

Score: Shellharbour Swans 14 – 7 – 91 defeated Kiama 3- 2 – 20

Goal Scorers: William (BJ) Gamble 8, Jarod (Falcon) Falconer 3, Jarrod (Red) Rixon 1, James (Jimmy) Bell 1, Thomas (Tom) Gillespie 1.

I was very pleased with the whole team effort showed today. We always had numbers to the ball, giving our ball carrier plenty of options. It was the team work rate & “team mentality” that allowed you to be successful.

Jarod (Falcon) played a great role as the forward target. Kicking 3 goals & setting up quite a few. When Jarod was asked to go to backline in 2<sup>nd</sup> half he took on that role with zest, shutting down Kiama & creating attack. BJ had the ball on a string down there, kicking a bag of goals but more importantly passing to team mates in better position more than once & tackling constantly. Aaron played his best game since joining the Swans at the start of last year, with a number of possessions including a great kick to BJ’s advantage. Tyler lead well & got into space on many occasions. His passing by both hand & foot were instrumental in a number of scores. Tyler also tackled well to help keep the ball in the forward line. Kyle played his best game this year with a number of possessions & a great kick over the top to BJ for a goal.

The great performance today was secured through our backline & midfield. Jimmy turned defence into attack on a regular basis before moving forward to play a defensive role on Kiama’s Centre Half Back. Jimmy took on the challenge & also kicked a goal in the process. Daniel, playing on the half backline, competed well & really turned it on in the last Qtr, gaining many possessions & limiting Kiama’s scoring opportunities. Riley had a great 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr, with many tackles & defensive involvements. Riley was unlucky late in the last Qtr not to kick a score when moved to Full Forward.

The Fullback line were an absolute “WALL”, limiting Kiama to only 3 goals. Kiama have kicked 14 & 12 goals in their previous two matches. Sam was a pillar with his “See Ball, Get Ball” attitude, contesting & cutting off opposition attacks. When Sam took on Ruck for 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr, he worked tirelessly. Luke was fantastic at Back Pocket, nullifying many scoring opportunities, working the ball out of the danger zone & linking up with the Half Backline. Jake had his usual solid performance at Back Pocket, even after obtaining an injury late in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. Jake did the 1% team things, tackling, shepherding & hand balling out of a contest.

Our Midfield were exceptional, hunting in packs & supporting each other. Your work rate was high. Corey played his best game of the year contesting in the midfield & also running forward to create another “Tall” option in the forwards. Some of Corey’s handballs to a player out in space were beyond his years & truly elite. I thought our two wingers, Reggie & Kale were exceptional, providing a good transitions from backs to forwards, as well as helping to lock the ball in the forward line. It was definitely Kale’s best game of the year & Reggie played his usual great game, with some skilled overhead marks & great passing. Sandon’s running game was exciting to watch & he attacked brilliantly & lowered his eyes to pick out a short target in the forward line, rather than just bombing it long. With a year out of footie, his best is yet to come. Tom played hard & like a Captain, taking on the role of tagging Kiama’s tallest & best without being told by me & nullified him in the 1<sup>st</sup> half, while continuing to rack up possession after possession. Tom was rewarded with a goal late in the game. Dylan another 1<sup>st</sup> year player & an elite runner, did a lot of the hard stuff that goes unnoticed. He ran for 4 Quarters & nullified the Kiama midfielders by playing a more defensive than attacking role but still racking up many disposals.

Next **Saturday** (not Sunday) we play Kiama again at Myimbarr under lights. They had some players missing due to holidays but we also have Fin & RR to come back as well.

We caught them by surprise this week. THAT WILL NOT BE THE CASE NEXT WEEK!!! Enjoy your success today & Monday at school but come Tuesday at training we need to realise that we will have to increase our intensity.

Thanks to Tony Horvat (Goal umpire), Chris Speirs ( Runner) & Steve Ashworth (Water Carrier) & Mel (Manager)

Be proud of yourselves & I hope you all had fun.

Thanks,

Mark