

Standings

	P	W	L	D	F	A	% Pts
Eagles	10	8	2	0	777	536	59.18
North Adel	10	8	2	0	755	628	54.59
South Adel	10	6	4	0	762	629	54.78
Glenelg	10	6	4	0	756	742	50.47
Norwood	10	5	5	0	727	738	49.62
Sturt	10	4	6	0	598	666	47.31
West Adel	10	1	8	1	607	793	43.36
Central District	10	1	8	1	605	855	41.44

ANDREW CAPEL

WRITE Glenelg off at your peril.

The premier yesterday proved it is still very much alive in this year's flag race with a courageous two-point upset of high-flying North Adelaide at Prospect Oval.

Entering the game clinging to a top-four spot, the Tigers produced three quarters of their best football of the season, before withstanding a late Roosters onslaught.

Glenelg led by 28 points early in the last quarter the margin was cut to two points 17 minutes into the term, when Lewis Hender bagged his third goal as North surged forward with the wind.

But Glenelg held firm, despite having several players hurt, including premiership stars Marlon Motlop and Brad Agnew (ankles), to hold on in a thriller. There were several late-game heroes for the Tigers, with Luke Parks taking a goal-saving mark in the North goalsquare and Luke Reynolds applying a crucial smother in the dying stages.

Coach Mark Stone hailed



North Adelaide's Alex Spina tries to stop Glenelg's Billy Stretch during the last quarter yesterday. Picture: Dean Martin

**TIGERS' ROAR
COURAGE KEY
TO VITAL WIN**

North Adelaide	2.0	4.4	6.7	10.9	69
Glenelg	3.7	6.7	10.10	10.11	71

North Adelaide

Goal Kickers: L. Hender 3, A. Spina, K. Miller, J. Allmond, R. Young, A. Moore, P. Davies, K. Ramsey
Best Players: J. Allmond, H. Wigg, B. Jarman, K. LeBois, K. Ramsey, A. Spina

Glenelg

Goal Kickers: D. Bailey 3, L. McBean 2, T. Condon 2, M. Allen, L. Reynolds, R. Kuller
Best Players: M. Snook, L. Partington, C. Nicholson, J. Hannath, C. Park, M. Allen

the victory as one of Glenelg's most courageous in his three years in charge.

"We had no-one left on the bench, against a five-goal wind, so we had to put players behind the ball and just hang in there, try to hold on," he said.

"We had four players in the hands of the trainers and to hang on against a really good team that was coming hard at us, without a rotation, we showed a lot of courage.

"There were lots of important moments from our boys late in the game that you won't find on the stats sheet

but they win games for you."

North, playing for top spot, had 11 more inside 50s but trailed all day as Glenelg - beaten badly by South Adelaide last week - regained its hunger, desperation and tackling pressure.

The Tigers laid 82 tackles to the Roosters' 62.

Luke Partington was terrific for the Bays, with 25 disposals and nine clearances, while fellow midfielder Matthew Snook had 26 possessions and 12 tackles.

Playmaking left-footers Jarred Allmond and Harrison Wigg were the Roosters' best, combining for 57 disposals.

By ZAC MILBANK

Glenelg hung tough to hold on for a character-building two-point victory against a fast-finishing North Adelaide at Prospect Oval on Sunday.

Needing to bank the premiership points to maintain their spot in the top four ahead of fifth-placed Norwood, the Tigers showed plenty of grit to fend off the Roosters, who took three quarters to click into gear.

The Bays led at every change as they made the most of having the wind in the first and third terms, while also managing to kick three goals against it during the second stanza.

Leading by 27 points at three-quarter time, Mark Stone's men were forced to defend grimly throughout the final quarter as several players limped on and off the interchange bench.

Glenelg's Billy Stretch had the opportunity to extend the margin to 33 points with his set shot two minutes into the fourth term but after his miss, North took little more than a minute to engineer a vital two-goal turnaround with a stoppage snap from vice-captain Andrew Moore.

North captain Alex Spina then pounced on an errant Glenelg kick from defence, neatly gathering on the half-volley before nailing his shot on the run from 50m.

Suddenly, the deficit was back to 16 points and the Rooster faithful was in full voice as they sensed their team gathering momentum for a late surge.

Speedy Keanu Miller was causing Glenelg headaches in the dying stages as his team pushed forward at all costs, the former Magpie cutting the margin to 10 points with his goal on the run to the Farmer End.

Miller was at it again in constructing a goal to Lewis Hender, who booted his third major from a 15m set shot - putting North within two points 16 minutes into the final quarter.

It felt like Glenelg needed a miracle to hold on given Neil Vea Vea had spent the middle two terms on the bench only to return hurt to create a contest in attack in the final term.

Premiership forward Marlon Motlop - playing across half-back - and Tiger debutant Tom Condon also limped onto the interchange bench only to return in the dying stages.

Remarkably, Hender's goal would be the final score of the game as Glenelg showed plenty of spirit to continually repel the Roosters as they trailed the hosts with a 51-40 inside 50m count.

Glenelg's Magarey Medallist Luke Partington made the majority of his disposals count to tally 26 with his seven tackles and nine clearances.

His centering ball in the third term to Carl Nicholson, who out-marked two Roosters in the middle of the ground, resulted in a snap goal for Matt Allen.

Partington also forced the final turnover of the game in the last minute at half-forward, ensuring the last siren would sound with the ball bottled up at the top of Glenelg's goal square.

Jack Oatey Medallist Matthew Snook was also ferocious at the stoppages with 26 disposals while also laying 12 of Glenelg's 82 tackles for the afternoon to set the tone for his side.

Nicholson and Allen were also influential while first-year player Callum Park continues to look

poised at League level, registering 18 disposals and seven marks.

Premiership forward Luke Reynolds was another strong contributor, playing a vital defensive role in the fourth term and producing a stunning smother on the boundary line.

Defender Luke Parks took several eye-catching intercept marks while holding firm in the final term with captain Max Proud on the last line of defence for the Bays.

Darcy Bailey made the most of his chances with three opportunist goals while Sturt recruit Tom Condon made a promising club debut for Glenelg with 15 disposals and two nice set shot goals.

North's Harrison Wigg showed resilience to finish as his team's leading disposal winner with 29, shrugging off plenty of close attention from disciplined Tiger Jonty Scharenberg.

Jarred Allmond collected 28 disposals and kicked a fine snap shot goal from the boundary in the second term while Moore had 26 touches and five clearances to go with his fourth-term major.

Former Crows rookie Ben Jarman played arguably his best League game for the Roosters, showing plenty of dash in his new role off half-back to tally 23 disposals.

North forward Lewis Hender tried to provide a spark for his team at several junctures, finishing as his side's only multiple goal scorer with three.

But ultimately the Roosters were outclassed for three quarters before leaving their admirable run at the Tigers too late in the fourth quarter.