

Premium Sporting Products

2019 BATTLEWIN PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 18 (28 JULY)

By Alistair Kennedy & Lachlan Herd

FIRST GRADE SCORES

KANWAL	3	TOUKLEY	1
WYOMING	7	THE ENTRANCE	1
EAST GOSFORD	0	BERKELEY VALE	0
WOONGARRAH	1	GOSFORD CITY	0
TERRIGAL	4	KILLARNEY DISTRICT	3
AVOCA	3	SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	2

SUMMARY

- Until last season's expansion of the Battlewin Premier League the league championship would have been decided following this weekend's 18th round and Killarney District would have been celebrating their fourth straight title. Instead, with four rounds to play and both of the top two teams beaten, the competition for the top-five is very much alive and with just eight points separating seven teams it could be the tightest for years.
- With Gosford City now guaranteed of relegation to the 2020 Division One competition the battle for the second relegation spot looks like being decided between The Entrance and Toukley. In the other direction the chances of two peninsula clubs being promoted continue to grow with Umina (147 points) and Woy Woy (133) in the prime positions.
- The position at the top of the Battlewin Golden Boot race remains unchanged with leader Keith Gumbs (19 goals) missing Southern's match against Avoca and Troy Mumford (14) scoreless for Berkeley Vale.

KANWAL 3 TOUKLEY 1

- Another Northern derby with plenty hanging on the results in all three grades as the two clubs battle to avoid relegation.
- After spreading their talent through the grades in recent matches Toukley, despite backing up from their Wednesday night match against Killarney, went in at close to full strength in an effort to get maximum points against their fellow struggling neighbours who welcomed back three key players in player/coach Brad Porter, striker Ryan Walker and their rising teenage star Joey Liddle. The latter two players made an early impact when the speedy Liddle intercepted a clearance from Toukley keeper Jake Purches and found an unmarked Walker in position to tap in from short range. The Bulls continued to dominate with Walker shooting wide but within a minute defenders Ryan Oehm and Jackson Torpy combined with

Torpy extending the lead to 2-0 in the 21st minute. Toukley then fought back with Brett Cowling cutting the margin back to a single goal 10 minutes from half-time with an excellent strike from the edge of the 18-yard box.

- Young Liddle was a constant threat to the Gunners defence almost scoring late in the first half before, early in the second, once again finding Walker to restore Kanwal's two-goal buffer. The striker looked set for a hat-trick when one-on-one with Purches but put his shot wide. Liddle had a late chance to grab a goal for himself but put his shot over the crossbar.
- While the first grade points were important in lifting Kanwal's confidence for their remaining four matches the 13 club championship points on the day placed them 28 points ahead of Toukley. With their next two matches against clubs beneath them in The Entrance and Gosford City the Bulls should be able to guarantee their survival.
- By contrast, Toukley will need a major turnaround to stay in the top league with all four of their remaining matches against teams sitting between second and fifth positions on both the first grade and club championship ladders. First up are local rivals Woongarra at Hamlyn Terrace.

WYOMING 7 THE ENTRANCE 1

- Wyoming went into the match on the end of a three-match losing streak that saw them drop from second to sixth place and things then got worse when they went behind in the 15th minute to a well-taken goal by The Entrance's 16-year-old rookie Mahkye Brownlie. Wyoming didn't panic but resumed their steady build up before eventually equalising through player/coach Ian McAndrew shortly before the break. The match was then transformed in the second half with the Tigers scoring three times inside the first nine minutes of the second half. The first came from McAndrew who found Pat Mills on the right wing with the striker beating two defenders and crossing for Matt Hall to score. Three minutes later Mills found McAndrew for an easy-tap-in followed by a through ball finding Jared McNee to take the lead to 4-1. The Sea Eagles defence had no answer for the Wyoming pressure and three more goals came between the 70th and 80th minutes the first from Matt Hall to complete his brace followed by a first-ever Premier League goal to substitute Lachlan Fenton and then one to co-captain Matt Gravas who capped off an excellent all-round match with his first of the season.
- The win kept Wyoming in equal fifth place and, with the contest for the top five places so tight the six-goal winning margin could prove invaluable if the final decision goes down to goal-difference. Next Sunday's match against Terrigal at Alan Davidson Park will be crucial to the Tigers hopes of reaching the play-offs in their first season back in the top league.
- At the other end of the scale The Entrance are just six club championship points ahead of Toukley in the battle to avoid the second relegation spot. They do have a slightly easier draw than the Gunners and will be hoping to pick up vital points in next Sunday's match against Kanwal at Pat Morley Oval, which incidentally has easily the best surface of any of the Council fields that we've seen recently.

EAST GOSFORD 0 BERKELEY VALE 0

- After breaking back into the Battlewin Premier Leagues top-five last weekend, Berkeley Vale looked to cement their finals credentials with another positive performance at Hylton Moore on Sunday afternoon. A win would ensure that the Wombats remained in the Battlewin Premier Leagues top five, however they were ultimately unable to replicate the 3-1 victory

they achieved when the sides met earlier in the year, as the match ended in a 0-0 stalemate.

- The result was just the third match in this seasons Battlewin Premier League that has finished scoreless in a campaign that has seen its fair share of high-scoring fixtures. Although a missed opportunity for the Wombats, who've subsequently fallen back outside the top five, East Gosford will have been glad to take competition points from the fixture after back-to-back defeats in recent weeks.
- Berkeley Vale host Southern and Ettalong United next weekend in a fixture that will see both sides desperate to pick up maximum points, whilst East Gosford host competition leaders Killarney at Hylton Moore.

WOONGARRAH 1 GOSFORD CITY 0

- Looking to respond to last weekend's 9-0 drubbing by Killarney, Gosford City hosted another of the BPL's finals contenders in Woongarra at Gavenlock Oval on Sunday afternoon. A 4-1 loss in the sides' initial meeting this year saw Gosford City enter Sunday afternoons match intent on turning in a more positive performance against a Woongarra side whose recent form suggests that they are one of the most in-form sides as they enter the final run of matches before the finals series begin.
- There's little doubt that Woongarra would have gone into the match expecting an easy time against the young Dragons side but they were soon shown that was not going to be the case with the home team consistently cutting out the Wildcats wide attacks led by 17-year-old debutant Zac Hillock. Gosford looked set to take the lead from the penalty spot only to see Woongarra's ex-Berkeley Vale keeper Bryce Goldsworthy save Jackson Jacobs' shot. The match remained scoreless at the break before the Cats finally broke through early in the second half with a goal from Ben Runge. Gosford then had a chance to equalise with a second penalty being awarded only for Goldsworthy to again save allowing Woongarra to pick up three points and close the gaps on the leaders.
- Gosford City return to Gavenlock Oval this weekend for their round 19 clash with Avoca, whilst Woongarra return to Hamlyn Terrace for the seventh time in the last eight weeks where they'll face Toukley, with both matches kicking off on Sunday afternoon.

TERRIGAL 4 KILLARNEY DISTRICT 3

- While Killarney's midweek 2-0 win over Toukley restored their 3-point lead at the top of the table it came at a heavy price with three players replaced with injuries and then capped off by the horror incident five minutes from full-time that saw one of the Terriers favourite sons, Todd Leach, suffer a badly broken leg that saw him hospitalized and the match abandoned in the 85th minute. On behalf of everyone in the Central Coast football community we wish Todd a speedy and successful recovery.
- With the memory of Leach's injury still fresh in the minds of the Killarney players they were uncharacteristically tentative right from the kick-off and went behind in the second minute conceding a penalty with Cameron Wilkinson converting. The score remained unchanged until the 40th minute when Terrigal delivered a double bodyblow to the defending premiers with two goals within three minutes, scored by Anthony Pace and Beycan Irmako. Then five minutes into the second half Erik Riquelme scored his 11th goal of the season to have Killarney trailing 4-0, a margin without precedent in the four years that they've dominated the BPL competition. The game then swung with Terrigal starting to lose energy and sit deeper in defence and Killarney rallying strongly. Matt Hall, who had scored both of his

team's goals in the midweek match against Toukley then repeated the dose with goals in the 54th and 64th minutes. Brendan Hall then reduced the margin to a single goal in the 75th minute to have the Terriers looking like pulling off a miraculous comeback. It didn't happen although they did nearly grab a draw with a shot late in the match rebounding of the crossbar.

- Terriers coach Chris Ackerley commented. "We were poor in the first half with players not committing themselves to tackles, no doubt with thoughts of Todd's injury a problem that we addressed at half-time. The second half was much better but at the end of the day we gave ourselves way too much to do. We have had a horror run with injuries this season but what comes around goes around and we've had very few injuries in the past three seasons."
- The loss was Killarney's second against Terrigal this season, the only time that they been defeated by the same side twice in a regular season since 2012. With SEU also losing they remain three points clear in first place and can take a big step towards their fourth straight league title in the next two weeks when they take on battling teams in East Gosford (away) and Toukley (home).
- The win moved Terrigal to within a point of second-placed Southern and they'll be looking to stay there and also avenge their first-round loss to Wyoming when they meet at Alan Davidson Park next Sunday.

AVOCA 3 SOUTHERN-ETTALONG 2

- Another massive game in the context of the BPL's top five saw Avoca host Southern and Ettalong United at Plum Park as the Sharks looked for their fifth win in succession and three points that would position them on the cusp of a finals position. There were significant inclusions/exclusions for either side, with Southern missing the BPL's top scorer Keith Gumbs, whilst Avoca welcomed back midfielder Stuart Adams after he missed last weekend's clash with Kanwal.
- The Sharks made a great start to the game as captain Jake Elder produced a storming run down the left-hand side, entering the penalty area before squaring the ball to Adams who finished confidently to open the scoring in the 12th minute with his ninth of the season. Minutes later the Sharks threatened again, with Oliver Twyford latching onto a clever ball in behind the Southern back four. Bearing down on goal, Twyford rounded Luke Carnevale in the Southern goal before squeezing the ball in between the post and retreating defenders from a tight angle to double the Sharks lead.
- Desperate for a response, the Lions found themselves with an attacking corner in the 24th minute, of which produced a goalmouth scramble before the ball dropped to Theo Forsberg who volleyed home powerfully at the near post as his side looked for an avenue back into the match. Late on in the first half James Caban drew the sides level with his eighth goal of the season to see the match delicately poised heading into half-time.
- After a first-half that produced five goals, a much more physical second period followed that produced few chances. The first notable chance fell to Dylan Di Sciascio in the 70th minute after a clever turn from Adams saw him lose his man on the half-way line and travel at speed towards the Southern defensive line, slipping an angled ball through to Di Sciascio who found himself one-on one with Carnevale but couldn't find the required contact on his effort to beat the shot-stopper.

- In the 78th minute the Sharks would find the lead, however, with Stuart Adams delivering an inviting corner that saw Jake Elder leap highest to bury a powerful header at the back post, wrapping up a crucial three points for Avoca who are now level with fifth place Wyoming on 33 points.
- Avoca will look to make it six successive wins when they head to Gavenlock Oval to face Gosford City on Sunday afternoon, whilst Southern face another tough test, travelling to Mingara to take on Berkeley Vale, also on Sunday afternoon.

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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	18	13	2	3	58	20	38	41
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	18	12	2	4	51	34	17	38
TERRIGAL	18	11	4	3	55	30	25	37
WOONGARRAH	18	11	4	3	39	30	9	37
WYOMING	18	11	0	7	50	29	21	33
BERKELEY VALE	18	10	3	5	36	19	17	33
AVOCA	18	10	3	5	43	38	5	33
EAST GOSFORD	18	3	5	10	15	30	-15	14
TOUKLEY	18	4	2	12	24	48	-24	14
KANWAL	18	3	4	11	28	37	-12	13
THE ENTRANCE	18	3	2	13	20	52	-32	11
GOSFORD CITY	18	1	1	16	18	67	-49	4

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PL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

	<i>P</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Reserve</i>	<i>U21</i>	<i>Points</i>
KILLARNEY DISTRICT	54	123	86	45	254
SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	54	114	74	33	221
TERRIGAL	54	37	34	32	211
WYOMING	54	99	56	42	197
WOONGARRAH	54	111	32	33	176
AVOCA	54	99	32	32	164
BERKELEY VALE	54	99	42	11	152
EAST GOSFORD	54	42	68	23	133
KANWAL	54	39	58	24	121
THE ENTRANCE	54	33	48	18	99
TOUKLEY	54	42	42	9	93
GOSFORD CITY	54	12	8	7	27

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

ROUND 19 BPL MATCHES

SUNDAY 4 AUGUST			
WOONGARRAH	vs	TOUKLEY	Hamlyn Terrace
THE ENTRANCE	vs	KANWAL	Pat Morley Oval
EAST GOSFORD	vs	KILLARNEY DISTRICT	Hylton Moore Park
GOSFORD CITY	vs	AVOCA	Gavenlock Oval
WYOMING	vs	TERRIGAL	Alan Davidson Park
BERKELEY VALE	vs	SOUTHERN-ETTALONG	Mingara Club Oval

DIVISION ONE

FIRST GRADE SCORES

KARIONG	2	OURIMBAH	0
WOY WOY	8	DOYALSON	2
UMINA	3	KINCUMBER	0
GWANDALAN	2	BUDGEWOI	1
WYONG	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	14	10	1	3	1	58	23	35	31
UMINA	13	7	4	2	2	43	18	25	25
KINCUMBER	13	6	2	5	2	25	20	5	20
KARIONG	14	7	2	5	1	24	20	4	23
BUDGEWOI	13	5	3	5	2	39	31	8	18
OURIMBAH	13	6	0	7	2	37	36	1	18
GWANDALAN	13	6	2	5	2	40	25	15	20
WYONG	13	4	4	5	2	26	27	-1	16
DOYALSON	14	0	0	14	1	10	102	-92	0

DIVISION ONE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

	<i>Played</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Reserve</i>	<i>Total</i>
UMINA	26	75	72	147
WOY WOY	28	93	40	133
BUDGEWOI	26	54	58	112
GWANDALAN	26	60	42	102
KINCUMBER	26	60	38	98
WYONG	26	48	44	92
KARIONG	28	69	22	91
OURIMBAH	26	54	20	74
DOYALSON	28	0	4	4