



1st Grade Match Report

Semi-Final 2017

BMFC vs. Ainslie

BMFC 16.16-112 Ainslie 13.10-88



Goal Kickers: J. Bennett 5, D. Bunyan 2, C. York 2, J. Kenna, M. Viney, D. Posch, J. Harper, A. Bennett, B. Turnbull, B. Walker

Best Players: J. Bennett, B. Walker, L. Haddrill, B. Turnbull, D. Bunyan, S. Coate

After 17 home and away rounds, our work so far this year earned us the right to host a home semi-final against Ainslie. The players have done a great job of being the best side over the first 17 weeks and now we need to be the best side over the coming three weeks!

Perfect conditions were put on at the Nest as we welcomed Matt Viney and Dan Posch back from injury and Mitch Mooney played his first game in about 10 weeks due to injury and work travel. Brad Hoffman, Paddy Horan and Alex Jones (concussion) went out of the side.

As well as being a home semi-final, there was an extra buzz for this game as we celebrated two major milestones. Ryan 'Rabs' Turnbull became the 8th player in the Club's history to play 200 1st Grade games, joining current players Lex Bennett and Chris York and Assistant Coach Brendan Read. After making his debut back in 2006, Rabs has been a great clubman on and off the field and has played some of the best football of his career this year. Also, Lex Bennett became the 5th player to play 300 Club games, joining father David and Assistant Coach Brendan Read in this prestigious group. Lex is a decorated player and has led from the front with his leadership over many years. Congratulations to Ryan and Lex!

For so many reasons we wanted to win this game! The chance to go straight through to the grand final was the prize and the feeling in the rooms pre-game was one of a steely readiness to give it our best.

The first quarter was a goal-fest with 11 goals scored. It was clear from the start that this was going to be a tough game for the full 4 quarters and both sides were punishing any mistakes. Our intensity around the contest was demonstrating that we were up for the fight and we were matching this with clean handballing and quick ball movement to our forwards. Although we went in 2 points down at the first break, we created a lot of opportunities, which was a sign of things to come. Quarter time scores were 5.5-35 to 6.1-37.

At the first break we spoke about the need to sustain our effort and we would get the reward. We did the first and the second came. The second quarter was all us as we kicked 5.8 to 1.3 to get the game on our terms. Our midfield were on top and giving us great drive, our forward pressure was making the game very difficult for their backs and our backs were giving us a strong contest and run to set us up. We went in at the main break with half a job done, leading 10.13-73 to 7.4-46.

As to be expected Ainslie came back at us strongly in the third and momentum swung to them. On the ground it felt like a breeze had developed to the end Ainslie were kicking and they piled on the pressure to kick 5 goals for the quarter. We gave up a couple of easy goals, but it was apparent that we were going to have to take the game back from them if we were to win. Holding on and hoping for the best wouldn't cut it. Chris York kicked a settling set shot goal after the 3 quarter time siren to send us to the break with some momentum.

We started the last quarter in the best possible way by winning the first centre clearance and having Jack Harper put through a great left-footed goal. This restored a 2 goal lead and gave us some breathing room. The last quarter was a tight contest with long periods with no scores. Our relentless effort at the contest was taking the game away from Ainslie. We managed to kick away to a 4 goal lead with about 5 minutes to go and at this point we knew we couldn't be caught. We kicked 3 goals to 1 in the last, to run out eventual winners 16.16-112 to 13.10-88.

Better players for the day were our midfield stars **Beau Walker, Lenny Haddrill and Ben Turnbull, Dom Bunyan, Sav Coate, Ryan Turnbull and Lex Bennett.**

What a great day! A big thanks to all of the supporters, families and volunteers who made this a special day and shared in it with us.

We have done the hard work to put us in exactly the place we want to be in. We now need to do it one more time. Winning was so fun on Saturday that I think the players will want to do it all over again in two weeks' time!

See you all at the Grand Final!





2nd Grade Match Report

Elimination Final 2017

BMFC vs. Eastlake

BMFC 7.6-48 Eastlake 6.10-46



Goal Kickers: M. Lamb 2, B. Telford, J. Willcox, N. Burridge, N. Blackburn, D. Bloomfield

Best Players: L. McGilvray, C. Wenke, D. Bloomfield, J. Pisciotta, B. Hourn, L. Lusty

The reserve grade side had a great victory on Sunday afternoon out at QBYN against a strong Eastlake outfit. The Eastlake Demons were in front for 90 percent of the game, but failed to hold onto a convincing early lead. This is credit to our boys, who didn't have the best start to a game but grinded it out for 4 quarters of tough finals footy. Our ability to not get blown away and to have faith in backing our team mates when the game was on the line was really great to see. A terrific win on the weekend was only the 1st step of a tough finals series. But a final series that I truly believe we can give a real shake.

Luke McGilvray was outstanding on the weekend for 4 full quarters and busted his guts getting to contest after contest and led the midfield all day. Carl Wenke was solid down back and took plenty of intercept marks and set up play going forward out of the back half of the ground. Djali Bloomfield continued his great form and was once again the 'quarterback' of the side and set up play all around the ground. Djali showed a very cool head under pressure and kicked a late crucial goal to put us back in front after trailing for 3 and a half quarters. Joey Pisciotta was the fans pick, with an inspirational effort. Joey had the best game I have seen him play for the Club and showed why he is made for finals footy with his ability to win the contested ball around the ground. Blake Hourn was solid down back and didn't give his player an inch whilst Liam Lusty was brave playing with an injured hamstring but still contributed in a positive manner for 4 full quarters.

This week we come up against QBYN out at Gungahlin enclosed on Sunday afternoon. We beat this same side a fortnight ago and will take that confidence into this game. We know we can beat them, but it won't just happen. It is finals footy and we need to be the team that shows up and puts their head over the ball from the word go.

Congratulations to the 1st grade side on winning on the weekend and making it straight through to the Grand Final and congratulations to Scotty and the Women's side for a convincing win over Riverina. Hope to see you all at the footy on the weekend!

Mick





Women's Match Report

Elimination Final 2017

BMFC vs. Riverina

BMFC 8.9-57 Riverina 1.3-9



Goal Kickers: H. Wallett 4, C. Hamilton 2, E. Hampton, M. Gorham

Best Players: R. Leatherby-ford, A. Allen, N. McKay, E. Hampton, M. Gorham, H. Wallett

Here we are in the first week of finals and we have kicked off with a win. Elimination finals are, for obvious reasons, very stressful. You lose, you're out.

We managed to absorb the enormous pressure that we were presented with and responded with a fantastic team performance that will hopefully set the tone for next week's game against the jets. Riverina have spent the last two weeks putting everyone on notice by beating an undefeated Eastlake and a QBN team at home which is not an easy challenge. This win has come at a price with two injuries to our midfielders that will challenge us, but I am sure we are up to it.

The girls have the attitude of being the HUNTERS and with nothing to lose, they don't want to finish the season wondering what could have been.

Our back line was solid again and our midfield had some great defensive pressure. Moving Chelsea Hamilton down to the forward line proved to be a winner and created some much needed space for Wally and Jody to ply their trade.

Raven was superb in her role as Ruck and never gave an inch. Amber Allen continues to gain respect as one of the best rebound players in our competition and Mel Pellow was instrumental in allowing us to play a lot of the game in our 50.

Our young brigade of Zoe Allen, Tash McKay and Maggie Gorham are playing with incredible courage and determination which I believe is inspiring all their team mates to greater things. Sometimes individual acts can create a team bond that is unbreakable. Maggie running with the flight of the ball and winning possession as well as whippet taking the game on at pace and running through 5 or 6 defenders. These acts certainly created belief and our team play following these feats certainly displayed a level of confidence that any side would struggle to defend.

Tutty added another string to her bow with some great defensive efforts and Thommo never gave up. Wally was again paid a lot of attention by Riverina but still managed a dominant game.

Next week we have Gungahlin, last year's premiers. Don't be afraid to believe ladies, you have done the work, trust each other, be confident in yourselves and we will be victorious on Sunday.

GO PIES!!

COACH SCOTT

