

Tigers top after reigning in rain

WARREN PARTLAND

IF SANFL history is to be prevented and the AFL reserves teams are to be stopped from getting their hands on the premiership trophy this season, it is becoming more and more obvious Glenelg is the club to get the job done.

The Tigers climbed back on top of the ladder with a 46-point victory over Norwood at the Bay yesterday.

They are disciplined and well-drilled under coach Mark Stone, and they play an impressive brand of football as a team unit.

But Adelaide and Port Adelaide are lurking second and third on the ladder and benefiting from big AFL numbers.

Much more will be revealed on Sunday when the Tigers venture to Alberton Oval to confront Port — and Stone is excited for the challenge.

“They are in great form and are a powerful team,” he said. “They are playing really good footy, but that is what you look forward to — to test yourself against the best teams.”

The Tigers can take plenty of confidence out of the victory



GLENELG
NORWOOD

2.2 5.5 11.8 15.10 100
1.2 4.5 7.6 8.6 54



BEST Glenelg Partington, Close, Bradley, McBean, Curran, Proud, Reynolds. **Norwood** Nunn, Baulderstone, Taheny, McKenzie, Grigg. **GOALS** Glenelg McBean, Close 4, Reynolds 3, Bailey 2, Partington, Schott. **Norwood** Taheny 4, Wilson 2, Panos, Gerloff.

INJURIES Norwood Smart (thigh).

UMPIRES Scott, Philp, Morgan.

CROWD 2663 at ACH Group Stadium, Glenelg.

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over the Redlegs, after they cranked up the gears in the second half to further fuel expectation at the club.

These were tough conditions — wet and slippery — yet the Tigers’ work around the contest was impressive and they used the ball with authority in the second half.

What should also build optimism for ‘Tigers’ fans is the form of onballer Luke Partington. His early season touch with his new club was a patchy, but he has used the past couple of weeks to advertise his class and importance to the side.

Not that Stone wants to single out individuals, with his plans locked around a “team first” philosophy.

“We don’t want to be a one

or two-man team and rely on Liam (McBean) to kick the goals, Luke to get the ball,” Stone said. “We want to be a team where in different weeks, it is going to be someone else’s go and that person is ready to step up.

“It was always going to be tough — Norwood had some good players back.

“The day probably suited us a little more in terms of the conditions and I’m glad we were able to grind away and get on top in the second half.”

The first half was an uninspiring slog, where players needed to commit the body and just force the ball forward.

Norwood, with Mitch Grigg and Cameron Shenton getting plenty of the ball and Cameron

Taheny showing his potential up forward, bothered Glenelg.

However, far too often the Redlegs overused the ball in the second half, a contrast to the Tigers, who adapted to the conditions and were much more direct.

The home side constantly put the Redlegs’ defence under pressure.

“The first half was a pretty good game, but for some reason, and it is a pattern at the minute — we can’t run a game out,” Redlegs coach Jarrod Cotton said. “For half a game we competed well, but games are not won in a half. We have got some personnel back, so whether they are underdone I’m not sure.”

Tigers Take Top Spot

By ZAC MILBANK

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Glenelg rose to the top of the Statewide Super League ladder after slogging past Norwood with a 46-point win at ACH Group Stadium on Sunday.

Sending Adelaide into second place after its loss to Port on Saturday, the Tigers produced a strong, yet efficient, second half amid the slippery conditions at Brighton Road.

Leading by just a goal at half-time after a tight tussle with the Redlegs in the opening two quarters, Mark Stone’s men broke the game open with a six-goal third term to lead by 26 points at the final change.

And it was that man Liam McBean, now leading the race for the Ken Farmer Medal with 40 majors, who booted three of his four goals in the premiership stanza.

The third appeared to break the resolve of the Redlegs, who had been defending grimly during the latter stages of the term.

Norwood’s Cam Shenton got a decent fist onto the ball in a marking contest but instead of the ball being rushed over the goalline for a behind, it sat up nicely for McBean to soccer it off the ground from close range as the three-quarter time siren sounded.

Glenelg then finished off the game

strongly with a four-goal final term in consistent drizzling rain, conceding just one goal to Redleg Anthony Wilson after a defensive error across half-back.

With Josh Scott still sidelined and Tim Sumner squeezed out of the side into the Reserves, the Bays got plenty of potency from second-year talent Brad Close, who proved to be an excellent foil for McBean.

The boy from Mount Gambier was particularly clean with his hands in the wet to boot four goals, including a classy left foot snap and a clever soccer goal for the first major of the game after 10 minutes.

Close — who had 25 possessions — also produced two unselfish goal assists, one to McBean and another to Darcy Bailey, which otherwise would have resulted in him booting a game-high six majors.

Former captain Andrew Bradley and former Redleg Luke Partington thrived in the conditions for the Bays as they got in and under at the stoppages while also providing their team-mates with plenty of opportunities to finish with 62 disposals between them.

Current captain Chris Curran together with veterans Max Proud and Aaron Joseph were typically composed in

defence for the Tigers, who had contributors across the ground.

This was evidenced by just two players — Matt Uebergang and Tom Schott — having fewer than 10 disposals, with the pair still having nine each.

Norwood wasn’t afforded an ideal preparation for the contest when premiership utility Ed Smart injured himself in the warm-up, forcing former Panther Cody Szust to play two matches in succession after lining up in the Reserves.

Szust finished with 23 disposals in the League match to surpass the 18 he collected in the seconds as he worked hard to make the most of his unlikely opportunity.

Redlegs midfielder Matthew Nunn continued to gather his form after another game under his belt in the wake of his hip injury, finishing with a team-high 27 disposals while Dom Barry had 24 against his former side as he tried to break the lines.

Promising Norwood teenager Cam Taheny produced another efficient display in attack as he returned from the AFL Under-18 National Championships to boot a team-high four goals from 15 disposals and five marks.

GLENELG 2.2 5.5 11.8 15.10 (100)
NORWOOD 1.2 4.5 7.6 8.6 (54)

Leading Disposals

Glenelg: Partington 32, Bradley 30, Curran 27, Scharenberg 27, Snook 26, Close 25, Chalmers 23, Reynolds 23, Bailey 21, Motlop 20, Joseph 19.

Norwood: Nunn 27, Barry 24, Szust 23, Grigg 22, Hamilton 22, Gerloff 19, L. Johnston 19, McKenzie 18.

Goals

Glenelg: McBean 4, Close 4, Reynolds 3, Bailey 2, Partington, Schott.

Norwood: Taheny 4, A. Wilson 2, Gerloff, Panos.

Magarey Medal: 3 — L.Partington (Glenelg) 2 — B.Close (Glenelg) 1 — L.Reynolds (Glenelg)

Round 13 Match Results and Premiership Table

13-Jul-2019

Elizabeth Oval	Sturt	12-12	84	d.	Cent.Dist	12-7	79
Noarlunga Oval	WW Eagles	14-8	92	d.	South Adel	13-11	89
Richmond Oval	West Adel	6-10	46	d.	North Adel	6-8	44
Port Pirie	Port Adel	15-9	99	d.	Adelaide	10-9	69

14-Jul-2019

Glenelg Oval	Glenelg	15-10	100	d.	Norwood	8-6	54
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Teams	P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst	Pts	%
1 Glenelg	13	10	2	1	1258	868	21	59.17
2 Adelaide	13	10	2	1	1094	903	21	54.78
3 Port Adel	13	9	4	-	1208	1006	18	54.56
4 Sturt	13	8	5	-	962	867	16	52.60
5 South Adel	13	6	5	2	1036	960	14	51.90
6 WW Eagles	13	7	6	-	1147	1092	14	51.23
7 Norwood	13	7	6	-	1058	1153	14	47.85
8 Centrals	13	2	11	-	846	1224	4	40.87
9 West Adel	13	2	11	-	740	1072	4	40.84
10 North Adel	13	2	11	-	905	1109	-	44.94