



THE WEEKLY

WRAP



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The informal Newsletter of the Essendon Water Polo Club Inc.

State Championships - Round 4 Match Reports



AlexC

An under manned SL1 side went up against the Richmond this week. We focused on pressing from in front and using our gutter defenders to help the centre back. **WSL1** This took a quarter to get working effectively with a couple of newly returned or very junior players on a steep learning curve. Richmond got away to an early lead which we countered from a couple of extra man opportunities put away by AlexC. We started pressing well and had some great success shutting down scoring opportunities but were punished from out front when we gave some breathing space to Canadian import Jules Fancher. Handy goals to Millie and AlexC kept us in the hunt. By 3/4 time Richmond had pulled away to a handy lead of 4 goals despite a great goal from returned player CharlotteR off extra man. In the last quarter AlexS earned a 5 metre from a great drive through the centre and probably the highlight of the night was Millie turning the Richmond centre back perfectly to put an easy goal in the back of the net. The result will be quite different next time, with a bit more focus on mid pool pressure and greater movement through the five metre offensive area. It was great to have Taswegian Stella back in the team with her strong defensive work and special thanks to Claire and CharlotteR for helping out the team and to Phoebe, for some solid work in goals.

Report by Bevan Cox

Essendon were defeated by Richmond : 8 – 11 Goals : AlexC 4, Millie 2, AlexS 1, CharlotteR 1



Natalia

Fitness was the key at the SL2 game this week. There was lots of swimming... up and down the pool all night. The first quarter gave us hope as we scored 3 goals to Melbourne Collegians' 4. Our press and counter attack was proving fruitful as we kept within a goal. Unfortunately the next 3 quarters were not so successful. We had plenty of opportunities in attack but couldn't convert which saw us goalless in the last 3 quarters. Extra man is definitely a play we need to work on! Our defence was working well with steals and kick outs. Kate covered the goals well. Natalia and Aileen continued to look for the best position to shoot but often had two opposition marking them. Paris and Evelyn are learning fast and proving to be valuable members of the team with their quick swimming. Clare, Amelia and Cathy continue to

Report by Cathy Steere

work hard in centre forward often with little reward thanks to the referees!! A hard and fast game but without the goals we needed!

Essendon were defeated by Melbourne Collegians : 3 – 9 Goals : Natalia 2, Aileen 1



Chelsea

This week we found ourselves with the bare minimum of just 7 against a young Melbourne Uni side. The only upside to us not having a bench, was that they didn't have one either. They started off quickly by shooting the first goal. We fought back with Sandra getting a goal on the board shortly after. It then was goal for goal with Chelsea scoring our second in the first quarter. By the end of the term, we were down 2 – 3. The second quarter saw us fight back with tighter defence and more movement up forward. Brittany stepped up a beat and contributed 3 goals, while MU managed to put another 2 away. In the third quarter we scored again through Sandra, but part way through we lost Brittany for the game with 3 majors - leaving the team man down for the remainder, at 6-7 on the scoreboard. For the final quarter, the team strategy was to leave MU's "beginner" No.7 unmarked, and focus on keeping tight defence on everyone else. This worked well, forcing MU to utilise a player who ran down the clock trying to decide what to do with the ball, and not having the confidence to shoot. MU managed one final shot in the dying minutes to take the game by 2 goals. Well done to the girls tonight, it was a tough struggle from the start and I want to apologise for being kicked out and leaving you man down! Special mention to Jamie McKee who was hit in the face but managed to play the rest of the game out. And finally, thanks to our supporters, Michelle Stellini and John and Vicki McKee for their "shared" table duties.

Report by Brittany Page

Essendon were defeated by Melbourne University : 6 – 8 Goals : Brittany 3, Sandra 2, Chelsea 1

State Championships - Round 4 Match Reports



Paris

Essendon went into the U16s game with a mixture of experience and a number of girls just starting their water polo journey. With Darren rotating his older girls in preparation for the WSL1 game later, there was the possibility for MC to take advantage of our lack of experience. This was not the case as all of our girls showed the determination Essendon is renowned for. In the end we recorded a resounding victory.

YthG

Report by Brett Pullyblank

Essendon defeated by Melbourne Collegians : 9 – 1

Goals : Millie 4, Aileen 2, Paris 1, Natalia 1, Claire 1



Bill

Things weren't looking great before the start of the game with only 7 players and a very unfit and unmotivated side standing by the pool as the other team warmed up. But Joe ran in at the last minute to save the day so we had a sub. Right from the start we defended well and our shots were on target for once (besides Hayden missing a five meter.....) We continued throughout the game in this style, and only conceded in two quarters of the game. It was a really good win and hopefully we can dish up the same performance next week.

MSL4

Report by Bill Bowring

Essendon defeated La Trobe University : 11 - 4

Goals : Kyle 5, MattL 3, Bill 2, Hayden 1



Leigh

After knocking The Surge B team on the head 19 - 0 earlier this season, the Essendon lads were hoping for a bit more of a game against their A team, and so on a balmy winters night a fierce game of polo ensued. It was a tough first three quarters of play with hard swimming and epic battles in centre forward with Leigh finding good range (eventually) with strong backhands. It was 5 nil Essendon's way going into the last where there was a surge from the Surge with three quick goals, yet it was never going to be enough to overcome what was a well played game on behalf of the Essendon boys taking the fame with a 3 goal win. Notable things..... Goal keeper was amazing apart from watching a ball sail past into the net from half way. Goal of the night goes to Lucas. Score line if Leigh nailed every shot : 22-3 Best in pool,

MSL6

everybody. All in all happy days.

Report by Dean Durrant

Essendon defeated by Melbourne Surge Gold : 6 – 3 Goals : TBC

2014 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS Ladders after R4

WSL1		WSL2		WSL3		YthG		MSL4		MSL6*	
Richmond	11	Melb Coll	12	LaTrobe Uni	12	Richmond	10	Essendon	10	Melb Uni	9
Footscray	7	Richmond	11	DVE Aquatic	10	Essendon	9	La Trobe Uni	10	NYP Dragons	9
Essendon	7	Melb Uni	10	NYP Dragons	10	MC Marins	6	DVE Aquatic	8	M-Surge Gold	8
Ovens & Murray	6	NYP Dragons	10	Monash Uni	6			Old Melburnians	8	Essendon	7
NYP Dragon	6	St Cath's	8	Melb Uni	5			Melb Uni	8	Ajax	5
MC Monash	3	Richmond 18s	7	Essendon	4			Melb Coll	3	Monash Uni	4
		Footscray	6							DVE Aquatic	3
		Monash Uni	6							M-Surge Black	3
		Essendon	5								*Ladder after R3

Top 4 teams play finals

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