

Premium Sporting Products

2019 BATTLEWIN PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 2 (29/30 MARCH)

By Alistair Kennedy & Lachlan Herd

FIRST GRADE SCORES

TERRIGAL	4	KANWAL	1
GOSFORD CITY	4	TOUKLEY	4
WOONGARRAH	2	THE ENTRANCE	0
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	6	SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	0
BERKELEY VALE	3	AVOCA	1
EAST GOSFORD vs WYOMING - Postponed			

SUMMARY

- After two rounds in the 2019 Battlewin Premier League last season's top three teams, Killarney District, Berkeley Vale and Terrigal share top spot with two wins each. They've been joined by BPL debutants Woongarra. Killarney and Terrigal were especially impressive scoring 6 and 4 goals respectively against Top Five opponents from last season.
- The match between East Gosford and Wyoming due to have been played at Plum Park 3 on Friday night has been deferred until 8 May.
- After the luxury of playing on the superb Plum Park surfaces for the opening two rounds the competition comes down to earth, often literally, with the opening of Council grounds this weekend. Highlights will be a couple of interesting derbies with Kanwal and Woongarra meeting on Saturday night while Gosford City and Wyoming clash on Sunday afternoon.

FFA CUP

- In a disappointing week, eight of the 13 CCF clubs have been eliminated in Round 3 of the FFA Cup. BPL teams Terrigal and Killarney District together with Umina and Gwandalan from Division One all recorded wins and progress to Round 4 while Berkeley Vale's Round 3 match against Marayong has been deferred until 14 April. Central Coast United's deferred match against Hazelbrook will be played tonight (Tuesday 2 April) – weather permitting. Check out the CCU Facebook page for Les Hornery's Livestream

TERRIGAL 4 KANWAL 1

- Terrigal have made a seamless transition between seasons with back-to-back wins and scoring 10 goals in the process. They hit the ground running and would have scored in the eighth minute but for a brilliant double save by Kanwal's keeper Aaron Hammond. Just minutes later Erik Riquelme scored to give Terrigal the lead. Although the beach boys were in control for most of the half they couldn't extend the lead while Kanwal came close to equalising through counter-attacks. Terrigal stepped up a gear or two in the second period and 10 minutes in were 4-0 up with goals to substitute Beycan Irmako (his first for his new

club after switching from East Gosford), Chris Altuneg and Ben Flakus. The Bulls did score a late consolation through Ryan Walker.

- Commenting on the match Kanwal coach Brad Porter said "We were completely outclassed. Terrigal were better in every department and I expect them to push the likes of Killarney, Berkeley Vale and Woongarah all the way this season. 4-1 flattered us in the end. It's a wake-up call for us if we want to compete at this level".

GOSFORD CITY 4 TOUKLEY 4

- A thoroughly entertaining match with four goals in each half and plenty of flowing movement from both teams. Midway through the first half Toukley had what looked like a match-winning 3-0 lead with goals to Michael Rose, Mitch Harper and Troy Runge. Gosford then hit back twice inside that crucial five-minute period either side of half-time, both goals being scored by Jesse Parnell. The match remained in the balance during an even second half before a frantic last 10 minutes saw Gosford equalise through Jackson Jacobs then within two minutes take a 4-3 lead with Parnell completing his hat-trick. Before the Gosford celebrations had died down Toukley struck back with substitute Jamie McIntyre equalising.
- Errol Baker the Gosford coach said "We had a very disjointed start to the match, finding it hard to string effective attacking options together and so we struggled in defence turning the ball over in poor areas. A three-goal deficit was a fair indication of how we were misfiring. At 3-0 down the boys weren't out of contention and finding that goal just before the break kept them in the game. A few easy tweaks at half-time had the boys ready to put on a second-half show that was worth the price of admission. In my opinion the draw was a fair result. The squad will take time to get it right and find the consistency needed and I think we are very close."
- There's always been plenty of passion in Gosford/Wyoming derbies over the years and the mass exodus of players to the Tigers is sure to make next Sunday's clash at Gavenlock Oval, the first derby since 2016, a very interesting encounter. Toukley have their biggest challenge to date when they meet Killarney District at EDSACC North.

WOONGARRAH 2 THE ENTRANCE 0

- Friday night saw the newly promoted Woongarah Wildcats face off with The Entrance Bateau Bay FC in what proved to be a keenly contested match from both sides. Woongarah were looking to notch up their second win in as many starts in what would be a great start to their first ever season in the Mens top flight competition. Meanwhile, The Entrance were looking to bounce back from last week's disappointing 2-1 loss to Toukley and grab their first points of the 2019 season.
- Woongarah started the stronger of the two sides, with striker Kane Woolston managing to sniff-out a half chance in the 10th minute, however under pressure from The Entrance defenders his rushed effort was sent over the bar. The Entrance began to grow into the game, seemingly woken by Woolstons chance early on, and Zac Anastas rifled the ball into the net with a great finish in the 16th minute, only for the referee and linesman to call it out for offside. Only minutes later they had another chance to open the scoring as Jayden Nakhoul broke free down the right, however bearing down on goal he could only send his finish straight at the keeper.
- The breakthrough came in the 30th minute courtesy of dangerous striker Kane Woolston, as he let fly with a brilliant volley leaving The Entrance keeper Matt Tancred with no chance. The Wildcats had enjoyed more of the ball in the first half and the goal was probably

deserved on the balance of play. Only minutes later they almost doubled their lead as midfielder Jamie Bartlett unleashed a stinging shot from outside the area, drawing an acrobatic save from Tancred.

- The sides headed to the sheds for halftime, with Woongarra in the ascendancy thanks to Kane Woolstons goal, however The Entrance came out firing in the second half, controlling the ball and not allowing the Wildcats to manage the game as they would have liked. Although, whilst controlling possession, it felt as if The Entrance were unable to find the cutting-edge required to break down a well organised Woongarra side, and in the 73rd minute they were made to pay as substitute Lachlan Jones slotted an easy finish past Tancred against the run of play to all but secure the points for the Wildcats. Woongarra were to have one last chance to find the net in the 90th minute as Jayden Rogers found himself free inside the area, but Matt Tancred was up to the task as he pushed the ball onto his near post and out for a corner, in what proved to be the last meaningful action of the match.
- Woongarra have made a very promising start to their first season in the BPL with convincing wins in both matches. They'll go into next Saturday night's derby against Kanwal, their first in Premier League, as favourites in what should be a hard-fought and aggressive encounter. The Entrance have a history of slow starts and will be looking to avoid the four-loss opening to the 2018 season in what will be difficult match against Berkeley Vale next Sunday. The games will be played at Bloodtree Oval with The Entrance being banned from hosting their scheduled home matches at Pat Morley Oval until early June as a disciplinary measure from an incident last season.

KILLARNEY DISTRICT 6 SOUTHERN-ETTALONG 0

- On their way to their three successive league championships Killarney District were beaten only three times in a total of 48 regular season matches. Two of the three, once in 2017 and again in 2018, were to Southern-Ettalong. Indeed, with a second-round draw in 2018 SEU became the only team that the Terriers didn't defeat last season, a fact that they were constantly reminded of by their southern rivals.
- These stats together with a 6-2 win by Southern in a pre-season trial clearly provided all the motivation needed as Killarney put away half a dozen unanswered goals in what coach Ackerley described as his team's best all-round performance in three years. After a disappointing 2018 season Daniel Rodger looks to be back in the form that saw him a strong challenger for the BPL Golden Boot in 2017. He opened the scoring in the 8th minute followed by two set-piece goals, the first a penalty by Tim Knight followed by a free-kick from Bryce 'Bruiser' Fielder. The remaining three goals, by brothers Ethan and Matt Hall, and an excellent team goal finished by Rodger, came in the second half.
- A confident Killarney will return to EDSACC next Sunday to take on Toukley looking for a repeat of their big wins over the Gunners last season. Southern will face another big test when they travel to Duffys Road against the very impressive Terrigal team.

BERKELEY VALE 3 AVOCA 1

- Plum Park One was the venue on Saturday night as Berkeley Vale looked to pick up their second win of the season against an Avoca side who were looking to kick-start their season after a tough first round match-up against the defending premiers Killarney. The first significant chance of the match appeared in the 13th minute, as Berkeley Vales centre-back Damien Lobb found himself in space in the 18-yard box, however in the rush to get his shot away, Lobb toe-poked the ball into the side-netting. The Wombats didn't have to wait long

to find the breakthrough though, as Michael Tawyer picked up the ball on the outside of the area and rifled a shot past keeper Brendan Avis. A phenomenal finish from the number ten, as he makes it two goals in as many games this season. Only minutes later, Berkeley striker Troy Mumford doubled the Wombats lead as the sides saw out the first half at one apiece.

- Only a few minutes of second half action had elapsed before Avoca were offered an avenue back into the game via the penalty spot. Avoca's Mitchell Harrison made sure from the spot, burying the ball in the bottom left hand corner of the net to bring the score back to 2-1. The game began to descend into a war of attrition, with a number of yellow cards being dished out by referee Trent Dickeson, before Mumford netted his second of the game to seal the win for Berkeley Vale. The goal once again came after some great work from Tawyer before he cut the ball back to Mumford who finished emphatically into the top left corner. Minutes later, Berkeley's Paul McGinley had the opportunity to kill off the game for good, but a last-ditch defensive challenge led to the number eight lifting his shot over the bar from inside the six-yard box.
- Troy Mumford was presented with a great opportunity to secure his hat-trick in the 84th minute as he broke free down the left flank, before Avoca keeper Brendan Avis managed to stand tall and block the strikers attempt to lift the ball over him and into the empty net. Avoca were throwing everything they had at the Berkeley Vale side in an attempt to salvage a point from the game, as James Monie unleashed a powerful shot that forced the Wombats keeper to parry onto his near post and out for a corner, in what was Avoca's last attack of the match. Brenton Westley managed to find the net in stoppage time with a deft chip over Brendan Avis, however it was correctly ruled out for offside and saw the referee call an end to proceedings, in what was a dominant display from last season's beaten grand-finalists.
- Berkeley head into round three of the Battlewin Premier League with six points from a possible six, as they face a trip to Bloodtree Oval to face winless The Entrance on Sunday afternoon. Avoca showed with their fightback against Berkeley Vale that they're not far off a win and will be looking for their first points against an East Gosford team that has been starved of match practice including this round's washout against Wyoming. The teams meet at Erina High School.

	<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	2	2	0	0	10	2	8	6
TERRIGAL	2	2	0	0	10	2	8	6
WOONGARRAH	2	2	0	0	7	1	6	6
BERKELEY VALE	2	2	0	0	6	1	5	6
TOUKLEY	2	1	1	0	6	5	1	4
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	2	1	0	1	3	8	-5	3
GOSFORD	2	0	1	1	5	10	-5	1
THE ENTRANCE	2	0	0	2	1	4	-3	0
WYOMING	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0
KANWAL	2	0	0	2	3	7	-4	0
EAST GOSFORD	1	0	0	1	1	5	-4	0
AVOCA	2	0	0	2	3	7	-4	0

4	Jesse Parnell (Gosford City)
3	Ben Flakus (Terrigal), Daniel Rodger (Killarney District), Cameron Wilkinson (Terrigal)
2	Bryce Fielder (Killarney District), Mitch Harrison (Avoca), Lachlan Jones (Woongarra), Brad McLean (Kanwal), Troy Mumford (Berkeley Vale), Erik Riquelme (Terrigal), Ben Runge (Woongarra), Troy Runge (Toukley), Michael Tawyer (Berkeley Vale), Kane Woolston (Woongarra)

BPL ROUND 3 FIXTURES
SATURDAY 6 APRIL

KANWAL	vs	WOONGARRAH	Wadalaba Sports Complex
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SUNDAY 7 APRIL

GOSFORD CITY	vs	WYOMING	Gavenlock Oval
THE ENTRANCE	vs	BERKELEY VALE	Bloodtree Oval
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	vs	TOUKLEY	EDSACC North
TERRIGAL	vs	SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	Duffy Oval
AVOCA	vs	EAST GOSFORD	Erina High School