

Premium Sporting Products

2019 BATTLEWIN PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 17 (20/21 JULY)

By Alistair Kennedy & Lachlan Herd

FIRST GRADE SCORES

BERKELEY VALE	5	TOUKLEY	0
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	5	THE ENTRANCE	1
WOONGARRAH	2	WYOMING	0
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	9	GOSFORD CITY	0
AVOCA	3	KANWAL	0
TERRIGAL	2	EAST GOSFORD	0

SUMMARY

- Round 17 of the Battlewin Premier League saw five of the six matches played between teams in the top seven places and those in the bottom five. All results went as expected with Killarney, Berkeley Vale and Southern-Ettalong all having big-margin wins; Avoca recording a fourth straight win despite playing two-thirds of their match against Kanwal with 10 players; and Terrigal being stretched before downing East Gosford. The only match between title contenders was between the two promoted clubs with Woongarra grabbing a crucial win over Wyoming.
- With five rounds to play in the regular season of the competition it's worthwhile having a look at the various permutations as the 12 clubs look at the three targets to be aimed: first place on the table and the 2019 League Championship; the five semi-final places and avoiding the two relegation spots.

League Championship: Killarney District are still favourites to take out a fourth straight title and join Wyoming (1975-1978) as the only club to have achieved this feat. In the past three seasons they've won with margins of 11 points in 2016, 17 in 2017 and 9 in 2018 (from 22 matches) however they're finding it tougher so far this season and are currently sharing first place with Southern-Ettalong. They do have a game in hand after their Round 14 match against Toukley was abandoned and they'll be looking to open up a three-point lead when the two teams meet at Plum Park on Wednesday night and extend their +37 goal difference at the same time.

Semi-Finals: Seven teams remain in contention for the five-team finals series places led by Killarney and Southern on 38 points through to Wyoming and Avoca who sit in equal sixth place on 30 points. Terrigal in equal third on 34 points have the toughest draw with four of their five remaining matches against top seven teams. Killarney, Southern, Woongarra and Avoca meet three of the top seven while Berkeley Vale and Wyoming only meet two.

Relegation: As has been the case for many years the bottom two teams will be relegated to Division One for the 2020 season. However unlike previous seasons where the bottom two teams in the first grade completion went down this time it will be based on the club championship which is now calculated by multiplying first grade points by 3, reserve grade by 2 and Under 21s by 1. Gosford City, who are last in all three grades, although mathematically capable of staying up have accumulated only 27 club championship points from a possible 306 will be the first club to be relegated. This leaves the four other clubs in the bottom five places to fight it out to avoid the other relegation spot. They are Toukley (91 points), The Entrance (97), Kanwal (107) and East Gosford (121). Toukley with four of their remaining matches against top seven teams look most likely to go down although much will depend upon results from the five remaining matches between these clubs.

- The battle for promotion from Division One looks like going down to the wire, complicated by the fact that some five of the nine clubs still have byes to come. Currently Umina and Woy Woy are in the prime positions opening up the possibility of all three Peninsula clubs being in Premier League for the first time in 30 years.

BERKELEY VALE 5 TOUKLEY 0

- With their hopes of avoiding relegation depending on as many Club Championship points as possible Toukley appear to have chosen to concentrate on the two lower grades with the aim of gaining the maximum nine points from wins there and then taking their chances with understrength teams in first grade. The strategy paid off with wins in both Reserve Grade and Under 21s in their Saturday encounter at Harry Moore Oval with Berkeley Vale.
- In First Grade the young Gunners team fought hard throughout the 90 minutes but were never going to be a match for the quality and experience of Berkeley Vale. The visitors took the lead in the 18th with Reece Caira setting up for in-form striker Troy Mumford to score. Five minutes later Caira was again the creator, this time finding Brenton Westley who beat the off-side trap, and sidestepped the Toukley keeper to double the lead. Berkeley looked to have gone 3-0 up from an own goal but, after discussion between the officials it was disallowed.
- Toukley scrambled hard for the first period of the second half without conceding but without creating any serious chances themselves before Mumford pounced onto a through ball for his second goal and followed it up with a powerfully driven free-kick to bring up his fifth MPL hat-trick on record. Defender Damien Lobb then finished the scoring in the 81st minute after a goalmouth scramble.
- The Gunners now meet Killarney District at Pluim Park on Wednesday night for a replay of their abandoned Round 14 match before a pair of local derbies, both away, against Kanwal and Woongarra. Berkeley Vale take on East Gosford at Hylton Moore Park.

SOUTHERN-ETTALONG 5 THE ENTRANCE 1

- After drawing level on points with competition leaders Killarney last weekend, Southern looked to continue their run of good form when they hosted The Entrance on Sunday afternoon. The home side were aiming for a repeat of the 4-1 victory they produced when the sides met earlier in the season, and they made a great start when Jacob Caban opened the scoring after 10 minutes with his sixth goal of the season. Only 10 minutes later the Lions lead was to be doubled after striker Keith Gumbs found the net for the 18th time this season as he hones in on a second BPL Golden Boot title.

- The 2-0 lead was enough to see the home side into the half-time break in control of the fixture as they looked to wrap up the three points early in the second period, however it was The Entrance who were to strike the first blow of the second half with Mahkye Brownlee scoring to bring his side back within a goal in the 65th minute. In danger of letting their status of joint competition leaders slip, Southern's James Steer took control of the fixture, scoring twice between the 75th and 80th minute to see the score blow out to 4-1 in favour of the hosts.
- After netting his 18th in the first half, Keith Gumbs added his 19th of the season with just five minutes to play as his productive season continues, ensuring his side wrapped up the three points with a comprehensive 5-1 victory. The Lions head to Pluim Park this weekend to face an in-form Avoca side whilst The Entrance host Wyoming, with both matches scheduled for Sunday afternoon.

WOONGARRAH 2 WYOMING 0

- With their mid-season mini-slump behind them Woongarra have shown once and for all that they are a serious Premier League club with this hard-fought win over Wyoming in the battle of the Big Cats at Hamlyn Terrace.
- Woongarra dominated from the kick-off and mounted a series of attacks down both wings. The breakthrough came in the 21st minute from inside the penalty box when Sam Bettison played on following a strong penalty shout and pounced on the loose ball to score. The second goal, scored seven minutes from the break, came in a similar positional manner with a missed clearance from the Wyoming defence falling for Chris Gavin to score from point-blank range. The Wildcats should have extended their lead but a combination of wayward shooting and several excellent saves by Tigers' keeper Thomas Coventry kept the score at 2-0 until full-time. Wyoming did control play for the last quarter of the match but, apart from a big unsuccessful penalty shout, the Woongarra defence held firm.
- Hamlyn Terrace is proving to be a fortress for the Wildcats with just two losses and three draws in the past three seasons and just one loss (to Killarney) and a draw (with East Gosford) in this, their first Premier League season. With three or their remaining five games at home form could prove vital in their hopes of reaching the BPL play-offs in their first season. They will certainly be confident next Saturday when they meet Gosford City at Gavenlock Oval. After three straight losses the Tigers will be desperate to get back to winning ways when they travel north to play The Entrance at Pat Morley Oval.

KILLARNEY DISTRICT 9 GOSFORD CITY 0

- As the scoreline suggests this result was a fair reflection of the two teams' relative positions on the competition table with first playing last. Gosford did well to hold the margin down to 2-0 until just before the break and then conceded four goals in the last 10 minutes for the score to break out. The margin was the largest ever for Killarney in the Premier League competition passing their 9-1 win over Wyoming in 2016. Unlike that previous win when Tim Knight set the MPL record of seven individual goals this time around the goals were shared between seven different players with Blake Silvers the only multiple scorer with his second MPL hat-trick. For the first time in at least a month all three Halls were in the team, and all three scored. Todd Leach, making a guest appearance, rolled back the clock with a goal while Sam Kirk, and Knight scored the remaining two.
- The Terriers have a busy week with their abandoned Round 14 match against Toukley to be played on Wednesday at Pluim Park 1 before looking to avenge their first round loss to Terrigal at Duffys Oval next Sunday. It was a very disappointing day for the young Dragons

who had put in some gritty recent performances. It won't get any easier next Sunday when they meet a Woongarra team that getting back to the consistently strong form that they showed early in the season. The match is at Gavenlock Oval.

AVOCA 3 KANWAL 0

- Avoca headed north to Wadalba Sports Complex on Sunday afternoon looking to add to their three straight victories keeping them well and truly in the hunt for a finals position. Without midfielder Stuart Adams, the Sharks yielded the first opportunity of the match after Kanwal fullback Jackson Torpy beat two defenders on the edge of the penalty area before his cross was deflected just wide of the near post.
- The game then fell into somewhat of a holding pattern as both sides looked to gain the advantage before Jason Cozens found himself in behind, bearing down on Sharks 'keeper Brendan Avis in the Avoca goal in the 32nd minute. However, before the Bulls striker could get his shot away Avoca's Jackson Carr dragged him down, a challenge deemed the denial of a clear and obvious goal-scoring opportunity for which Carr was subsequently dismissed. Kanwal couldn't convert from the direct free-kick, the last chance of note from a competitive first-half.
- Kanwal looked to capitalise on the numerical advantage that they held over their opponents in the second half, with Jason Cozens going close a mere five minutes into the second period after winning a header from an attacking corner only to direct it over the bar. Eight minutes later Cozens again found himself with an opportunity to open the scoring, beating his defender but having his attempt pushed away by Avis at his near post. Avoca then moved the ball up the pitch, before a ball into the penalty area was cleared to James Monie just outside the area who took one touch before letting fly with a volley that nestled into the far corner of the goal to give the 10 men Sharks the lead.
- Avoca substitute Alex Uy was the next to go close to finding the net after escaping his defender down the right, with his shot taking a deflection that forced Kanwal keeper Lachlan Raychaudhuri to scramble to push the effort behind for a corner. The resulting corner saw Shane Knight rise above the pack however he could only direct his effort over the bar, a result he wouldn't replicate a mere three minutes later. In a near identical situation, Knight again won his header, this time directing it powerfully into the Kanwal goal to double his side's lead.
- Despite being reduced to ten men for the best part of 50 minutes, the visitors began to run over the home side, adding a third goal to their tally in the 80th minute after a free-kick from Shane Knight bobbed in front of Kanwal 'keeper Raychaudhuri causing him to spill the ball out to Jake Elder for the easiest of finishes to wrap up the win for the Sharks.
- Avoca face another big match in their quest for a spot in the Battlewin Premier Leagues top five when they face second placed Southern and Ettalong United at Plum Park on Sunday afternoon. Kanwal host Toukley this weekend in a matchday that could see them put a significant gap between themselves and the relegation places.

TERRIGAL 2 EAST GOSFORD 0

- After last weekend's loss to Woongarra at Hamlyn Terrace, Terrigal looked to return to the winning form that had seen them positioned as the nearest rival of both Killarney and Southern and Ettalong United at the top of the Battlewin Premier League table, whilst the East Gosford Rams looked to bounce back following a disappointing loss to Kanwal two weeks ago. The hosts welcomed back both Daniel Bird and Daniel Tuddenham for Sunday's

fixture with the former making an immediate impact on the game, finding the net in the 22nd minute to give his side a valuable lead.

- Bird was again the provider for his side in the second half as he found the net in the 68th minute to double his sides lead, whilst also taking his personal tally to three for the season. The brace proved enough to see Terrigal keep hold of third position, whilst more importantly extending the gap between themselves and sixth place to four points as the race for a finals position remains as tight as ever.
- Terrigal coach Martyn Griffiths was pleased with how his side responded to last weekend's disappointing result, adding: 'A good win for us and always pleasing to keep a clean sheet, as we have worked and spoken about our defensive shape throughout the week. Daniel Bird and Daniel Tuddenham have both been out for several weeks and having them back for the run in, and playing well on the weekend, is massive for us'.
- Terrigal look ahead to next weekend's blockbuster match with Killarney, in which they upset the defending premiers 2-1 at Plum Park in their last meeting, whilst the Rams host an in-form Berkeley Vale outfit also gunning for a finals position.

battlewin POINTS 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>
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	16	12	2	2	53	16	37	38
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	17	12	2	3	49	31	18	38
TERRIGAL	17	10	4	3	51	27	27	34
WOONGARRAH	17	10	4	3	38	30	8	34
BERKELEY VALE	17	10	2	5	36	20	16	32
WYOMING	17	10	0	7	43	28	15	30
AVOCA	17	9	3	5	40	36	4	30
TOUKLEY	16	4	2	10	23	43	-20	14
EAST GOSFORD	17	3	4	10	15	30	-15	13
THE ENTRANCE	17	3	2	12	19	45	-26	11
KANWAL	17	2	4	11	22	36	-14	10
GOSFORD CITY	17	1	1	15	18	66	-48	4

battlewin PL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

	<i>P</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Reserve</i>	<i>U21</i>	<i>Points</i>
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	49	114	80	41	235
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	50	114	68	31	213
TERRIGAL	51	102	68	32	202
WYOMING	51	90	54	39	183
WOONGARRAH	51	102	26	30	158
AVOCA	51	90	32	32	154
BERKELEY VALE	51	96	42	11	149
EAST GOSFORD	51	39	62	20	121
KANWAL	51	30	56	21	107

THE ENTRANCE	51	33	46	18	97
TOUKLEY	50	42	40	9	91
GOSFORD CITY	51	12	8	7	27

battlewin LEADING GOAL SCORERS

19	Keith Gumbs (Southern-Ettalong)
14	Troy Mumford (Berkeley Vale)
11	Jesse Parnell (Gosford City)
10	Jared McNee (Wyoming), Pat Mills (Wyoming), Erik Riquelme (Terrigal)
9	Matt Hall (Wyoming), Kane Woolston (Woongarra)
8	Stuart Adams (Avoca), Ben Flakus (Terrigal), Alex Govorcic (Woongarra), Tim Knight (Killarney District), Daniel Rodger (Killarney District), Ben Runge (Woongarra)
7	James Caban (Southern-Ettalong), Ben Farrell (Wyoming), Ben Green (Avoca), James Steer (Southern-Ettalong), Cameron Wilkinson (Terrigal)
6	Jacob Caban (Southern-Ettalong), Brendan Hall (Killarney District), Matt Hall (Killarney District), Blake Silvers (Killarney District), Rob Walton (East Gosford)
5	Sam Dooley (Wyoming), Jai Kelly (Toukley), Matt Kenny (The Entrance), Damien Lobb (Berkeley Vale), Anthony Pace (Terrigal), Troy Runge (Toukley), Ryan Walker (Kanwal)
4	Ethan Hall (Berkeley Vale), Steve Harpur (East Gosford), Ashley Henderson (Woongarra), Beycan Irmako (Terrigal), Josh Menzies (Terrigal), Ryan Oehm (Kanwal), Oliver Twyford (Avoca), Brenton Westley (Berkeley Vale)

UPCOMING BPL MATCHES

WEDNESDAY 24 JULY (ROUND 14 DEFERRED MATCH)			
TOUKLEY	vs	KILLARNEY DISTRICT	Pluim Park 1 (7.45pm)

SUNDAY 28 JULY (ROUND 18)			
GOSFORD CITY	vs	WOONGARRAH	Gavenlock Oval
EAST GOSFORD	vs	BERKELEY VALE	Hylton Moore Oval
THE ENTRANCE	vs	WYOMING	Pat Morley Oval
KANWAL	vs	TOUKLEY	Wadalba Sports Complex
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	vs	TERRIGAL	EDSACC North
AVOCA	vs	SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	Pluim Park 2

DIVISION ONE

FIRST GRADE SCORES

WOY WOY	5	OURIMBAH	1
UMINA	4	WYONG	1
KARIONG	2	KINCUMBER	1
GWANDALAN	10	DOYALSON	1
BUDGEWOI	Bye		

DIVISION ONE COMPETITION TABLE

	<i>P</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>GF</i>	<i>GA</i>	<i>GD</i>	<i>PTS</i>
WOY WOY	13	9	1	3	1	50	21	19	28
UMINA	12	6	2	3	2	40	18	22	22
KINCUMBER	12	6	2	4	2	25	17	8	20
KARIONG	13	6	2	5	1	22	20	2	20
BUDGEWOI	12	5	3	4	2	38	29	9	18
OURIMBAH	12	6	0	6	2	37	34	3	18
GWANDALAN	12	5	2	5	2	38	24	14	17
WYONG	13	4	4	5	1	26	27	-1	16
DOYALSON	13	0	0	13	1	8	94	-86	0

DIVISION ONE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

	<i>Played</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Reserve</i>	<i>Total</i>
UMINA	24	66	66	132
WOY WOY	26	84	34	118
BUDGEWOI	24	54	56	110
KINCUMBER	24	60	38	98
WYONG	26	48	44	92
GWANDALAN	24	51	40	91
KARIONG	26	60	16	76
OURIMBAH	24	54	20	74
DOYALSON	26	0	4	4