



Women's Premier League Round 8 Review

Summary:

Round Eight of the Womens Premier League saw 22 goals across five matches, with Terrigal United and East Gosford playing out a SEVEN goal thriller. Elsewhere, Southern and Ettalong United and Kanwal secured victories to further their lead at the top of the WPL table, whilst a hat-trick to Woongarrah's Emma Hurley helped the Cats secure their second victory of the season. Neither Umina nor Toukley could be separated at Umina Oval as they shared the points.

Round Eight Results:

Umina United SC	1	1	Toukley FC
Gosford City FC	0	3	Southern & Ettalong United FC
Kincumber Roos FC	2	3	Kanwal FC
Kariong United FC	1	4	Woongarrah FC
Terrigal United FC	3	4	East Gosford FC

Umina United SC 1 vs 1 Toukley FC:

Goals: Hayley Fulwood (UMI), Lily Williams (TOU).

Third placed Umina welcomed eighth placed Toukley to Umina Oval on Sunday as they looked to close the gap to the top two sides on the WPL ladder. After a tough 4-1 defeat to leaders Kanwal last weekend, Umina were desperate to return to winning ways in Sundays fixture. Toukley, on the other hand, headed into this match on the back of a 7-0 victory over Kariong United, their first victory of the season. They didn't start this match like a side that had only won one game this season, as they continuously applied pressure to the Umina defensive unit, denied a goal by both the woodwork and some brilliant saves from Umina keeper Sam Fulwood. Despite a substantial number of opportunities Toukley were unable to find the lead as the teams were locked at 0-0 heading into half time.

As the sides emerged for the second half it was apparent that Umina were more up for the match than they had been in the first half, however a defensive mix up saw them gift Toukley the opening goal after 50 minutes, with Lily Williams finding the net for the Gunners. Umina did manage a rather quick reply, as Hayley Fulwood grabbed a goal back to restore parity, setting the match up for an exciting finish. Both sides pushed for a winner and the Eagles probably would have found one were it not for a great save from Toukley keeper Chloe Payne with only five minutes to play. The save proved crucial as Toukley held on for a hard-earned point in what was their fifth draw of the season.

Next up for the Gunners is a trip to 9th placed Woongarrah, whilst Umina travel to face the East Gosford Rams at Hylton Moore Oval, with both matches taking place on Sunday afternoon.

Gosford City FC 0 vs 3 Southern and Ettalong United FC:

Goals: Tahlor Thackray x2 (SEU), Natalie Waddell (SEU).

Gosford City and Southern and Ettalong United faced off at Gavenlock Oval in what was billed as the match of the round from the weekends Womens Premier League action. The Dragons jumped to fourth on the ladder in recent weeks thanks to back-to-back wins, whilst Southern continue to put pressure on leaders Kanwal, currently unbeaten since last facing the Bulls some six weeks ago. Southern started the match with serious intent, threatening on a number of occasions throughout the opening 10 minutes without finding the net, however their lead was established in the 15th minute. From a direct free-kick, top scorer Tahlor Thackray squared the ball to an unmarked Natalie Waddell who found the back of the net from the best part of 20-25 metres out. After conceding early, Gosford managed to get a foothold back in the game as they created a number of scoring opportunities themselves as the first half wore on, however the Lions defensive set-up coupled with a number of quality saves from keeper Bec Arnfield meant the score remained 1-0 at the break.

Gosford City knew they had to come out in the second half in search of a goal that would see them back into the contest, however in doing so they would leave themselves open to the counter attack. Although looking threatening in the early stages of the second half, the Dragons continued to struggle to find a way past the Southern defensive set up, and after 65 minutes they conceded a second, with Tahlor Thackray getting on the scoresheet for her 10th of the season, sending her to the top of the WPL scoring charts. After being played through on goal, Thackray showed great awareness to chip an advancing Gosford City goalkeeper to all but seal the three points for her side. Some ten minutes later she would have the opportunity to put the match to bed after Emma Woodger was adjudged to have been fouled in the penalty area, with Thackray stepping up and converting the penalty for her second and Southern's third to secure the win.

Southern coach Craig Thackray was pleased with his sides ability to hold onto the ball in what was a very physical match: 'All in all, a very energetic game from both sides, with some handy passages of possession allowing us to assert some dominance on the game and result'. Gosford City coach Pete Edwards was left to rue missed opportunities, adding: 'We just couldn't score, and both their goalkeeper and their central defenders had great games. Credit to Southern, they are a tough team with some really top players'.

Southern face another road trip this weekend as they head north to face Kincumber, whilst Gosford City head out west to face winless Kariong at Kariong Oval.

Kincumber Roos FC 2 vs 3 Kanwal FC:

Goals: Sophie Piltz (KIN), Emily Smith (KIN), Hayley Ballard (KAN), Jennifer Reeves (KAN), Jasmin Wing (KAN).

Kincumber welcomed competition leaders Kanwal to frost reserve on Sunday afternoon as they looked to build on last weekend's big 3-0 win over East Gosford. Kanwal headed into the match as the only remaining side in the competition yet to taste defeat, with 5 wins and two draws from their opening seven matches. Kanwal looked the more threatening of the two sides early on as they enjoyed plenty of the ball in the opening exchanges however Kincumber managed to strike the first blow, with Sophie Piltz scoring from a well taken free kick on the edge of the penalty area. It was a great start from the Roos who had soaked up plenty of early pressure to start the match and it only got better as they doubled their lead only minutes later! Emily Smith finished off a great team move, reacting first to her initial shot that came back off the woodwork to give her side a 2-0 lead against the WPL front-runners.

Kincumber emerged from the sheds for the second half knowing that Kanwal were going to come at them hard, and that they did, but the Roos defence remained resolute, limiting them to half chances. However, the Bulls eventually found a way back into the match thanks to their two in form Hayley's, Green and Ballard, combining well to see Ballard net her 7th of the season to bring her side within one goal. After a big save from Kanwal keeper Adina Hawkins saw the score remain 2-1, they went down the other end and levelled the match, with Jennifer Reeves scoring her second of the year. The momentum was well and truly with the Bulls now and it felt like only a matter of time before they found the winner, and in the 78th minute Jasmine Wing scored the winner after a well delivered corner from Jennifer Reeves to see the match finish 3-2.

Kincumber coach John Manners added that he though the match was a typical 'game of two halves': 'The first half was a coach's dream, we came out and put two early goals on the competition leaders, however the second half was a coach's nightmare. We knew Kanwal would come out strong, they scored an early goal to bring us back down to earth before they just ran over the top of us towards the end'. Kanwal manager Ben Raychaudhuri added: 'It was a typical fight to the death type of game that is always the case when these two clubs clash. The Kanwal girls were forced to dig deep and fight for the win, their class in the end prevailing'. Kanwal head to Terrigal United this weekend, whilst Kincumber face the other member of the WPL's top two in Southern and Ettalong United.

Kariong United FC 1 vs 4 Woongarrah FC:

Goals: Amy Sutas (KAR), Emma Hurley x3 (WGA), Tarra Southern (WGA).

Ninth placed Woongarrah headed to Kariong Oval to face tenth placed Kariong United on Sunday afternoon as both sides looked for competition points to try and kick-start their seasons. The hosts are yet to pick up a point from their opening seven matches, whilst Woongarrah have managed a win and a draw over the opening seven weeks of the campaign.

Woongarrah were to prove too much for luckless Kariong, as a hat-trick to Emma Hurley and one to Tarra Southern proved enough to secure the three competition points, despite Kariong finding the back of the net through Amy Sutas, her first of the season. The three goals took the Wildcats top-scorer Hurley to five for the season, an impressive tally.

Kariong host Gosford City this weekend, whilst Woongarrah return home to Hamlyn Terrace to face Toukley on Sunday afternoon.

Terrigal United FC 3 vs 4 East Gosford FC:

Goals: Kayla Vanderfield (TER), Indiana Moyes (TER), Chloe Smith (TER), Kim Meyer x2 (EGO), Sophie Holliday (EGO), Ella Girling (EGO).

Terrigal United hosted East Gosford at Duffy's Oval on Sunday afternoon as they looked to extend their unbeaten run to three matches. The Rams, by comparison, were looking to return to winning ways after consecutive losses for the first time this season. Terrigal managed all the early running in this fixture, opening the scoring through top-scorer Kayla Vanderfield in the 11th minute with a well taken back post finish. Terrigal then doubled their lead on 25 minutes after a well weighted through-ball sent Indiana Moyes through on goal, making no mistake as she calmly rounded the keeper to double the lead for her side. A great opening 25 minutes for the Terrigal side would only get better as they added a third goal thanks to Chloe Smith to see them into an extremely commanding position as the first half wore down. However, East Gosford have shown their character already on occasions this season, and they managed to somehow find a way back into the contest, with goals from Kim Meyer and Sophie Holliday in the remaining 10 or so minutes of the first half ensuring the game was very much in the balance at half time. A big shout out must go to Holliday, who was playing her last game for the Rams after being called up into the Mariners Women's side for the remainder of the season, a tremendous achievement!

East Gosford returned from half-time on a mission to salvage what looked like an unsalvageable scoreline mid-way through the first half, and a goal to Ella Girling shortly after the restart saw them draw level. The second half was a very even affair with both sides having great chances to win the match, with the best probably falling to East Gosford's Naomi Abbott, however she couldn't convert. However, after falling three goals behind early in the match, the Rams managed to find the winner late on thanks to a second of the match from Kim Meyer, and what a way to seal it! The ball fell to her on the outside of the box and from the moment the shot left her boot it looked destined to find the goal to see the match finish an unlikely 4-3 in favour of East Gosford.

After what was one of the more eventful matches of the 2019 season, Rams coach Ken Donnelly added: 'Top game but I'm sure I aged a bit watching it. A huge improvement from last week'. Both sides are at home this weekend, with East Gosford hosting Umina United and Terrigal hosting competition leaders Kanwal.

Round Nine Fixtures:

Sun 9/6 2:30pm	East Gosford FC	Umina United SC	Hylton Moore Oval
Sun 9/6 2:30pm	Kariong United FC	Gosford City FC	Kariong Oval
Sun 9/6 3:00pm	Kincumber Roos FC	Southern and Ettalong United FC	Frost Reserve
Sun 9/6 3:00pm	Woongarra FC	Toukley FC	Hamlyn Terrace
Sun 9/6 3:00pm	Terrigal United FC	Kanwal FC	Duffy's Oval

WPL First Grade Ladder



WPL Top Goal Scorers:

Goals	Player
11	Tahlor Thackray (SEU).
9	Kelly Hogan (EGO), Brittni Nicol (GOS).
8	Hayley Green (KAN).
7	Michelle Brett (GOS), Hayley Ballard (KAN).
6	Kate Styles (UMI), Kayla Vanderfield (TER).
5	Kate Cheyne (TER), Brooke Samuel (TOU), Emma Hurley (WGA).
4	Jordyn Toms-Wedge (KIN), Hayley Fulwood (UMI), Sophie Piltz (KIN), Emily Smith (KIN).
3	Michelle Bertucci (KAN), Abbie Dickson (UMI), Elaine Delaney (SEU), Lily Williams (TOU), Kim Meyer (EGO), Sophie Holliday (EGO), Ella Girling (EGO), Indiana Moyes (TER).
2	Sabrina Zappavigna (UMI), Jessica Dominello (GOS), Erica Laverty (TOU), Tatum Ansiewicz (SEU), Emma Woodger (SEU), Emily Trengrove (KAR), Gemma Clegg (TOU), Amber Mangan (UMI), Jennifer Reeves (KAN).
1	Larissa Bundy (KAN), Clare Ashby (KAR), Sheri Moody (EGO), Michelle Perks (EGO), Hannah Vincent (TOU), Megan Tully (KIN), Elly Bibby (TER), Emma Power (TER), Abbey Muspratt (GOS), Danielle Harris (UMI), Nyah Small (WGA), Angela Cabarrus (WGA), Alana Currie (SEU), Tiegan Kavanagh (TER), Karen Doutty (TER), Kim Meyer (EGO), Jennifer Tatum (KAN), Grace Bryant (GOS), Marley Harrison (TOU), Sally Oman (UMI), Casey O'Hara (TER), Shannon Arnfield (SEU), Charlotte Steed (SEU), Danielle Helou (WGA), Georgi Rudd (GOS), Erin Blanchfield (TOU), Natalie Waddell (SEU), Jasmin Wing (KAN), Amy Sutas (KAR), Tarra Southern (WGA), Chloe Smith (TER).