18th April 2017 | Words: Andrew Kennedy-Schultz | Photos: Ngari Kennedy-Schultz

GAME #1



VS



Kanwal Oval - April 8, 2017

SHIRTS OR SKINS?

Despite two mid-week recruitment potentials falling through, Meady at least had some good news, we would be able to field a full team of 35DN-allocated players!! The bad news, he had nothing for them to wear !! Yes a full sports bag of Singos emblazoned yellow jerseys has gone missing. Reportedly they were last seen at the grounds of St. Phillip's College in Narara at the trial game last month ... and apparently just left there. If anyone has seen them please call Crimestoppers ... actually no, just call Meady or Flanno on 1800-IDIOTSRUS. In the interim, Meady was able to borrow a batch of Bendigo Bank sponsored jerseys. Singo reportedly was so heartbroken that he drowned his sorrows in a vat of wine up at the Hunter Valley, or was there for an outdoor concert featuring Farnsy ... you decide.





KING GEORGE & THE UPHILL BATTLE

Last year, Stevie G was known to praise those teammates who'd succeeded in winning the coin toss as great tossers - an honor no doubt. Today it was his turn to step up to the plate -- judgement day! He knew he was a born tosser but winning a coin toss is only the first stage in achieving the accolades that comes with such a prestigious title. The gospel says to become one you must not only win the call but more importantly make the right ensuing decisions. Sure enough, King G synched the first part, he won the toss. And then, with Meady as counsel, made the call to switch the teams from the sides they'd been warming up on and make the long haul to the opposite ends of the field. Essentially this would mean Wyoming would be running uphill the first half. Would this be wise? Would Stevie G join the echelon of great tossers or be known as the fool? 80 minutes of football to follow would answer such a question.

ADVANTAGE KANWAL

Prior to kick-off it seemed quite obvious Kanwal had the advantage: 1) They would be going downhill; 2) They had a game under their belt having played last weekend; and 3) They had a substitute bench - we would have to wait until the second half for such a luxury, even if that 12th man luxury was Flano. Added to this, it wasn't helping Wyoming's cause when a majority of the early passes weren't connecting. Having missed the trial game, Marky Wallace was giving his lungs a solid workout prior to kick off to make up for lost time. Whilst Gregg ran laps around the field, Mark sat on a koppers log, puffing away on a durry. Had he done enough training pre-season to be ready for the first 80 minutes of a long season? Well when you fail to look up to see who you're passing to and the ball ends up at the feet of the opposition ... then one would have to say no. He wasn't the only one. So frustrating was it becoming that Aaron - who had an outstanding game in goals - wound up kicking the ball out 40/20 style to give him a breather before the ball found its way back to him. Not ideal for non-attentive spectators though.







AARON under some early pressure.

PENALTY!!

It looked like only a matter of time before Kanwal would break the deadlock but to everyone's surprise, Wyoming had picked up a lucky break. Andy had taken a shot that connected with the arm of a Kanwal defender. The ref pointed to the spot. The offending player bellowed an appeal. "It didn't touch my hand". True, it hadn't touched his hand, but his forearm. It did beg the question, why isn't it called arm ball? Andy, confident of his first and only penalty effort last season, stepped up. The ref had wandered to the outside of the box before realising he hadn't placed the ball onto the spot. Once remedied, Andy took the shot ... and missed. It sailed wide, ending his 100% record of successful penalties and now a 50/50 chance with the bookies. What a chance ... fail!! Chris quipped to the group at half time that he'd offered to take it only for Andy to tell him to f*#k off.







ANDY's shot wins the team a penalty ... but not a goal







SCORE UPDATE:



0



0







CHRIS takes a free kick ... AARON is concerned for his car being hit!!

KANWAL'S BRACE

Yes, as the title indicates, Kanwal did find the net and went into the sheds - or the patch of grass near the sheds - up 1 nil. Flano was confident upon his arrival that the tide would turn. It didn't. When a threat loomed, Aaron charged out of the goalmouth to seize the incoming ball. Marky - oh I'm picking on you today - got to it first and cleared it. Or rather not quite cleared it. A Kanwal player intercepted and calmly lobbed it into the exposed goal.







KANWAL's finally strikes!!

SCORE UPDATE:





















CHRIS fires two shots either side of half time.













KANWAL strikes again early in the second half.

SCORE UPDATE:



2



0

BACKTRACKING

As we got into the thick of things in the second half, momentum was starting to shift - despite the score to the Tigers. Wyoming was having more of an influence in the middle of the park and making some attacking runs along the flanks. One of these saw Chris sending Andy down the left side who in turn put in a high cross. Whilst not on target for a direct shot, it did have some height to it and was forcing the keeper to move backwards. Andy was about to lament a lost opportunity - if only a man in yellow was there at the back post to slot it in. Then inexplicably, the keeper swung his arm at the ball to thwart any danger by sending it over the crossbar... except it did not ... he'd smashed it into the net!! Andy couldn't believe his luck. Goal!!! His teammates were quick to dispel any glory Andy may have felt by telling him that he couldn't really take credit for it, declaring it an own goal. As the unbiased writer of this saga, I disagree.







SCORE UPDATE:



2



1







STEW takes a shot!

SHOULDER BALL

Remarkably Wyoming now had a sniff. They weren't going to die wondering and for Kanwal it was about to get worse. They would soon learn that this handball rule not only includes contact with the forearm but the upper arm as well!! Yes, Andy was at it again causing some confusion. Through no intention of his own, he'd turned the ball to his right foot and fluffed an attempted chip kick inside the box. Fortuitously, a Kanwal player led with his shoulder to block it and here it was, another penalty!! To avoid

further taunting, Andy pointed to Chris! "Take it! Take it! Take it!". The man from Manchester made no mistake, slotting it into the net with finesse! Could the Tigers salvage a draw out of this mess and upset the bookies. There was still plenty of time.



A fortuitous handball leads to CHRIS crisply wrapping up an equaliser.

SCORE UPDATE:







2







IT WAS ALL YELLOW

Kanwal were filthy having squandered a two goal lead. They had several chances but weren't getting through the capable hands of Aaron who'd remarkably avoided any collisions with Meady today. Then the yellow cards started to come out. Chris and Flanno each picking up one for some push and shove. Half an hour into Flanno's season, no surprises there. The ref to his credit didn't get things get out of hand and let things simmer before resuming play. "I don't have to be anywhere till 830 when the [Wests] Tigers kick off". What a legend!! Thankfully all stayed on the field for the duration of the game. Fordo, who'd been enjoying the banter of players from his old club, Doyalson, on the sideline in the first half, was now on the lonely side so they may have missed his vital interaction that sent Andy down the left side. Andy managed to leap over a sliding defender and with ball still in his possession, made another run down the flank. His cross found Chris on the charge. Chris's first touch sent the ball past a pursuing defender and onto his left side. He wasn't letting anyone get in his way as he edged the ball past the keeper and into the net with his left foot. Amazing!!









ANDY and CHRIS combine to put WYOMING in front.

SCORE UPDATE:







3

REDEMPTION

Unbelievably in front, the Tigers focus was now on winding down the clock and getting out of dodge with the three points. The ref announced the time remaining on several occasions and whilst on the decline, there was still enough time for anything to happen. The playing the ball in the corner didn't come off and with Stew having seemingly broken his foot - and playing on regardless for most of the second half - we couldn't use the old substitution stalling tactics. But it wasn't needed. Stevie G, now well on the way to earning the title, King of the Tossers, watched on for the final part of this second half masterpiece. Kanwal's serial pest Andy was on the run again from Flanno's pass. Having beaten the last defender, he angled his run towards the goal and took a low shot. It sailed past the keeper and wrapped up an fantastic comeback. "That'll do pig, that'll do". The final whistle bellowed shortly after and boy did those beers taste good ...



FINAL SCORE:



2



4

A BLOATED FINISH

The boys from the 'ming marched off the field triumphantly yet also in disbelief of what had transpired those past forty minutes. Well all except Flanno who was under the delusion that his arrival for the second half sparked the inspiration for such a comeback. Bloated more than Flanno's head was poor Stew's swollen foot. He and Julia were convinced it was broken but mid-week scans indicate a fracture. Here's hoping to a quick recovery, mate. Now the team must endure a nervous fortnight until the next game with the hope that there are no further casualties suffered from a sugar influx over easter. Whilst the encounter against Toukley (aka: Framey's new team) does promise the boost of additional players, there is also the great news of a new recruit, Jason Cottier, joining the team. Welcome back mate!! Until then, have a happy and safe easter, everyone.





STEW plays through the pain ... and later that evening.



ANDY



CHRIS



THE MEAD MACHINE

Meady started his mud points campaign strongly bagging the three points. GREGG and ANDY also got in the thick of it ...











MEADY & ANDY demonstrate the right way to rack up mud points ...





 \dots GREGG and FORDO demonstrate the wrong way





Helping Hands























GOAL SCORING TALLY



GOALS

Andy - 2

Chris - 2

ASSISTS

Andy - 2

Chris - 1 Flanno - 1

THE MEAD MACHINE (MUD POINTS)



3PTS - #6 (Meady) 2PTS - #3 (Gregg) 1PT - #11 (Andy)

TOTAL POINTSCORE

Meady - 3pts Gregg - 2pts Andy - 1pt



YELLOW CARDS TALLY

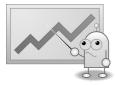
Chris - 1 Flanno - 1

BEST ON FIELD This Week's Judge:

VANESSA QUILL

3PTS - Aaron 2PTS - Andy 1PT - Chris





NEXT GAME STAT(S)

ANDY - 90 games Stew - 20 games

WEEK 2 WRAP-UP

Killarney and Toukley have raced out of the gates quickly picking up back-to-back wins to start the season. Wyong and Wyoming (whose Round one clash has been rescheduled till early May) both started their campaigns with solid wins. Kanwal and Berkeley Vale suffered their first losses after their respective draw the round before. Terrigal and Tuggerah have yet to have success.







WEEK 2 (ROUND 2)								
	HOME		AWAY		GROUND	DATE	TIME	
7	WYONG	VS	TUGGERAH	1	Eastern Rd Oval 1 (Bateau Bay)	April 8	13:00	
2	KILLARNEY	VS	TERRIGAL	1	Edsacc North Field 2 (Bateau Bay)	April 8	13:30	
2	KANWAL	VS	WYOMING	4	Kanwal Oval 1 (Kanwal)	April 8	13:30	
2	TOUKLEY	VS	BERKELEY	0	Harry Moore Oval 1 (Toukley)	April 8	13:30	

CENTRAL COAST FOOTBALL	CENTRAL COAST - 35DN 2017								
WEEK TWO									
		Р	W	D	L	F	А	PTS	Differentials
1st	IB72	2	2	0	0	6	1	6	5
2nd		2	2	0	0	5	2	6	3
3rd		1	1	0	0	7	1	3	6
4th	AND TOO TO THE COURSE	1	1	0	0	4	2	3	2
5th		2	0	1	1	3	5	1	-2
6th	THE CAN	2	0	1	1	1	3	1	-2
7th	MAJEST REAL	2	0	0	2	3	5	0	-2
8th	3	2	0	0	2	1	11	0	-10

WEEK 3 PREVIEW

The competition resumes the weekend after easter. Wyoming will be hoping their beloved home ground gets some sun as they will be up against Framey and his undefeated Toukley squad. Berkeley takes on top-of-the-table Killarney under the lights on Friday night. Tuggerah hosts Kanwal whilst Terrigal takes on Wyong.

WEEK 3 (ROUND 3)								
	HOME AWAY		GROUNI	D DATE	TIME			
	BERKELEY	VS	KILLARNEY	Chittaway ((Berkeley)	Annil 21	19:45		
	TUGGERAH	VS	KANWAL	Eastern Rd ((Bateau B	April 22	11:45		
	TERRIGAL	VS	WYONG	Baker Par (Wyong	Anril 22	13:15		
	WYOMING	VS	TOUKLEY	Alan Davidson (Wyomin	Anril 22	13:30		