

Premium Sporting Products

2019 BATTLEWIN PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 6 (28/29 APRIL)

By Alistair Kennedy & Lachlan Herd

FIRST GRADE SCORES

KILLARNEY DISTRICT	5	GOSFORD CITY	2
TERRIGAL	2	EAST GOSFORD	1
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	4	THE ENTRANCE	1
AVOCA	1	KANWAL	1
BERKELEY VAALE	2	TOUKLEY	0
WOONGARRAH	4	WYOMING	3

SUMMARY

- With each of the top five teams recording wins in Round 6 of the 2019 Battlewin Premier League the competition has now split into two with a five-point gap now opened up between fifth and sixth places. Kanwal have finally broken their duck, albeit with a single point from their drawn match against Avoca, just the third draw in the 36 matches to date in this season's BPL.
- The 2019 season sees a new format for promotion and relegation between the Premier League and Division One with the club championship being used rather than only first grade as has been the case historically. Points are weighted with first grade multiplied by 3, reserve grade by 2 and the new Under 21 competition by 1. The progressive points will now be shown in each report.
- Three FFA Cup matches are scheduled for this week. On Wednesday night (May 1st) both Berkeley Vale and Terrigal take on NPL1 clubs in a Round 4 double-header at Pluim Park. The Wombats meet APIA Leichhardt on Field 1 while Terrigal face off against Blacktown City on Field 2. In what will be a first Les Hornery from LIVE LOCAL SPORT has told us that he's hoping to stream both matches. Check out the Facebook page for further details.
- Then on Thursday night the Cup action moves to the Blue Mountains where Killarney District will play their Round 5 match against Hazelbrook FC at Summerhays Park, Winmalee. For those unwilling to brave the potentially chilly night air we understand that the match is likely to be livestreamed on the Hazelbrook FC Facebook page.
- The other local team in the Cup is Umina who play Pittwater RSL FC at Pluim Park on Wednesday week (May 8th). Good luck to all four clubs.

KILLARNEY DISTRICT 5 GOSFORD CITY 2

- Pluim Park played host to the 2019 'Coast Shelter Cup' as Gosford City took on Killarney District, as a big crowd packed into Pluim to raise funds for, and awareness of the great

work that Coast Shelter does in the local community. On the pitch it looked to be a massive task for Gosford City to overcome the high-flying Terriers, with Killarney yet to be beaten so far this season, and the Dragons unable to secure a victory this campaign. However, come kick-off the match was very competitive, with Gosford City certainly holding their own in the opening exchanges, and they found themselves on the end of the first real chance of the match in the 24th minute as striker Jesse Parnell found himself in some space. The young striker looked to curl the ball past Terriers keeper Andy Sheldon from outside the area, however his attempt sailed just over the bar. They would be left to rue this miss however, as Killarney went on to open the scoring a mere six minutes later, with midfielder John Whelpdale swinging in an inviting corner that was met high above the pack by Brendan Hall to powerfully head the Terriers into the lead.

- Gosford City dusted themselves down quickly after conceding the opening goal and in the 34th minute found themselves with the perfect opportunity to get back into the match, as the referee saw a foul in the penalty area, awarding them a penalty. Stephen Gibbs took on the responsibility but could only produce a relatively tame penalty, as Sheldon saved low to his right-hand side. The Terriers almost made them pay for the penalty miss, as Whelpdale rattled the crossbar with a freekick from 25 yards, however the danger was averted, and the sides headed into the break with only the solitary goal separating them.
- Although they had been competitive throughout the first half, the Gosford side would have known that an early second half goal would be needed if they were to emerge with any competition points from this fixture, and they got just that as Jesse Parnell made up for his earlier miss, volleying home from the edge of the area sending the deck full of Gosford supporters at Plum into raptures. It was a goal that was probably deserved on the balance of play throughout the first half, however it also appeared to shock the Terriers back to life as they took their game up a notch and began to really apply pressure upon the Gosford side, with and without the ball. That pressure told in the 58th minute as Matt Hall saw his glancing header nestle in the bottom right hand corner to regain the lead for the Terriers, and begin a 15 minute period the match that saw Killarney really turn up the heat on the young Gosford side. First, Tim Knight drew a good save from City keeper Jack Arigho, before minutes later both Blake Silvers and Daniel Moffett had their efforts saved spectacularly by the Dragons custodian on the back of recurrent corners, the last of which resulted in a ball being slid across the six yard box for a tap in for Brendan Hall, as he netted his second of the match to extend the lead to 3-1.
- Moments after the restart Killarney were again on the attack, with Arigho making another great save from Matt Hall, before the resulting corner found an unmarked Sam Kirk who somehow managed to miss the target with his headed effort. In a performance that would have certainly had him in the frame for man of the match accolades, Arigho was to make another great save from a Blake Silvers effort, his fourth in as many second half minutes, however he couldn't do anything about the fourth goal which arrived spectacularly in the 75th minute. John Whelpdale stepped up to a free kick from 25 yards, with his effort hitting the wall, however the rebound fell to him on the half volley as he lashed home a shot that was still rising as it crashed into the roof of the net.
- In a match that just kept producing, two minutes after the restart Ethan Hall had his glancing header strike the far right upright before Gosford took the ball down the other end, with a well disguised cut back finding Jesse Parnell for his second of the match, and sixth of the season, to make it 4-2. That wasn't the end of the scoring, however, with Brendan Hall cashing in on a quality ball to the back post, nodding in his third of the match.

- Next challenge for Killarney is their Round 5 FFA Cup match against Hazelwood FC on Thursday night before a home game against East Gosford at EDSACC North. A seventh straight win will give the Terriers their best ever start to a season. In 2016 they won their first four matches; in 2017 they won their first five; and in 2018 their first six. Then they can turn their attention on the best start on record, Budgewoi's eight straight in the 2008 season.
- The loss, and Kanwal's draw, leaves Gosford in last position on goal difference but – more seriously – they now sit 28 club championship points behind the safety of 10th place. The first grade team has shown what they are capable of in their two matches at Pluim Park and they'll have a positive approach when they take on struggling Avoca at headquarters on Sunday.

TERRIGAL 2 EAST GOSFORD 1

- On the back of their first win of the season last weekend against Kanwal, East Gosford welcomed Terrigal United to Hylton Moore Oval as they looked to knock off one of the competition favourites. Terrigal have started the year well and were looking to continue their momentum through the weekend heading into their crunch FFA Cup round four tie with Blacktown City on Wednesday night. Although not a ruthless performance, Terrigal managed to overcome the Rams thanks to two goals from Erik Riquelme, with the side consolidating their third-place position on the BPL ladder, remaining in touching distance of both Southern & Ettalong United and Killarney ahead of them. Steve Harpur managed a goal for East Gosford, however it was ultimately not enough as the Rams suffered another narrow defeat as they continue to try and get their season up and running.
- As mentioned above, Terrigal now look ahead to their FFA Cup clash with Blacktown City at Pluim Park on Wednesday night. It's sure to be a huge test for the side as they look to cause a boilover and knock out NPL level opposition. The match is one part of the NPL x BPL double header at Pluim Park tomorrow night, with Berkeley Vale hosting APIA Leichhardt Tigers FC.

SOUTHERN-ETTALONG 4 THE ENTRANCE 1

- Another excellent performance by Southern-Ettalong and their fifth win from six matches, with the only setback to date being their big loss to Killarney. The margin would have been larger but for a series of near-misses in a first half that ended 1-1. Once again the Caban brothers were on target with James scoring SEU's first two goals, one in each half, and Jacob the final one in the 75th minute. In between them the Lions in-form talisman Keith Gumbs took his season tally to six, just one behind Golden Boot leader Pat Mills.
- SEU's long-serving coach Dale Eggleton isn't getting carried away with his team's great start to the season. "All four goals came after some excellent team football and a concentration on good ball movement right across the field. It's still quite a young side and there's been a steady improvement over the past couple of seasons. We've had good runs in the past but then followed them by mid-season slumps. It's all about consistency from here on."
- Southern will be putting their second place on the line next Sunday when they meet Berkeley Vale in their third straight home match at James Browne Oval. Likewise The Entrance will be keen to open the gap between them and the lower end of the ladder when they play Kanwal at Wadalba.

AVOCA 1 KANWAL 1

- A tough and even encounter match between two clubs that are struggling to regain the 2018 form that saw them both challenging for semi-final places (and in Kanwal's case reaching one).
- After a scoreless first half Avoca took the lead in the 53rd minute through Louis Kellerman. Three minutes later Kanwal looked to have equalised when a free-kick found Ryan Oehm whose header found the net only to have the goal disallowed by an off-side call. The Bulls finished the match strongly and were eventually rewarded five minutes from full-time when Brett Adcock scored with a powerful strike from outside the box.
- With their first round matches against four of the top five teams behind them Kanwal will be looking to capitalise on what looks like an easier draw in their next three matches against The Entrance, Toukley and Gosford City. Avoca meet Gosford City next week before matches against SEU and Woongarra.

BERKELEY VALE 2 TOUKLEY 0

- After last weekend's disappointing result against Killarney, Berkeley Vale looked to bounce back to winning ways against a Toukley side who have struggled for consistency throughout the campaign. The Easter Monday grand final rematch was a frustrating affair for the most part for the Wombats as they struggled to find any sort of attacking rhythm, failing to find the net. However, Troy Mumford and Reece Caira made sure that wasn't to be the case again, with a goal in each half securing the three points for the Wombats. The win was made all the more important by the fact that the four sides above them all managed to secure victories over the weekend in their respective fixtures, keeping them in touching distance of the competition frontrunners.
- Toukley coach Ben Nichols remained optimistic despite the defeat, adding: "I was quite happy with the application and performance of the side. Credit to Berkeley for taking their opportunities when they arose. We take plenty of positives from our performance and look forward to the next round". The Gunners look ahead to another tough matchup with Woongarra next weekend whilst Berkeley Vale have the small task of knocking off NPL heavyweight APIA Leichhardt Tigers at Plum Park on Wednesday night. They then return to BPL action with a big clash against Southern and Ettalong United next Sunday afternoon.

WOONGARRAH 4 WYOMING 3

- One of the matches of the season to date between the two promoted clubs played in a fast open and entertaining but intense manner. Wyoming dominated the first half, leading 2-0 after 22 minutes through a headed goal to Jared McNee and one directly from a corner by Matt Hall. The Tigers should have had the match sewn up but for a series of missed opportunities, rebounds from the posts and desperate Woongarra defence which kept the lead at two. Then that 'dangerous 2-0 lead' syndrome came into play with goals to Kane Woolston and Ashley Henderson in the 39th and 43rd minutes swinging the momentum the Wildcats way.
- A pair of bookmark penalties, both for handballs inside the respective boxes, saw Wyoming regain the lead in the 53rd minute through Matt Hall but then surrender it almost immediately with Alex Govorcin converting for the visitors. Then before the Tigers could re-group they were down 4-3 with Henderson scoring his second goal within two minutes. Both teams continued to play quality team football with Woongarra's defence remaining tight together for the remainder of the match despite a series of Wyoming attacks. Wyoming almost snatched a late point when a powerful drive from Ian McAndrew was brilliantly

tipped over the bar by 'Cats goalkeeper Matt Wilson with what was effectively the last play of the match.

- It was another frustrating loss for Wyoming, their third from three matches to date against top five teams with another one set for next Sunday when they take on Terrigal at Duffys Oval. By contrast Woongarra, who now sit in equal third spot, will be looking to at least consolidate that position, ideally even improve on it, when they meet Toukley in their local derby – the first between the two clubs since 2015 - at Harry Moore Oval on Saturday night.

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	6	6	0	0	24	7	17	18
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	6	5	0	1	18	12	6	15
TERRIGAL	6	4	1	1	17	7	10	13
WOONGARRAH	6	4	1	1	16	10	6	13
BERKELEY VALE	6	4	0	2	10	4	6	12
TOUKLEY	6	2	1	3	9	13	-4	7
AVOCA	6	2	1	3	9	17	-8	7
WYOMING	5	2	0	3	16	13	3	6
THE ENTRANCE	6	2	0	4	8	12	-4	6
EAST GOSFORD	5	1	0	4	4	10	-6	3
KANWAL	6	0	1	5	9	16	-7	1
GOSFORD	6	0	1	5	9	28	-19	1

battlewin CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

	<i>P</i>	<i>U21</i>	<i>Reserve</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Points</i>
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	18	16	32	54	102
TERRIGAL	18	16	20	39	75
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	17	3	24	45	72
WOONGARRAH	18	8	16	39	63
WYOMING	15	15	20	18	53
THE ENTRANCE	17	7	22	18	47
AVOCA	18	12	12	21	45
BERKELEY VALE	18	1	8	36	45
EAST GOSFORD	15	7	24	9	40
TOUKLEY	18	3	10	21	34
KANWAL	18	7	12	3	22
GOSFORD CITY	18	3	0	3	6

battlewin LEADING GOAL SCORERS

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

BPL ROUND 6 FIXTURES

SATURDAY 4 MAY			
TOUKLEY	vs	WOONGARRAH	Harry Moore Oval
SUNDAY 5 MAY			
TERRIGAL	vs	WYOMING	Duffys Oval
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	vs	BERKELEY VALE	James Browne Oval
AVOCA	vs	GOSFORD CITY	Pluim Park 1
KANWAL	vs	THE ENTRANCE	Wadlba Sports Complex
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	vs	EAST GOSFORD	EDSACC North

DIVISION ONE

FIRST GRADE SCORES

OURIMBAH	2	BUDGEWOI	0
WYONG	3	KARIONG	2
UMINA	13	DOYALSON	0
WOY WOY	5	GWANDALAN	1
KINCUMBER	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	2	2	0	0	15	1	14	6
WYONG	3	2	0	1	10	5	5	6
OURIMBAH	2	2	0	0	7	2	5	6
KARIONG	3	2	0	1	7	4	3	6
KINCUMBER	2	2	0	0	5	2	3	6
WOY WOY	3	1	0	2	7	5	2	3
BUDGEWOI	3	1	0	2	6	5	1	3
GWANDALAN	3	0	0	3	3	12	-9	0
DOYALSON	3	0	0	3	0	24	-24	0

