

Tigers forced to fight for win

Round 18, 2009

SANFL ROUND 18

Glenelg	2.0	6.2	10.4	14.8	92
Norwood	3.4	5.5	8.10	12.10	82

Injuries: Duigan (Norwood). **Reports:** Nil. **Crowd:** 3326 at Gliderol Stadium.

Sturt	2.1	6.5	10.8	13.16	94
North	1.3	5.4	6.7	8.8	56

Injuries: Nil. **Reports:** Nil. **Crowd:** 2434 at Prospect Oval.

Central	7.3	10.5	13.9	16.15	111
Port	2.3	6.4	8.5	11.5	71

Injuries: Schell (Central). **Reports:** Nil. **Crowd:** 2703 at Alberton Oval.

West	7.1	13.3	21.5	22.7	139
Panthers	0.3	1.4	5.6	7.9	51

Injuries: Nil. **Reports:** Willits (West). **Crowd:** 1429 at City Mazda Stadium.

	P	W	L	D	FOR	AGST	STR	PTS	%
Glenelg	16	13	2	1	1464	1218	W1	27	54.6
Central	16	12	3	1	1557	1282	W1	25	54.8
Sturt	16	12	4	0	1599	1078	W5	24	59.7
Eagles**	16	8	7	1	1318	1418	W1	17	48.1
North	15	8	7	0	1255	1112	L2	16	53.0
West	15	6	8	1	1098	1281	W1	13	46.2
Norwood	16	5	11	0	1346	1395	L1	10	49.1
Port	16	4	12	0	1345	1560	L3	8	46.3
Panthers	16	1	15	0	1025	1662	L15	2	38.1

*Yet to play this round **Bye

SCOREBOARD

STURT v NORTH ADELAIDE					
Prospect Oval, crowd 2434					
STURT	2.1	6.5	10.8	13.16	94
NORTH	1.3	5.4	6.7	8.8	56

BEST PLAYERS: STURT: Coad, Crane, Sheedy, McGlone, Herring, Tregrove. **NORTH:** Younie, Allan, Stribling, Thompson, Archard. **GOALS: STURT:** Chambers 4, Herring 3, Crane, Evans, Bode, Gum, Jaensch, Tregrove. **NORTH:** Younie 4, Thompson 2, Wright, Archard. **INJURIES: STURT:** Nil. **NORTH:** Nil. **REPORTS:** Nil. **UMPIRES:** Williams, Philp, Hay.

CENTRAL v PORT ADELAIDE					
Alberton Oval, crowd 2703					
CENTRAL	7.3	10.5	13.9	16.15	111
PORT	2.3	6.4	8.5	11.5	71

BEST PLAYERS: CENTRAL: O'Hara, O'Sullivan, Dutschke, Thomas, Cochrane, Switala, Sibenaler. **PORT:** Murray, Dolling, Ebert, Batson, Stanley, Summerton. **GOALS: CENTRAL:** Callinan 4, O'Hara 3, J. Gowans, Thomas, Sansbury 2; Giles, O'Sullivan, Dutschke. **PORT:** Ebert 4, Harder, Carr 2; Dolling, Murray, Bowes. **INJURIES: CENTRAL:** Schell (groin). **PORT:** Nil. **REPORTS:** Nil. **UMPIRES:** Fila, Bowen, Ralston.

WEST ADELAIDE v PANTHERS					
City Mazda Stadium, crowd 1429					
WEST	7.1	13.3	21.5	22.7	139
PANTHERS	0.3	1.4	5.6	7.9	51

BEST PLAYERS: WEST: Ezard, Lobbe, Bailey, Caruso, Ferguson, Bricknell, Morris, Webb. **PANTHERS:** Cockshell, Torney, Splitt, Handby. **GOALS: WEST:** Bennett 4, Caruso, Willits 3, Beech, Morris, Davies 2; Silverlock, Thompson, Piasente, Ezard, Bricknell, Webb. **PANTHERS:** Warren 3, Ryan 2; Rolfe, Cook. **INJURIES: WEST:** Nil. **PANTHERS:** Nil. **REPORTS:** Willits (West, striking). **UMPIRES:** Pfeiffer, Russell, Fleer.

WARREN PARTLAND

GLENELG withstood a spirited challenge from Norwood to continue its reign at the top of the premiership ladder with a hard-fought 10-point victory at the Bay yesterday.

The Tigers, bolstered with a swag of AFL personnel, were forced to show plenty of character and fight to hold off the lowly-placed Redlegs.

With key forwards Todd Grima and John Hinge sidelined with injuries, strong-marking Tiger Ruory Kirkby made a stand with an inspiring performance to dominate in attack and finish with five goals.

The triumph kept the Tigers one game clear of Central District in the race for the minor premiership with five rounds remaining.

"Norwood was a real credit to themselves," Glenelg coach Mark Mickan said.

"We watched them against South last week and we expected that from them.

"They move the ball quickly and with real control at times and we had to work hard to get it back off them.

"Ruory (Kirkby) was extra special today. His marking made him a real focal point for us and his workrate was huge."

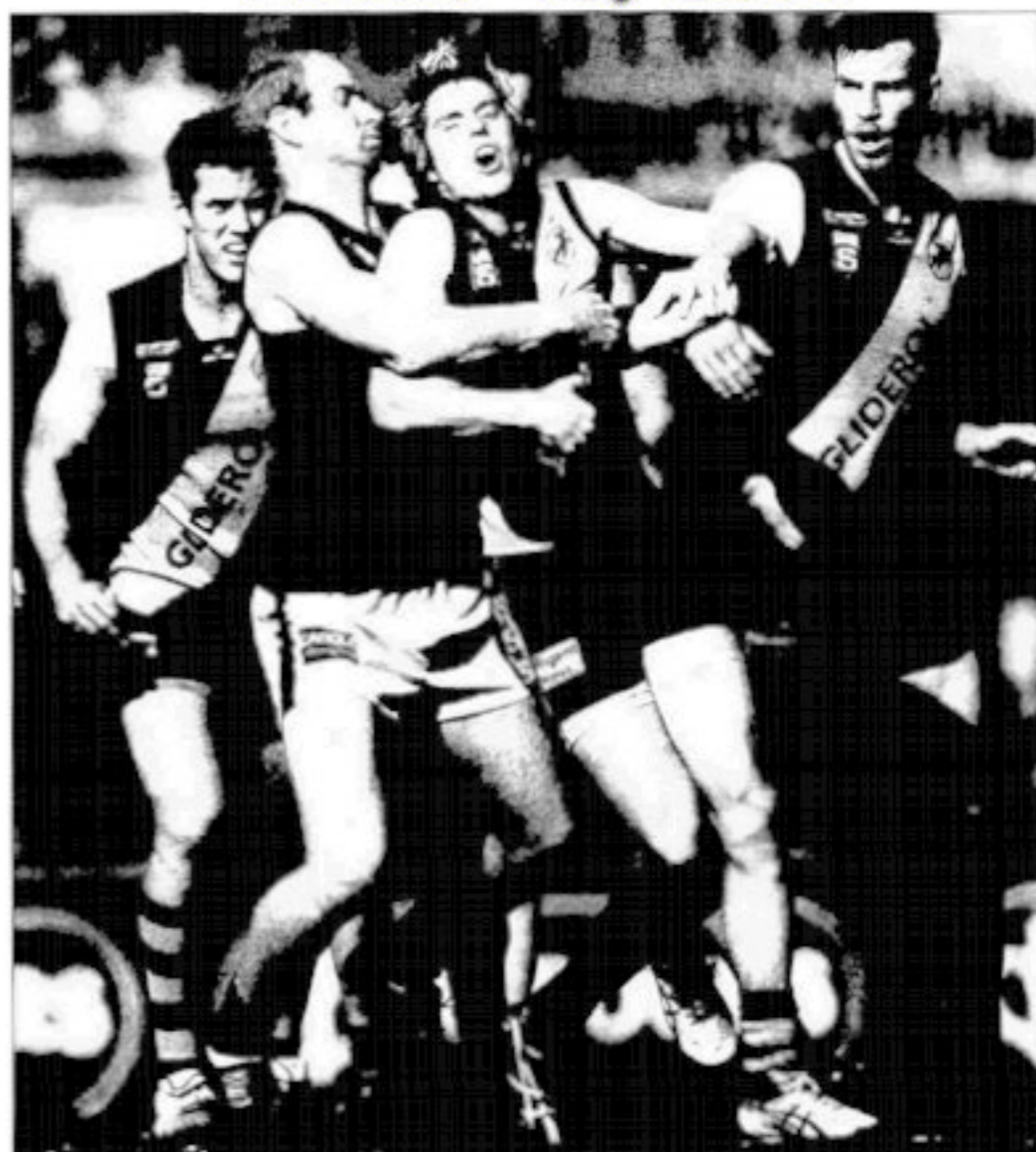
There was plenty of scrappy action but this was a competitive contest between two outfits enthusiastic for the challenge and willing to apply plenty of pressure with a devoted work ethic.

Both sides were also guilty of overuse of the ball at times, which made for some patches of messy football.

Glenelg often went one handball too many while Norwood tried to be cute at times with its ball movement and made life difficult for its forwards.

Kicking with the breeze at their backs in the opening quarter, the Redlegs squandered several chances to build a handy lead against an opposition making the most of limited forward forays.

The Tigers, with Ben Kane, Luke Panozzo and Ty Allen having an influence, had six goals on the board without a miss compared to Norwood's 5.5 deep into the second term.



SURPRISE: Bays' Ben Kane is tackled by Redlegs' Jack Juniper. Picture: Tom Lee

SCOREBOARD

GLENELG v NORWOOD					
Gliderol Stadium, crowd 3326					
GLENELG	2.0	6.2	10.4	14.8	92
NORWOOD	3.4	5.5	8.10	12.10	82

BEST PLAYERS: GLENELG: Kirkby, Kirk, Kane, Allen, Mills, Carr. **NORWOOD:** Zorzi, Puopolo, McGuinness, Jackman, Donohue, Doyle. **GOALS: GLENELG:** Kirkby 5, Willoughby, Douglas 3; Salopek, Meyer, Kirk. **NORWOOD:** Walker 4, Donohue 2; Lower, Panos, Weatherald, Phillips, Rowe, Jericho. **INJURIES: GLENELG:** Nil. **NORWOOD:** Duigan (hamstring). **REPORTS: GLENELG:** Nil. **NORWOOD:** Nil. **UMPIRES:** Rowston, Dey, Deboy.

Glenelg dominated the stoppages early in the third quarter and moved the ball with efficiency to build a 22-point advantage while its opponent struggled to get beyond the centre.

But the Redlegs refused to wilt and with Brett Zorzi prominent on the ball and Kieran McGuinness, Paul Puopolo and Nick Jackman patrolling the defensive zone with commitment, they got the game back on an even keel before Tiger Daniel Kirk kicked a goal on the siren to end the third term.

Both sides were hungry for

the confrontation in the final quarter, as illustrated by Puopolo's desperate chase and tackle on Tiger Chris Hall as he charged towards the open goal.

The Tigers slipped 21 points clear into time on before two Norwood goals restored some tension to the match.

"The endeavour and the intensity was there and they showed a lot of passion and fight," Norwood coach Jarrod Cotton said. "Some silly free kicks and undisciplined things - at crucial times they tend to hurt us.

"But the pressure and endeavour to do the right things was fantastic."



GLENELG



NORWOOD

	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	Ffor	Fag	Gls	Pts	H.O	Tkl		Kicks	Mks	Hbl	Ffor	Fag	Gls	Pts	H.O	Tkl
ADLINGTON	5	3	6	1	0	0	0	0	1	DONOHUE	11	4	6	2	3	2	1	0	3
ALLEN	8	3	16	2	1	0	0	0	4	DOYLE	2	3	3	1	2	0	0	24	0
BACKWELL	8	5	2	1	2	0	1	0	0	DUIGAN	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
BLOCK	7	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	EVANS	7	0	5	2	1	0	1	0	2
BUTTON	2	3	5	0	1	0	0	11	1	JACKMAN	13	7	11	0	2	0	0	0	1
CARR	12	3	16	4	1	0	0	0	4	JERICO	7	7	7	0	0	1	0	0	1
CRANSTON	1	2	8	0	1	0	0	29	1	JUNIPER	5	4	5	0	1	0	0	3	1
DOUGLAS	6	2	7	1	3	3	0	0	2	LOWER	13	6	6	0	4	1	2	0	9
FISHER	6	5	10	0	2	0	0	0	1	MASSIE	7	6	11	1	0	0	0	1	1
HALL	7	2	6	0	1	0	1	0	3	MCGUINNESS	10	5	7	1	0	0	0	0	1
KANE	12	2	16	1	1	0	1	0	1	NITSCHKE	6	2	7	2	2	0	0	0	1
KIRK	7	6	7	0	0	1	0	2	1	PANOS	5	5	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
KIRKBY	13	9	2	2	2	5	1	2	1	PHILLIPS	3	1	4	0	1	1	0	0	5
MCCONNELL	1	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	PUOLOLO	15	3	9	5	0	0	0	0	4
MEYER	8	6	8	1	2	1	1	0	1	ROWE	3	2	3	2	0	1	0	7	0
MILLS	6	3	4	2	1	0	0	2	3	STOPP	7	1	6	1	0	0	0	0	1
MULES	5	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	TROTTER	7	3	6	1	1	0	1	0	3
MURPHY	5	1	7	4	1	0	0	0	4	WALKER	9	4	2	1	3	4	1	0	2
PANOZZO	13	6	16	1	1	0	0	0	2	WEATHERALD	10	3	6	2	2	1	0	0	3
SALOPEK	21	7	12	2	0	1	2	0	2	YOUNG	15	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	1
WILLOUGHBY	9	1	4	1	1	3	0	0	0	ZORZI	8	5	13	1	2	0	1	0	1
Totals	183	72	181	24	22	14	8	48	33	Totals	162	75	127	22	24	12	10	35	40