium Sporting Products

2019 BATTLEWIN PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 7 (4/5 MAY)

By Alistair Kennedy & Lachlan Herd

FIRST GRADE SCORES

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

SUMMARY

- Three clubs have paid a heavy price for their midweek FFA Cup matches with Killarney District, Berkeley Vale and Terrigal all dropping points in their Round 7 Battlewin Premier League matches. After matching their best ever start to a season with six straight wins Killarney were held to a 1-1 draw by East Gosford while Terrigal were beaten 1-0 by Wyoming and Berkeley Vale went down 2-1 to Southern-Ettalong.
- In the Wednesday night Cup double-header at Pluim Park both Terrigal and Berkeley Vale put in very impressive performances against their semi-pro NPL1 opponents that showed up the high standard of our competition.
- In other BPL results Kanwal grabbed their first three-pointer of the season. Woongarra, as they've consistently done so far, started slow and finished fast to down Toukley in an exciting derby while the young Gosford City team, although beaten 2-1, put in an excellent effort against Avoca.
- Umina are the last remaining Coast club in the FFA Cup. They take on Pittwater RSL FC on Wednesday night (8 May) at Pluim Park from 7.30pm.

WOONGARRAH 4 TOUKLEY 3

- The three northern-most BPL clubs are serving up some terrific nighttime derby matches with plenty of goals and fluctuating scorelines. First up there was that thriller in front of a huge crowd at Wadalba where Woongarra came from behind to snatch an extremely late winner. Now the Wildcats have repeated the dose with a 30-metre screamer from Ben Runge two minutes from full-time seeing off a gutsy challenge from Toukley.
- As they'd done in five of their previous six matches Woongarra got off to a poor start conceding the first goal to Toukley in the 28th minute with Gunners sharpshooter Jai Kelly on target. As had been the case a week earlier against Wyoming the setback spurred the 'Cats into action and by the break they'd turned a 1-0 deficit into a 2-1 lead through Ashley

Henderson and Matt Johnson. Woongarra then conceded the next goal with Nathan Gleeson equalising for Toukley in the 52nd minute. Ben Runge restored the lead with the first of his brace only for Kelly to complete his brace and level at 3-3 setting the scene for Runge's brilliant last minute match clincher.

- Gunners coach Ben Nichols commented: "It was a typical derby, rugged, intense and uncompromising but, with seven goals, still entertaining. Naturally I was disappointed with the final result after looking like drawing the match but was very pleased with our performance on the ball although not so with our defence."
- Toukley are at home again next Sunday for a second successive derby, this time against Kanwal. Likewise the Wildcats won't need to travel when they host the improving Gosford City at Hamlyn Terrace.

WYOMING 1 TERRIGAL 0

- A crucial win for Wyoming, their first from four matches to date against top-five teams. After conceding eight goals in their previous two matches the Tigers clearly had defensive problems, ones that coach Ian McAndrew addressed midweek both on the training field and in team meetings. The turnaround could not have been more marked with the team getting their first clean sheet of the season against one of the competitions best attacks and away from home.
- Terrigal went into the match without a number of key players who hadn't fully recovered from their FFA Cup match against Blacktown City as well as coach Martyn Griffiths who was still overseas. The only goal in the match came midway through the first half with Jared McNee making a break and finding Golden Boot pacesetter Pat Mills who scored with a left foot shot from the edge of the Terrigal penalty box.
- While acknowledging that the midweek FFA Cup match didn't help his team's cause acting Terrigal coach Dan Murace was full of praise for Wyoming. "Our lads were a bit flat but Wyoming was definitely up for the game. We had our chances with Daniel Bird hitting the crossbar but Wyoming's overall work rate was exceptional and their defensive structure was outstanding. They thoroughly deserved the win".
- Wyoming will be hoping that the win sets a platform for the remainder of the year. Indeed the next fortnight could well define their season with their deferred Round 2 match against East Gosford on Wednesday night to be followed by back-to-back home games against The Entrance and Toukley. Terrigal have a tougher draw starting with one of the most anticipated matches of the season against Killarney on Saturday night at Pluim Park and then taking on Berkeley Vale at Mingara the following Sunday.

AVOCA 2 GOSFORD CITY 1

- Avoca and Gosford City headed to Pluim Park on Sunday afternoon for their Round Seven clash, with both sides in need of three points to keep pace with the rest of the competition. Avoca went into the match knowing a win would likely leave them just shy of the finals positions, and they were to be the first of the sides to threaten the oppositions goal as Mitchell Harrison struck the cross bar with a free kick just four minutes in. After an early scare, Gosford City bounced back well and almost took the lead on 15 minutes as winger Aidan Trenbirth found himself free down the left flank, with his shot drawing a full length save from Avoca keeper Brendan Avis. In what was a very evenly contested match in the early stages, the Sharks managed to land the first blow in the 32nd minute, with Ben Green finding himself in behind the Gosford City defence, wrong footing Dragons keeper Jack

Arigho with the finish to give Avoca the lead. Green's goal was to be the only goal of the half, with the sides heading to the sheds at 1-0.

- The resumption of play saw Avoca start the stronger of the sides once again, with Oliver Twyford having his effort from the edge of the penalty area tipped over by Arigho in the 54th minute. This proved the start of a dominant 10-minute period of the match for the Sharks as two minutes later midfielder Shane Knight found himself free in the penalty area however he dragged his shot just wide of the far upright. He wasn't to make the same mistake twice, as he doubled Avoca's lead on the hour mark after a ball from Oliver Twyford caught the Gosford City defenders out as Knight beat the offside trap and finished easily to give the Sharks a 2-0 lead.
- Knowing they needed a result from the match to keep pace with the rest of the competition, Gosford started to take a few more risks in search of the goal that would drag them back into the contest, and they found just that in the 67th minute through Jackson Jacobs. Jacobs picked up the ball towards the middle of the pitch before he set off down the left flank, beat two players and fired home past Avis to bring the score back to 2-1. However, they were unable to find a second goal to take a share of the points as they slumped to their fifth defeat in a row.
- Gosford City coach Errol Baker was disappointed at what was a missed opportunity, commenting: "Unfortunately we really failed to play to the level we are capable of delivering, that was three points we let slip away. A little bit of a good-game hangover from last week's performance". Avoca coach Neal Hide was happy with his side's performance overall, adding: "A tough defensive setup from Gosford meant we had to remain patient and keep possession. A fair result".
- Both clubs now have to face up to top-five opponents with City travelling north to meet Woongarra at Hamlyn Terrace and Avoca heading in the opposite direction to play Southern-Ettalong at James Browne Oval.

KANWAL 3 THE ENTRANCE 1

- After a frustrating run of near misses, including four losses by the odd goal, Kanwal have finally broken through for their first win of the season against The Entrance at Wadalba Sports Complex. The Bulls opened the scoring in the 15th minute with Ryan Walker breaking through and beating Entrance keeper, Adam Parkinson, one-on-one with a low strike into the leftcorner of the net. The visitors then equalised late in the half from the head of Zac Anastas. Seven minutes into the second half Walker was again on target with a shot that skimmed off the post and into the net. The match remained tight until the 87th minute when Kanwal's talented 17-year-old Joey Liddle in his first-grade debut had a shot which was pushed wide by Parkinson who as he tried to regain possession brought down Brad McLean leaving Walker to complete his second BPL hat-trick from the penalty spot.
- Next up for the Bulls will be another of these tough Northern derbies, this time against Toukley at Harry Moore Oval on Sunday. The Entrance have a couple of tough fixtures ahead of them against Wyoming then Killarney District. Both matches are at opposition grounds – they won't play their first match at Pat Morley Oval until Round 12.

KILLARNEY DISTRICT 1 EAST GOSFORD 1

- Killarney and East Gosford faced off on Sunday afternoon at EDSAAC North with the defending premiers looking to extend their unbeaten run at the top of the Battlewin Premier League table. After 120 minutes of FFA Cup football in the Blue Mountains on Thursday

night, the Terriers could be forgiven for starting the weekend's match slowly however it was clear from the start that that was not to be the case, as they dominated the first 20 minutes. A goal to Blake Silvers saw the Terriers take the lead before East Gosford began to get a foothold in the match, finding the equaliser through Stephen Harpur after 35 minutes.

- The Rams continued to push for a second goal shortly after the break however struggled to break down the strong Killarney side as the Terriers began to gain the upper hand as the second period wore on. The last 15 minutes was all one-way traffic, with the Terriers pushing hard for the winner, one they just couldn't find thanks in part to both a great goalkeeping performance from the Rams custodian Luke Gunn and a poor finishing display from a tired set of Killarney players.
- It was a vital point gained for the Rams whilst probably two points lost for Killarney however coach Chris Ackerley remained optimistic post-match: "It was a game where we didn't take our chances due to a good goalkeeping performance from Luke Gunn. Proud of the effort from the boys to back up from the two-hour plus FFA Cup game on Thursday night and all the travel to keep the undefeated run going in the BPL".
- Rams coach Chris Powell was also pleased with his side's performance, adding: "Happy with our performance, particularly our defence. Our fitness is improving all the time and we are now where we should have been in the early rounds of the competition".
- Next up for Killarney District is one of the most anticipated matches of the season when they meet the precocious young Terrigal team in a Saturday night match at Pluim Park 1. The Rams improved fitness level will be put to the test with two matches in the next week, firstly against Wyoming in their Round 2 deferred match at Pluim 1 on Wednesday night followed by a Sunday afternoon encounter with Berkeley Vale at Mingara.

SOUTHERN-ETTALONG 2 BERKELEY VALE 1

- Southern and Ettalong United hosted Berkeley Vale at James Browne Oval on Sunday afternoon is what was the marquee fixture in Round Seven of the Battlewin Premier League. Southern were on a stretch of four straight victories heading into the weekends fixture as they continue to keep pace with front-runners Killarney, whilst Berkeley Vale were heading into what was their third match in seven days, due to midweek FFA Cup commitments. Both Keith Gumbs and James Caban got on the scoresheet for the Lions, their 7th and 5th goals of the season respectively, whilst Paul McGinley managed one back for the Wombats. The fixture always loomed as a tough ask for Berkeley Vale, and that was made all the more challenging after Tyler Burnes was sent off 20 minutes into the match, forcing the already fatigued side to play 70 minutes with ten men against quality opposition.
- The win sees Southern close the gap to just one point between them and Killarney at the top of the table, after the Terriers dropped points in their fixture. Wombats coach Mark Pratt was pleased with the performance given the trying circumstances: "Good performance following the APIA Leichhardt match, with ten men for 70 minutes". Southern coach Dale Eggleton also heaped praise on Berkeley Vale's perseverance, adding: "We worked hard to get the result but full credit to Berkeley Vale, playing with 10 for two thirds of the game and it was their third game in a week and they were still very much in the game until the final whistle".
- Both teams are at home next Sunday with Southern taking on Avoca and Berkeley Vale up against East Gosford.

	<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	7	6	1	0	25	8	17	19
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	7	6	0	1	20	13	7	18
WOONGARRAH	7	5	1	1	20	13	7	16
TERRIGAL	7	4	1	2	17	8	9	13
BERKELEY VALE	7	4	0	3	11	6	5	12
WYOMING	6	3	0	3	17	13	4	9
TOUKLEY	7	2	1	4	12	17	-5	7
AVOCA	7	3	1	3	11	18	-7	7
THE ENTRANCE	7	2	0	5	9	15	-6	6
KANWAL	7	1	1	5	12	17	-5	4
EAST GOSFORD	6	1	1	4	5	11	-6	4
GOSFORD	7	0	1	6	10	30	-20	1

	<i>P</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Reserve</i>	<i>U21</i>	<i>Points</i>
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	21	57	38	19	114
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	21	54	26	9	89
TERRIGAL	21	39	26	16	81
WOONGARRAH	21	48	18	11	77
WYOMING	18	27	20	18	65
AVOCA	21	30	12	15	57
THE ENTRANCE	21	18	24	7	49
BERKELEY VALE	21	36	10	1	47
EAST GOSFORD	18	12	24	7	43
KANWAL	21	12	14	10	36
TOUKLEY	21	21	12	3	36
GOSFORD CITY	21	3	6	3	12

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

BPL ROUND 8 FIXTURES

WEDNESDAY 8 MAY (Deferred from Round 2)			
EAST GOSFORD	vs	WYOMING	Pluim Park 1 (8pm)
SATURDAY 11 MAY			
TERRIGAL	vs	KILLARNEY DISTRICT	Pluim Park 1 (5pm)
SUNDAY 12 MAY			
TOUKLEY	vs	KANWAL	Harry Moore Oval
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	vs	AVOCA	James Browne Oval
WOONGARRAH	vs	GOSFORD CITY	Hamlyn Terrace
WYOMING	vs	THE ENTRANCE	Alan Davidson Park
BERKELEY VALE	vs	EAST GOSFORD	Mingara Club Oval

DIVISION ONE

FIRST GRADE SCORES

KINCUMBER	4	DOYALSON	1
BUDGEWOI	4	WOY WOY	2
UMINA	1	KARIONG	0
WYONG	3	OURIMBAH	1
GWANDALAN	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>
UMINA	3	3	0	0	16	1	15	9
WYONG	4	3	0	1	13	6	7	9
KINCUMBER	3	3	0	0	9	3	6	9
OURIMBAH	3	2	0	1	8	5	3	6
KARIONG	4	2	0	2	7	5	2	6
BUDGEWOI	4	2	0	2	10	7	3	6
WOY WOY	4	1	0	3	9	9	0	3
GWANDALAN	3	0	0	3	3	12	-9	0
DOYALSON	4	0	0	4	1	28	-27	0