

Teamwork Gives Port Easy Win

By HARRY KNEEBONE

The 1951 league football premier, Port Adelaide, began the new season in impressive fashion by defeating Glenelg by 43 points before 27,000 people at Adelaide Oval yesterday.

Its victory was the result of the production and maintenance of a standard of teamwork unusually high for the first match of the season.

Port Adelaide showed very distinctly that individual effort, however brilliant, on the part of the opposing teams will not stop the Alberton team from winning another title this year.

To defeat Port Adelaide its opponents must either break down or match the quick-thinking combined play with which that team extricates itself from tight corners and turns defence into attack.

Port Adelaide's was not a flawless exhibition. Who would expect that in the first match? But it was obvious that it was much nearer perfection than was Glenelg.

Despite its handicap—the absence of J. Taylor, Crabb, Hunt and Jones—Glenelg showed commendable fighting spirit, particularly in the first and third quarters, when, with the advantage of a slight breeze, it held Port Adelaide.

In the second and last quarters, however, it could

not match the opposition's speed and flashing passing exchanges and was out-classed by 5.19 to 2.0.

It is obvious from those scores that only an appalling inability to find the goal prevented Port Adelaide from inflicting a much more crushing defeat on Glenelg.

That its attack has no regular or efficient spear-head is a potential weakness that may make Port Adelaide vulnerable in a closely fought game.

It won by the equivalent of seven goals yesterday. On the play it should have won by at least 12.

It was stronger in defence, possessed a pair of rovers who dominated that phase of the game, won across the centre and half-forward lines and overpowered the Glenelg ruck—and yet won by only seven goals!

Glenelg, although soundly defeated, should feel no discouragement. Prospects of lifting its game greatly when at full strength are bright. Scores:—

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts
Port	3.1	6.11	9.13	11.22	88
Glenelg	2.3	3.3	6.3	7.3	45

Goalkeepers:—Port Adelaide—Fletcher, Boyd and Whitaker, each 2.3; Williams, 2.1; Garland, 1.4; Whelan and Growden, each 1.2; Trowse, Luke and Salvemini, each 0.1; rushed 0.1. Williams hit a goalpost.

Glenelg—Churchett, 2.0; L. Taylor, 1.1; McPherson, A. Bailey, Potter and Davies, each 1.0; Lafsky, 0.1; rushed 0.1.

NAVY and Air Force had a comfortable win over the RSL team in the Anzac Day curtain-raiser yesterday.

Poor goalkicking by the RSL side contributed to the width of the winning margin.

Scores were:—Navy-Air Force 9.12 (66); RSL, 3.19 (37). Goalkeepers—Navy-Air Force, Selth, Brady and N. Johnson (each 2); Morton-John, Kay, Hewitt, RSL—Matthews, Corner, Mensies.

WEST Adelaide's team for the association match against Glenelg at Glenelg Oval was announced yesterday as follows:—Atkins (capt.), Tuckey (vice), Hamra, Kearns, Christopherson, B. and J. Smith, Bishop, Perry, Best, Hamilton, Broadstock, Lovegrove, Packham, McLeod, Fridmore, B. Simons, Ford, M. Fitzpatrick, Kearville, Forby. Players' bus will leave AHS, Grote street, at 1.30 p.m.

"FOOTBALL Fan."—Port Adelaide played the Rest in a match under electric light at Wayville Showgrounds on Tuesday night, April 12, 1952. The game was drawn, 18.14 (123) each.

Clift's Brilliance

Roger Clift, sound again after an unlucky season, is right back to the form that gained him State selection. After the first quarter his all-round brilliance shut Glenelg's centre half-forward (L. Taylor) almost completely out of the game.

Williams and Whitaker (roving) and McDonald (wing) were a dashing trio who contributed much to Port Adelaide's credit balance of speed and cleverness.

In Garland Port Adelaide has one of the most accomplished recruits seen for years. He played the half-forward flank position with the sangfroid and ability of a veteran.

Whelan (vigorously effective at centre half-forward), Boyd (his dashing self in midfield), Fletcher (imperturbable reliability in ruck), Growden (some towering marks in ruck), Parham and Russell (defence) also were prominent.

Bill Prior was Glenelg's best man. He marked brilliantly and played strongly on the ground, particularly when in defence. Weak kicking marred an otherwise great performance.

Kempson (half-back flank) cleared neatly and expertly many times and Potter (ruck) was Glenelg's most successful high mark.

Don Taylor (half-back), Wickham (back pocket and at centre in the closing stages), and Lafsky (half-forward) also played well.

In R. Bailey Glenelg had an excellent substitute goalkeeper (for Hunt). He kicked strongly and with intelligence and showed marked ability in the air and on the ground.

Curryer, the new wingman, began impressively but was subdued later.

Yesterday's Stars

- 1 — Clift (Port Adel.)
- 2 — Williams (Port Adel.)
- 3 — Whitaker (Port Adel.)

Prior Held This Mark



Despite appearances, Glenelg star W. Prior juggled but held this high-flying mark over team-mate R. Bailey in the opening league football match against Port Adelaide yesterday. The mark staved off one attack but Port proved too strong.

Round The Pickets

DON Taylor and Laurie Taylor were elected acting-captain and acting vice-captain of Glenelg for the match against Port Adelaide yesterday. This was due to the absence of the captain (J. Taylor) through suspension and the vice-captain (A. Crabb) owing to injury.

COLIN Churchett scored the first goal of the 1952 season with his first kick of the match at Adelaide Oval yesterday.

He kicked another goal from a free in the second quarter, but thereafter didn't get a kick.

Churchett's comparative non-success was not so much the result of his direct opponent's efforts, although Abley, the Port Adelaide goalkeeper, played soundly throughout, as of his own poor form.

The Glenelg goalkicker is recovering from a heavy cold and, moreover, is still above himself in condition.

HAROLD McDonald, Port Adelaide wingman left the field following an attack of cramp in the last quarter. He was replaced by Keough.

Neil Davies and Bill Prior (Glenelg) also were assailed from the ground with injuries in the quarter and were replaced by Outhbertson and Leahy.

Today's Games

Thebarton Oval — West Torrens v. North Adelaide.

Unley Oval—Start v. Norwood.

Kensington Oval — West Adelaide v. South Adelaide.