

# Tigers hold off Dogs to book a place in finals

**BEN CAMERON**

**PREMIER** Glenelg has booked its place for October action, but only just, holding off a tenacious Central District by a solitary point yesterday.

The Tigers got out to a match-high 18-point lead early in the last but the Dogs refused to roll over, as a James Boyd snap, which just drifted wide of the big sticks, almost pinched the game in the dying minutes.



In gloomy conditions with rain threatening to spoil the occasion, a four-minute, three-goal burst helped give the Dogs a 14-point buffer at the first break, kick-started by a sensational set shot from the boundary by Jordan O'Brien.

It could have been a wider margin, with the Dogs striking the woodwork several times while the Bays' forward line appeared dysfunctional.

Jarrold Schiller feasted on 16 possessions as the Dogs' engine room provided 17 inside 50 opportunities.

But the Bays hit back hard, with a Jack Kluse goal within

	Standings							
	P	W	L	D	F	A	%	Pts
Eagles	13	11	2	0	1067	647	62.25	22
North Adel	13	10	3	0	994	829	54.53	20
South Adel	13	8	5	0	1040	806	56/34	16
Glenelg	13	8	5	0	1001	990	50.28	16
Norwood	13	6	7	0	930	1025	47.57	12
Sturt	13	5	8	0	805	874	47.95	10
Central District	13	2	10	1	857	1127	43.2	5
West Adel	13	1	11	1	757	1153	39.63	3

	<b>GLENELG</b>	1.2	5.6	8.11	11.11	<b>77</b>
	<b>CENTRAL DIST.</b>	3.4	4.8	6.11	10.16	<b>76</b>

**BEST**  
**Glenelg:** Snook, Partington, Nicholson, Virgin, Park, Stretch, Slade.  
**Bulldogs:** J Schiller, T Schiller, Hoskin, Habel, Olsson, Toner, Boyd, Stephenson, Butcher, Fort.

**GOALS**  
**Glenelg:** Snook, Partington, Bailey 2, Nicholson, Schott, Slade, Kluske, Park.  
**Bulldogs:** Butcher 3, Jenner, Stephenson 2, Barreau, O'Brien, Olsson.

**UMPIRES**  
 Hundertmark, Lewis, Bryce.

**CROWD**  
 1362 at Glenelg Oval.

the opening 30 seconds and a brace to Magarey Medal fancy Matt Snook.

Collecting 27 possession, Snook would have only shortened his odds to win the league's top individual honour.

Defender Callum Park, who quietly accumulated 19 possessions for the half, also added a goal to his impressive game via two 25 metre penalties thanks to James Boyd's frustration with the umpires.

The total number of kicks, marks and handballs were almost identical at half time as

both teams had their share of the play.

John Butcher regained the lead for the Dogs, but he would go on to burn a number of golden opportunities that the visitors would ultimately rue.

A bomb from Tom Schott had the team converging on him and the Tigers taking a 12-point lead at the last change.

Despite Butcher getting a boot to ball in a footrace with the Tigers' defence for his third, the game appeared iced through a classy snap from Luke Partington and Darcy

Bailey's second from the arc.

But with Justin Hoskin twice finding Murray Stephenson on the lead for goals, the Dogs threatened to storm home.

Carl Nicholson's crowd-lifting major proved pivotal, as the visitors dominated the final minutes but failed to deliver the decisive blow.

**By ZAC MILBANK**

**Glenelg escaped with a heart-stopping one-point win against Central District at ACH Group Stadium to book its berth in the First Semi Final.**

As potential finalists Norwood and Sturt suffered Round 13 losses earlier in the afternoon, the Tigers made sure of their major round appearance against third-placed South Adelaide in a fortnight.

Trailing by 14 points at the first change, the Bays nudged their way in front to lead by four points at the half and two goals at the final break.

And it appeared the reigning premier was set to coast to victory against the plucky Bulldogs when Darcy Bailey opened up a game-high 18 point lead with his 40m set shot goal seven minutes into the last term.

But it was anything but a cruising finish for the Tiger faithful as Central finished the match much stronger as it had eight of the next nine scoring shots.

200-club veteran Kyle Jenner went about reducing the margin instantly with his left foot snap on goal in the ninth minute bringing the Dogs within two majors.

Fast-finisher Justin Hoskin then put the ball down the throat of a leading Murray Stephenson on consecutive occasions through the corridor, with the visitors' flame-haired forward booting two set shot goals from 30m in front within six minutes.

The second gave Central a two-point lead entering time-on of the fourth quarter and it was very nearly eight if not for a miss to fellow forward John Butcher.

Glenelg wasn't quite done yet though, as Tom Schott – playing his first League game since Round 17 last year after a serious knee injury – put a deep pass inside 50m to the advantage of premiership wingman Carl Nicholson.

After the match-winning play had been instigated by a vital hard ball get from Tiger Jack Yates on the wing, Nicholson calmly put through his set shot from 25m to give the Bays a three-point lead after 24 minutes.

From there, the hosts were forced to defend grimly as Central did all the attacking as it tried to steal back the advantage.

James Boyd's snap from 30m just sailed wide for a behind and then Jackson Kelly had another chance to put the Bulldogs in front when he found himself with the ball after an errant Glenelg kick-in crossed the boundary line.

After trying to pass off inboard, Kelly had a crack from the boundary line but it floated across the face for another behind, leaving his side just short on the scoreboard.

The Dogs kept coming during the last two minutes but the final siren sounded with the hosts in front by the barest of margins.

Glenelg's Michael Virgin showed plenty of desperation throughout the night and during the final stages, tallying 30 disposals and eight marks in a great defensive display.

Matthew Snook was again prominent for the Tigers with 27 disposals and two goals while fellow star midfielder Luke

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Partington had 24 touches and two majors.

First-year defender Callum Park used the ball nicely with the majority of his career-high 26 disposals, also kicking a handy set shot goal before half-time after Boyd conceded two consecutive 25m penalties.

Schott also provided another memorable moment on the night when he nailed an eye-catching 50m set shot goal during the third term, causing all of his teammates to run from all parts of the ground to congratulate him.

Central certainly didn't play like a team with no incentive on the premiership ladder, Jeff Andrews' charges continuing to gain enormous respect in the latter part of the season.

Last year's Club Champion Jarrod Schiller amassed 35 touches after having 16 at the first change, to go with his seven tackles while Boyd had 32 and eight clearances.

Travis Schiller racked up 28 disposals, eight tackles and six clearances while the Dogs have certainly found an exciting talent in VFL recruit Jack Toner, who had a career-high 27 disposals and nine marks as he finished the game full of running.

Hoskin (26 disposals) and captain Luke Habel (22 disposals) were particularly clean with their touches as Stephenson made the most of his chance to take nine marks along with his important two late goals and 14 disposals.