



TIGER TALK

EPPING EASTWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB INC.

ISSUE 4 MAY 2010

President's Letter

Well, here we are again. This issue of Tiger Talk was to be with you last week but due to production problems it did not make it, thus all you received was my letter which carried information relating to wet weather procedures covering games last weekend, including the State Cup.

I was very surprised that we played the entire round without any ground closures, including our own. It was heavy going. The rain was very patchy across Sydney. In the 'Shire', all games were cancelled.

When we look at this current weeks forecast it is not looking all that bright for this weekends round. This weekend marks the halfway point of the Premiership rounds. I would expect to see ground closures this coming weekend so keep in touch with the 'system' and we will do our best to keep you updated.

Last Sunday was a busy day for the Tigers as your club hosted Round 2 of the State Cup in very difficult weather conditions. We had record crowds for each of the 3 matches we participated in. In this newsletter you will be able to read reports on the first round which we believe to be well worth your time to enjoy.

Here is Sundays, Round 2, results. Our 14/1's played first against a much stronger side in front of the largest early morning crowd ever seen on the hill at Boronia. The crowd was generous in their applause to both sides. We lost 0-5, and so ends the competition for 2010 but the team will be back in 2011 to have another crack. The experience will be of benefit to all involved.

Our next team was our 35/1's, their first outing in the competition this year. In a great exhibition of 'in the wet'

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EPPING EASTWOOD WEBSITE

For all the competition tables and results of your EEW Tigers teams see
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football they dispatched the competition 8-0. This is only Round 1 for the 35's and is most encouraging. Maybe we will see a grand final EEW vs our old foes Castle Hill in the weeks ahead. The team is performing well in the GHFA competition, being some 5 points ahead of the competition, but every round is a final according to coach Peter Whiteside. As an aside, we had to use our white change strip because of a colour clash – we've washed them four times and are still going!

The last game of the day was our All Age Premier League made up from our Reserves and First Grade players. It was very wet but we still had good spectator support.

The visitors were first to score and it took the Tigers till the second half to equalize. Fulltime it was 1-1 and we moved into golden goal. 10 minutes each way and at the end of extra time we still had a score of 1-1. Thus we moved into the dreaded penalty shootout. Can you feel the pressure?

110 minutes of heavy going in the mud, rain showers and a game the day before. We are tired and it's down to a penalty shootout to see who will progress to the next round. It was victory to the Tigers 5-4!!

Our goalkeeper for the day was Michael Morton and at that final moment he was rushed by his fellow team members, led by No. 7, in a barrage of hugs.

Now onto Round 3. This result should give this group a much needed boost in their confidence and a belief that "yes they can". Tiger pride was alive and well on the day.

Ryde Council has announced \$1.4 million is to be spent on lighting improvements on their sports fields and Hornsby Council has announced a list of improvements on their sports grounds also. This includes Epping Oval.

I am pleased to report at the halfway point in the competition we are 11th place in the Club Championship. We have room to improve. Likewise, our overall performance before the P & D Committee has also improved. Pleasing when you see the length of some sentences handed out. How does 6 years grab you? Keep up the good work and remember the Code of Conduct.

To finish, don't forget it's photo day next Saturday, June 5th. Please be on time.

That's it for the week,
Till next we meet,
Go You Tiger's Go!

Regards,
Ian Kendal
98581605

**Feedback is most welcome.
Please forward any comments to
eewtigers@tpg.com.au**



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Premier League

EEW 2 v Schofields 1

You never know what you are going to get when play State Cup especially when you travel to the wild west and we weren't disappointed when we got to Schofields on Sunday. We were greeted by the red and white of the Scorpions mixed in with plenty of ink and body art and many of them looking suspiciously like they were on day release from nearby Parklea. We were also advised by a Rooty Hill Premier League spectator (they played before us) that Schofields had 2 players red carded in their match against them the week before and that the police were called to calm the crowd of spectators (mainly Schofields Reserve Grade players) drinking on the hill.

From this point we knew it was going to be a fun day. We had also found out that Schofields had not played the day before like us, as the Nepean Association re-schedules the round for any teams participating in State Cup. Their team sheet also boasted a full contingent of replacements. All these details were omitted from the pre-match talk with the boys and we took to the field with only 3 regular first graders and the rest a combination of rookies, resies and all age call ups. Butts in his new role of utility player took the sole bench position.

We started the game on fire with T Mac (the rookie playing his first full 90 minutes of Prems football) testing the keeper with an early speculator in the first few minutes. The keeper at full stretch just got a hand to it and pushed it over the bar for a corner. Minutes later he struck again and rattled the top left hand side of the cross bar with the ball dropping back in to the field of play, but we failed to convert. From here it was the Baz and Chapo show with us dominating play for most of the half and creating numerous opportunities. The natives on the hill took a liking to Chapo (what is there not to like ?) and constantly hurled abuse in a Boronia style roasting but also included the use of their PA system as well. The PA system was also used for referee abuse as well ! The ever cool & calm Chapo held his composure (yes this is true he did) and continued to carve up the defense but as frequently happens in this type of game where one team dominates, a break came against the run of play and a well executed long range shot went over our keeper's head and in to the back of the net. As you could imagine the already very vocal home ground crowd cranked up a notch with this goal.

The referees out here definitely like to see a free flowing game and don't like to pull up the game for anything including elbows and studs up sliding challenges on keepers with Mitch Weeden taken out in what was a terrible challenge just before half time. We went into the break one nil down and replaced Mitch with Butts for the second half - unlucky Butts your utility role was very short lived and never really got off the ground did it. Despite being down a goal there was still an air of confidence amongst the troops that if we played as we did in the first half that goals would come. Some inspirational words from coach Travis at half time "Lets get out there win the game, pack up quickly and get out of here" .

These inspirational words had the desired effect. 10 minutes into the second half Chapo silenced his critics with a rocket from the left hand side of the box that found the right side netting. Game on !! The silence from the hill was deafening and we could sense that we had another goal in us and we did 10 minutes later when T Mac pounced on a knock on from T Fowl just inside the box to smash home the winner ! (congrats to those who took the 200s on offer from Sportsbet that he would score the winner). T Fowl spent most of the game dazed and confused (just another day in the life of T Fowl) following an earlier elbow to the head that went unpenalised combined with birthday drinks the night before.

From here it was a case of hanging on for the next 20 minutes or so. As expected fatigue was setting in but the boys showed great heart to hang on for a well deserved win. After the game there was some quick discussion about returning to the sheds to sing the song but a quick glance at the restless natives on the hill and the boys reached for their bags and headed for the safety of our cars.

Today the lads showed what Tiger spirit is all about and some special mentions are required -:

- The MJ clan and Jeanette Weeden for making the trip to support us.
- McGoogs for turning up complete with kit and fractured skull ready to play.
- Vlad Vukic for answering a call up from all age just 2 hours before the game on mothers day to play. Vlad rose to the occasion and put in a superb 90 minutes of football in a defensive mid position. Well done Vlad !!

Cheers, Andrew McLaren.

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14/1's

EEW v Moorebank FC

(Crowd: only the dads!!)

Only Football NSW would schedule the first round of the State Cup on Mother's Day! For those who forgot to buy presents for mum, the opportunity was there to give mum just what she'd always wanted: a trip to Holsworthy early on a Sunday and win all rolled into one. See how thoughtful they are mums????

Not knowing anything about the opposition is always daunting, but the lads approached the game with a quiet confidence having come off two big wins in the regular season. With some considered words from Coach Cranky, the lads strode out to the middle to begin battle. In a very physical game, the boys equipped themselves well and muscled up when needed to ensure that ball security was a feature in both attack and defence. The wide pitch allowed some free flowing football and saw our lads display more of the attractive football they have been playing this season. Late in the first half Robin gave us a

'helping hand' (make of that what you will) to take a lead into the break. The game was far from over and a big effort was always going to be needed to complete the job. Midway through the second half saw Jacko deliver the perfect corner into the six yard box which Conor pounced on to double our lead. With the game in the bag now, the lads continued with the same intensity to the last whistle to ensure a clean sheet at the other end. Hard to single out players for mention with such a great win. Quality was a feature all over the park. Josh, Eddie, Cam, Luke, and Jacko locked up the back of the park, Stephen, Pedro, Aidy, Matty, Googs and Conor were sensational in controlling the middle, and Shaun and Robin outstanding up front.

Bring on Round Two. Liverpool Olympic make the trip to Boronia this Sunday to face a determined bunch. This promises to be a great struggle. Well worth getting out of bed and coming down on the 9:30am kickoff to begin a full day of football.



**** TEAM REPORTS ****

We welcome match reports and team photos from all of our teams. Around 50 words would be great. We try to publish every 2 weeks. Send your reports and pics directly to michmagu@bigpond.net.au

Under 14/3 Wk 4

EEW 1 NRS 1

The Tigers were high in morale after crushing YMCA 6-2 last week, and were hoping to continue their winning ways, with a difficult fixture away to North Ryde. But from the first touch things were going to be difficult, with the opposition closing down all space in the midfield and denying chances for Damien up front. North Ryde went ahead midway through the first half, with a costly mistake. For the remainder of the half the Tigers were finding it difficult to get balls up front due to a pacey opposition defense.

At long last the half came to an end and the coaches were able to re-energise the team. Damien responded promptly with finishing a lovely cross from James after a blocked corner, and now the Tigers ran the game, passing out wide and creating chances. But inexplicably no goals came from either end, and Alex denying three points to North Ryde with a Buffon-esque save in the final few minutes.

A honourable mention goes to Alex with the great final save and Cyrus, strong in the back. Man of the Match was given to James and Andrew both providing a brick wall in defense.

N.Ever Offside

Under 8 White Wk 4

EEW v Hills Hawks A

After the long trip to Galston the team was still a bit sleepy in the first half with a lot of defence required with Cameron being solid at the back (and getting the man of the match). Will added extra run coming out of goals and the Tigers exploded in the second half with their normal crisp passing and excellent team work. There were great goals from Ryan M (4), Ben (2), Will (2), Ryan W, Corey and Liam. The final score was 11-1.

Under 6 Green Wk 4

Another sunny morning, another solid performance from the U6 Green Team.

There was no shortage of entertainment for the spectators as the Tigers scored a host of goals against a young St Andrews lineup.

Despite a cancelled midweek training session, there was clear evidence of a firming grasp of some of the essentials of the game: holding possession, passing and maintaining structure.

George was a dominant force early in the

game, pocketing a bagful of goals by half time. In the second half he turned provider with a number of great passes, a performance worthy of the "Man of the Match" honours.

Philip recovered well from a heavy knock in the second half to feature heavily in the game. He is very comfortable with the ball at his feet. Divyesh was hungry for the ball and did a great job of promoting the ball forwards.

Every team needs a hard toiler in the middle of the park. The Green Machine has the ever present Josh, who rarely comes off second best in a tackle.

Kael showed that he is not a one dimensional defender by opening his scoring account this week.

Well done Tigers on another great team effort!

Under 7 White A

the U7 white As came back from a 2 - 0 deficit at half time to win 5 - 3 in a thriller against West Ryde Rovers A.

Under 14/3 Wk 5

Epping Eastwood 1 Normanhurst 0

The Tigers were eager to gain another three points after last week's slip-up, and the signs were encouraging at first, seeing as we had been drawn against cellar-dwellers Normanhurst. But the team had lost 6 players, including captain Andrew Cipollone and most of our first choice defense. As a result many of our midfield players had to take the reins, and we had to borrow Cameron from Under 13's because of low numbers in the squad.

In the beginning of the match the Tigers played well, having most of the attacking play. But our goal-getter Damien was closed down by the Eagles' defense and at half time the scores were at no goals apiece. In the second half things changed, due to a few changes in the positions of the players. We were now attacking with real menace now, and with ten minutes to go James lofted a ball into the box, it bounced and chipped the keeper and went in, for the only goal of the match.

An honourable mention goes to David and James, and Man of the match to Cyrus for being solid at the back. Thanks also goes to Cameron for filling in.

N.Ever Offside

Under 21/2 Wk 4

EEW - 2 vs 1 - Roselea:

Playing against the bottom side in the competition we could be blamed for going into the game with an over sense of confidence about us, and that duly showed as we played a poor first half, in which we were unable to convert any of the chances presented to us, giving Roselea too much space to move. This was to be our setback in the second half as only minutes in, Roselea scored with a speculative shot from distance. However, as we realized that the title of "losing to the bottom team" was upon us we lifted, with numerous brilliant passes finding the Tigers feet, one foot in particular that stood out was Ahilan's, wearing a bright purple pair of boots. And it was to be this pair of "blinding" boots that put us back in contention by scoring an excellent goal from just inside the area. From then onwards the Tigers dominated, dictating the play, and soon we had scored again after Man of the Match Sam Knowles found space to shoot and rightfully found the net. Congratulations must go to the boys for bouncing back from a goal down, and congratulations to Sam for a Man of the Match Performance that won him a \$10 tab at the RSL.



Under 21/2 Wk 5

EEW - 2 vs 1 - Pennant Hills:

Coming into the game on the back of consecutive wins the boys were feeling good about themselves in playing in the manner of a worthy title contesting side. However we looked far from it again in the first half as passing opportunities were wasted and we were being caught in possession too often. Things got worse when Nathan Lumb went down, rolling his ankle, ruling him out for the rest of the game. We were able to score once in the first half however, with Nathan (pre injury) finding the back of the net on the half volley after a lofted early cross from

Adam Evans on the right channel. We came out for the second half refreshed and re focused and we played like it too, with the passing quality vastly improving, and numerous chances being created in the process. After a Cameron Laundry run down the right wing was cleared for a corner up stepped Kieran Dewing, our sweeper, to send in a thunderous header, off the resulting set piece, with an inspirational celebration to match. The game came into its final minutes with the Tigers leading 2-0, however Pennant Hills did pull one back before the end. What ensued were numerous chances for the Tigers however none were converted and the score remained 2-1. 3 Wins in a row and 3 more points, congratulations to the boys for a hard fought win that puts us 3rd in the table. Special mention must go to John and Will for a joint man of the match performance.

Under 6 Green Wk 5

An early kickoff saw an abundance of bed hair but no drop in enthusiasm as the Under 6 Green team took the field against the Rovers A team.

Early indications were good as the Tigers set up camp in the attacking zone. Good team work saw the Tigers score a number of first half goals. Josh scored a memorable long range goal which sent the crowd into rapture. There was good involvement from each of the boys: Divyesh was enthusiastic; Philip showed great skill; Kael made some great passes and George was dangerous in attack. It was an excellent team effort with Josh a deserved winner of "Man of the Match" honours.

14/1's

10th April versus Redbacks FC
(Crowd: 2578)

As the Easter bunny finalised preparations for an annual delivery, the lads took the opportunity to deliver some well overdue egg to the face of their arch rivals Redbacks in the first round of competition. After a long off season and an intense build up through the pre-season, the boys proudly pulled on the jersey as they strode out onto the hallowed turf of the home of football. The boys approached the game with some trepidation as they sought to knock off last year's unlikely champions. After a sleepy start, the team kicked into top gear with some blistering runs out wide by Aidy and Conor which saw the ball whipped into the middle time after time, only to see their attempts thwarted by a frustrating and scrambling defence. The deadlock was broken just before half time when Robin slotted past the keeper to open the teams account for the season. After some

inspirational words from coach Mark in the sheds at half time, the lads returned to the pitch to complete the job scoring again in the forty seventh minute to seal the victory. Sensational defence by Eddie, Luke, Cam and Josh assured a clean sheet to begin our season.

17th April versus Pennant Hills FC
(Crowd: 3892)

With the dust having barely settled from the triumph of the week before, the lads travelled to the harbour to play Pennant Hills in what is always an arm wrestle. The early morning dew had barely settled as the lads proudly ran onto the park to notch up what was to be their second victory in seven days. A slippery start saw the ball dominate the game with a few anxious early moments before the team pulled together to dominate. With Googs searching for an opener to his season's account, the opposition was treated to a display of football excellence on all parts of the field. Matty and Jacko combined well through the middle to control the game, while newly acquired imports Stephen and Pedro made their mark on the game with some incisive runs which opened up the game. Pennant Hills were given a lesson in finishing as the score mounted. Two late goals in the second half made the tally three which reflected a clinical display in which the lads dominated in all areas. Two games, two wins and it seemed it was going to be hard to stop this runaway train. Speaking after the game, Lachy said "I just love playing football and playing alongside guys like Shaun is sensational".

24th April versus Glenhaven FC
(Crowd: 1638)

The first major road trip for the year saw us watch the sun rise at Glenhaven (things happen quite slowly in the hills). It seemed the gentle hum of the car engine on the long journey had put the boys into a deep sleep for this one, and there we stayed. Some scrambling defence kept us in the game for the first half but Glenhaven eventually took the advantage by capitalizing on a rare defensive mistake. We had our chances, but were outdone in a very average performance. It seemed the 'hillbilly hoodoo' had got us once again. Looking towards next week's game, Mark was philosophical when he spoke after the game: "&*\$%#*!".

1st May versus Roselea FC
(Crowd: 4871)

After a sobering loss the week before the lads returned to the home of football determined to silence their critics and get their season back on track. Inspirational

words from Coach Cranky and the boys left the change room fired up for a big game. The traditional touching of the tiger as they left the sheds was replaced with a solid slap (a couple of the boys helped lift Googs so he could reach it). The crowd had returned, and with the smell of bacon and egg rolls in the air, Boronia came to life. In one of the most clinical displays of the season, Robin, Conor, Aidy and Googs danced around the opposition sliding balls through seemingly impossible gaps. It wasn't long before not, one but three were celebrating goals. Jako and Matty combined with Pedro, Stephen and Shaun to dazzle the opposition and take a three goal lead into half time. Cautious as always, some calming words spirited the lads to another sensational second half display. Doubling the score was the objective and that's just what they did. Boredom set in for Josh as he was left wondering what brand of football we were using! With the memory from the week before now well and truly erased, the mood after the game was high, as the focus now turned to next week's encounter with the hapless Redfield College.

8th May versus Redfield College FC
(Crowd: 4887)

There is no better sight in world sport than Boronia on a Saturday in winter when the Tigers are on fire. From the kickoff, Eddie, Luke, Cam, and Lachy dominated delivering quality ball to all parts of the park. Sensational finishing was a feature with Robin snaring a hat-trick and some very clinical finishes. Perhaps the shot of the day though belonged to Googs who felled the coach with one kick. Memorable, not for its quality, but more for the result.....one very sore and sorry coach (and very amused parents!). With the team in such great form, it was tempting to break out the bubbly, though the 8:15am start makes it hard to justify. Free flowing football with quality ball featured throughout the 7 - 0 drubbing as the Tigers gave Redfield a lesson in division one football and the perils of challenging the Tigers on their home ground. With the mood high, attentions turned to next week's top of the table clash with Ravens.

15th May versus Ravens FC
(Crowd: 5972)

The most anticipated clash of the season, this game always promised to be the one to watch. With the sidelines adorned with black and gold, the game began with a bang. Sensational ball skills and controlled aggression from both teams saw the crowd on the edge of their seats. After some early anxious moments, the boys settled into a rhythm and had the better of the game. Josh was excellent in goals and provided some quality ball as he rallied the troops from the

back. The big pitch allowed the lads to spread wide and again Aidy and Conor were able to run free and stretch the defence. Lady Luck had a day off on Saturday, and if corners or near misses count, we certainly had the result. Late in the game, an unfortunate mix up at the back saw the only score and the result went against us. Far from deflated by the loss, Mark said after the game "&*\$%#&\$*!". The game delivered what it promised. The two best teams of the competition in an arm wrestle in which the result probably wet the wrong way. Bring on the second round.

Under 6 Red B's Wk 5

EEW vs West Ryde Rovers

The boys rose to the challenge once again. Despite a lot of running and attempts by Rovers the boys held them out from scoring - thus achieving our first clean sheet for the season. Ritvik and Orbis did some great chasing and kick ins. Goal scorers were Alex Burkhart (1) and William Gomez- Balestro (2) Alex Gomez (2) with Alex Gomez also picking up man of the match. Now that we have 2 Alex's on the team when we cheer for Alex we have half the team covered !

Under 7's Red Wk 5

Our first win. Well done Tigers.

This weeks game was against the Redbacks. The boys played really well

and kept most of the game in the oppositions half.

They had many attempts at goal and managed to score 5 in the first

half and 3 in the second, winning the game 8 - 0.

Tony took out man of the match for his great effort.

Under 8 White Wk 6

Wk 6 vs Kenthurst

The boys played a superb game this week against Kenthurst pulling off another great victory (7-0).

The first half saw some fantastic goals. Ryan M scored first followed by Ryan W. A great set-up by Will resulted in a second goal for Ryan M and Liam scored a final goal before half time. With Ben as goalie and some great tackles by Corey and Cameron in the back, Kenthurst did not score.

The brilliant play continued into the second half with Will scoring three goals. Corey, as goalie, made a couple of great saves. All the boys are playing exceptionally well as a team, talking and passing the ball.

Well done tigers and congratulations to Ryan Mills on being Player of the Match.

Under 13-1 Rd Wk 6

EEW 4 V's CARLINGFORD REDBACKS

This was probably a game best forgotten. It is difficult to play 1st division football at the best of times so I really feel for this team of young boys who face an uphill challenge every week just through the fact that they are desperately short on players. I can't help but feel their 1st win of the season is just around the corner, though. I don't like making excuses but it is hard to get a result with little or no reserves. In saying this, I see a lot of amazing talent on the pitch each week with certain boys always leading the way. It will only take a few other boys to rise above themselves to see that elusive 1st win. Confidence is at a low at the moment so the 1st thing that needs to change is belief in ourselves. Realising we have the talent to challenge a number of sides in this comp will be a good start to boosting our morale. A little arrogance goes a very long way.

Today's game was a bad indication of how things are going. Even though the score may not be a true indication of the game, I believed we were capable of winning this match for the majority of it, even when down 1-3 at half time. Don't despair boys, concentrate on playing 'correct' football ie; making that pass, get to the ball before they do, don't dive in to tackles, jockey and slow the play down, communicate with each other with simple calls such as 'Man on', 'Time' etc. Start to play as a team who wants to play football and one who doesn't play just for the result and you will be amazed at how soon the results will come. Today's result means nothing. We lost 2-6. We will beat this team next round. I have no doubts. I believe in you. Now it's your turn.

A .Fan

Under 14/3

WWR 0 EEW 3 U14/3

A good game was on the cards today as the Tigers had drawn to the Rovers when searching for the 4th Division final last

season. Last week's absences were made up for this time with a full team, rearing to go.

The Tigers shot off the blocks with a quick goal from Damien, crashing off the post and into the back of the net and we seemed happy with the scoreline, heading into the half break with a one goal advantage. Into the second half, and two goals came through from Damien, setting up another hat-trick, and a pain in the Rovers side as they strive for the finals.

Halfway into the season, newly promoted, top of the league and we're flying high. A mention goes to Cyrus, Andy and David assuring no goals conceded today, and Damien and Andrew getting Man of the Match.

N.Ever Offside

Under 9/7

EEW WON 1-0 vs Hills Hawks

Well what a screamer of a goal by Lachlan (MOTM), punishing run across the top of the box and powerful shot from right to left leaving the keeper gasping!!

Also we had fantastic positioning from Aiden & Finn up front with smart running.

Gabriel was like the Wall of China, she eats opposition players for breakfast, along with Jim who plays some great through balls and Stewart who cannot stop moving he is like the Energizer battery. Christopher was strong on the left getting many intercepts.

In the backs we had Adamo sweeping who can awake after a quick day dream to slide the ball off he attacker like butter off a hot knife. Hayden was great with strong tackles and good awareness.

Josh has come on really well in the last 2 weeks with strong tackling and positional awareness. Jeffrey was also like steel at the back never letting his player get away from him. Anthony was chasing every pass down and doing some really good turns.

Nelson had drunk 3 powerades before the game that made him run everywhere to get the ball back for the Tigers. Dougall reads the game really well and gets in and out between players before they know what has happened.

Great game kids and remember never stand still & always look to PASS, MOVE & SHOOT....

The Tiger Talk is published every 2 weeks during the season, holidays excluded. Please email team reports and action photos directly to Michelle McCoy at michmagu@bigpond.net.au by Wednesday morning each week. 50-100 words max! Don't forget to include Team Age, Name and Week Number, ie. "U/6 Red Wk 1".