

# THE WEEKLY WRAP

[www.essendonwaterpolo.asn.au](http://www.essendonwaterpolo.asn.au)

The informal Newsletter of the Essendon Water Polo Club Inc.



## State Championships - Round 15 Match Reports

With the Essendon SL1 girls bowing out last week to NYP in the semi, the preliminary final game was played out on Tuesday night at MSAC, between NYP and Ovens & Murray. In a close affair, it was goal for goal and in the end, a penalty shoot out was required to separate the sides. NYP won the game 10-8 and will now play Footscray in the Grand Final this Saturday. It was great to see former Essendon player Rachael Winterton at the pool despite playing for O&M 😊

**WSL1**

Report by Lisa Murray-Segal



Cathy

It's a good day when you have a full team and a spare, a great day when you win, and even better day when it's your second win in a row. And so it was that the final WSL2 game, for the Summer season, came to an end with the Essendon girls notching up another convincing win. We are on a roll only to be stopped by the end of the season!! This was a very physical game with bathers being held, arms pulled and girls being drowned!! Half time score saw us down by a goal but we knew they were feeding the ball to one player. Shut her down and we were in with a chance. Third quarter saw us do just that with Cathy elbowed in the mouth resulting in an exclusion for Monash and a fat lip for Cathy. She was heard to be saying, "If this is how botox feels, then I will stick with thin lips!" Some strong defense by the girls and fast breaks saw us even at three quarter time. We continued to play fiercely and with determination which saw us win by two goals. A great effort by all. Thank you to all the girls for their commitment this season. It has been difficult from week to week as we struggled to fill a team. Thanks to the juniors who played each week. You have cemented yourselves as seasoned players this year. Thanks to the seniors who look forward to a game each week and put their all into each game. Thanks Darren for coaching us. Thanks to the parents who support us and perform table duties each week. Everyone's support is truly appreciated!

**WSL2**

Report by Cathy Steere

**Essendon defeated Monash University Yellow : 6 – 4 Goals : Clare 3, Matilda 1, Gabi 1, Amelia 1**



Claire

With Melbourne Uni not fielding a SL1 team they are able to field one of the stronger teams in SL2. Stronger in both ability and physicality than most teams. We started slowly with the senior girls being heavily manned up and as a consequence, opportunities were hard to come by. A one all scoreline at quarter time and a two all score at the half was cause for confidence by our opponents and a clear incentive to maintain their heavy game plan. The third quarter saw Essendon draw ahead due in no small part to everyone in the team working to get into dangerous positions, this in turn encouraged our girls to share the ball around and find the open player. The trend continued in the final quarter with goals shared around. When the final buzzer sounded Essendon had recorded a hard fought win based around half of the teamwork which we will need to display for the entire game in the Grand Final if we are to come away with the chocolates.

Report by Brett Pullyblank

**Essendon 18s defeated Melbourne University : 9 – 5 Goals : Millie 5, Phoebe 1, Jaimie 1, Sarah 1, Claire 1**

## State Championships – Ladders After Round 15

WSL1	WSL2	WSL3	YthG	MSL4	MSL6*
Footscray 38	Richmond 18s 39	NYP Dragons 45	Richmond 38	Essendon 39	Essendon 38
Ovens & Murray 37	Essendon 18s 38	LaTrobe Uni 36	Essendon 28	La Trobe Uni 38	Melb Coll 37
NYP Dragons 37	NYP Dragons 35	DVE Aquatic 32	MC Marlines 28	DVE Aquatic 36	NYP Dragons 32
Essendon 25	Melb Coll 35	Essendon 26	MC Dolphins 26	Old Melburnians 26	Monash Uni 23
Melb Coll 24	Melb Uni 31	Monash Uni 26		Old Xaverians 21	Ajax 23
	Monash Blue 30			Melb Uni 16	DVE Aquatic 21
	Monash Yellow 29				M-Surge Black 18
	St Cath's 28				M-Surge Silver 15
	Essendon 28				
	Footscray 25				
	Richmond 22				

The top 4 teams play off in a finals series

\* ladder after R14

# State Championships - Round 15 Match Reports



LisaAs

With this game potentially being our last for the year, we had tentatively made plans to head out to dinner afterwards and celebrate another polo season under the belt. But a question mark remained on whether we would sneak into the finals, with Essendon and Monash (in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> spots) having equal points coming into this game, and a 2-goal goal difference advantage to us. We were playing 2<sup>nd</sup> on the ladder – and Monash were playing 1<sup>st</sup>. Neither team was expecting to win – so it was a case of who would be the biggest loser – and miss a finals spot. The girls put up a valiant effort against an experienced La Trobe side, who were slow to get themselves organised. We had strong defence but got caught out from time to time on turnovers. We had many shots at goal, but too often they were lame throws or made under duress plopping straight into the GK hands... the highlight was LisaAs' 2 goals thrown from 10m out, when her player sluffed back in front of the CF. Thanks to our youngsters Jaimie and Georgina and young at heart Julia – we created some breaks and movement up front, and were eventually rewarded again with a nice goal to Georgina. Sandra was rock solid in goals again, and Georgia playing her last game for the year (now holidaying in Thailand), proved how much she's improved in her first season with some great defensive work. Mel took the brunt of CF battling, while LisaMS played hook to get the ball into action. In the end, we lost by 4 goals... but managed to stay well clear of Monash who lost by 16 goals... they were the biggest losers! Next week we take on DVE Aquatic in the semi finals! A VERY BIG THANKYOU to Trish Pullyblank for being our impromptu table lady... very much appreciated!

**WSL3**

*Report by Lisa Murray-Segal*

**Essendon were defeated by La Trobe University : 3 – 7 Goals : LisaAs 2, Georgina 1**



Sheridan

Over the last couple of weeks, we have been trying to improve our attack on the opposition's goal. Our defence has been OK, but lack of goals has given us defeats by teams that shouldn't be within 5 goals of us. Our game against 3<sup>rd</sup> on the ladder MC Marlins, was a stale mate in the first quarter with not a goal being scored until late when MC slotted one : 0-1. The second quarter picked up a bit with the goals starting to come, we scored two via Sarah & Sheridan, with many more opportunities going begging. 2-3 down at halftime. The second half saw us continually waste chances in front of goal, while MC needed only 3 openings to produce 3 goals. We will continue to search for the confidence and talent that served us so well in Perth earlier this year.

**Yth6**

*Report by Darren Steere*

**Essendon were defeated by Melbourne Collegians Marlins : 2 – 6 Goals : Sarah 1, Sheridan 1**

We win this game and we finish top of the table. We lose it, and we finish third.... A massive game with a double chance at stake. We played against our nemesis DVE and were absolutely terrible in the first half and down by two. Coach Steere got angry at us at half time and we pressured and delivered. We scored five goals to two after half time and won the match. Game on for Saturday night!

**MSL4**

*Report by Marcus Jones*

**Essendon defeated DVE Aquatic : 8 – 7 Goals : TBC**

**Essendon were defeated by Melbourne Collegians : 5 – 6 Goals : Ian 2, MattK 1, Lucas 1, MattR 1**

**MSL6**



Men's SL6 team for Round 15



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