

Round 1, 2020 – Glenelg v Norwood @ Adelaide – Won 3 pts

Glenelg	2.0	5.3	8.8	11.10	76
Norwood	5.4	7.7	7.8	10.13	73

Glenelg

Goal Kickers: L.McBean 4, D.Bailey 3, B.Stretch, C.Nicholson, L.Partington, L.Reynolds

Best Players: M.Snook, L.McBean, M.Proud, L.Partington, M.Motlop

Norwood

Goal Kickers: L.Surman 2, T.Pinyon 2, M.Panos 2, M.Nunn, P.Bampton, R.Douglas, C.Gerloff

Best Players: M.Nunn, M.Panos, Z.Richards, L.Johnston, T.Pinyon, N.Rokahr

By ZAC MILBANK

Glenelg began its premiership defence with a heart-stopping three-point victory against a determined Norwood at Adelaide Oval.

Desperate to honour former skipper Andrew Bradley in his 150th game, the Bays showed tremendous resolve to slowly claw their way back into the contest after trailing by as much as 27 points early in the second term.

Norwood went without a goal for more than a quarter before its Mount Compass recruit Tom Pinyon made the most of a rare defensive error from Glenelg to tie up the scores four minutes into the last term.

Bays forward Liam McBean, one of his side's most influential players, then swooped on a loose ball to turn and snap a goal along the ground in one action.

It only served to spark the Redlegs into conjuring a significant surge in the fourth quarter as it then scored the next four behinds in succession, forcing new Bays skipper Max Proud into several spoils on the last line of defence.

Unheralded Tiger Carl Nicholson then pulled in a courageous mark running back with the flight before converting it into a nine-point lead. In such a tight contest, it seemed like the 2019 premiers were all but home 15 minutes in.

But Norwood's spirit was emphasised by Cole Gerloff nailing a difficult set shot from 35m before new captain Matt Panos made his presence felt by snapping truly from 30m to restore the lead on the stroke of time-on.

Within two minutes, Glenelg snatched back the lead when Magarey Medallist Luke Partington continued his strong finish to the match by marking an errant kick from Norwood's defence just inside the 50m arc.

Partington calmly slotted through his 45m set shot to put the Bays back in front by three points, which proved to be the final margin after a nail-biting final 11 minutes registered just a behind to each team as the clock ticked beyond 30 minutes.

It was an outstanding display of Statewide Super League football between two of the competition's powerhouse clubs at the home of SA footy.

Returning Tiger juniors Matt Allen and Billy Stretch combined for the opening goal of the game but the energetic Redlegs then shifted the momentum dramatically on the back of a stunning opening term from Panos.

Panos kicked his side's first major of the game before chalking up 11 disposals and four clearances before quarter-time as big Norwood key forward Luke Surman loomed large after booting two goals after displaying great aerial strength.

Even former Crow Richard Douglas was in on the act with his first goal, a close range snap shot, for his new club as the Legs earned a 22-point break at the first change.

The lead ballooned close to five goals when Pinyon snapped his first goal of the game after a turnover.

But Mark Stone's men had seen enough. Slowly but surely, the Tigers systematically worked their way back into the fierce contest by lifting their own pressure and moving the ball through the corridor.

Ken Farmer Medallist McBean was a significant beneficiary as he booted two goals and hit the post during the second stanza, one of his majors a booming set shot from 55m.

Jack Oatey Medallist Matt Snook was his typical self in and under from the first bounce while earning 29 disposals, seven tackles and 11 clearances.

His teammates began to join in through the third term as Partington (21 disposals) and Marlon Motlop (23 disposals) worked their way into the game after slow starts.

Hard nut Brad Agnew had 20 disposals, nine tackles and eight clearances while Glenelg debutant Luke Parks was impressive with his reading of the play to snare 10 defensive marks to go with his 16 disposals across half-back.

Livewire Bays forward Darcy Bailey also had an impact on the outcome, kicking three vital goals. Norwood's old firm of Panos (24 disposals, five tackles and nine clearances) and Mitch Grigg (23 disposals and seven tackles) led the way along with Matthew Nunn (27 disposals and six tackles), who kicked a nice goal on the run in the first-quarter flurry.

Douglas finished with 20 disposals to go with his goal while Norwood ruckman Sam Baulderstone got first touch in the centre square to amass 41 hit outs.

The Redlegs will look to inject former North Melbourne and Brisbane midfielder Ryan Bastinac into its side for Round 2 after he gained match condition in the Reserves this weekend.

Round 2, 2020 – Glenelg v South @ Adelaide – Won 5 pts

South Adelaide	3.1	5.2	7.4	14.8	92
Glenelg	4.1	11.5	14.7	15.7	97

South Adelaide

Goal Kickers: H.Sampson 3, L.Bogle 2, L.Fitt 2, E.Wilkinson 2, S.Overall 2, J.Kappler, T.Whittlesea

Best Players: M.Broadbent, H.Sampson, J.Summerton, B.Haren

Glenelg

Goal Kickers: L.Partington 3, C.Gregson 2, L.Reynolds 2, L.McBean 2, M.Motlop 2, B.Stretch, B.Agnew, C.Park, M.Allen

Best Players: L.Partington, B.Agnew, M.Snook, M.Proud, M.Allen

By ZAC MILBANK

Glenelg survived a spirited comeback from South Adelaide to hold on for a pulsating five-point win in the first game of a double-header at Adelaide Oval.

Seemingly coasting toward a convincing win after establishing a 45-point lead at the final change, the reigning premier was forced to defend grimly as the Panthers piled on seven of the eight goals kicked in the final quarter.

And Jarrad Wright's men nearly had a chance to steal the premiership points when, trailing by six, energetic South forward Eamon Wilkinson, who had earlier nailed a nice set shot from 50m, soccered off the ground for a behind.

Wilkinson had been awarded a free kick for in the back but elected to play on amid the drama, his opportunistic shot just falling to the left of the goal post.

The Bays – who had lost wingman Carl Nicholson to a heavy head knock earlier in the term – were then able to hang on for the next 90 seconds until the final siren sounded much to their relief.

Had South played with the same dash earlier in the contest, the result could have been very different as Glenelg took a stranglehold on the match with its unselfish play.

Leading by a goal at the first change, the Tigers produced an attractive brand of football which allowed all players to get involved through the use of handball.

They ended up having 53 more than South, which was no surprise given the way the ball was shared around inside their attacking 50m arc.

Premiership forward Marlon Motlop – one of his side's best with 25 disposals, seven tackles and nine clearances – was the beneficiary of this in the second term when he booted two easy goals.

And when a chain of four handballs in succession resulted in AAMI Rookie Callum Park booting his first League major in the goal square, it looked like the Bays were on their way to a percentage-boosting win.

Magarey Medallist Luke Partington started much stronger than Round 1 before finishing with 34 disposals, eight clearances and three goals, the third being the Tigers' lone scoring shot for the final term as he coolly finished on the run after an intercept at half-forward.

Jack Oatey Medallist Matt Snook was his industrious self in the middle with 29 disposals and 11 clearances while Brad Agnew laid a staggering 15 tackles to go with his 21 disposals and five clearances.

Glenelg's scoring was spread as key forwards Liam McBean and Luke Reynolds booted two each as recruits Billy Stretch, Matt Allen and Park were among those on the goal kickers' list.

Captain Max Proud defended valiantly in his 100th Statewide Super League game, alongside premiership skipper Chris Curran who returned to the line-up after missing Round 1.

Ruck recruit Jack Hannath dominated in the ruck to tally 42 hit outs with his 15 disposals in just his second game for the Bays.

South had few standout performers having been outplayed for the majority of the contest, co-captain Joel Cross bringing himself into the game during the final half hour to finish with 24 disposals and seven clearances.

The Magarey Medallist was also heavily involved in the last play of the day handballing over the top before snapping into the path of Wilkinson at the top of the goal square.

Defender Joe Haines (21 disposals and seven marks) was steady in defence while also starting up on the wing at times while Matthew Broadbent had his moments for 19 touches and five clearances.

Several of South's locally-bred youngsters continued their impressive development, with Hayden Sampson showing off his speed nicely to rack up 17 disposals and three goals.

Inclusion Luke Bogle booted two goals to match Wilkinson while Zac Dumesny kicked an important set shot goal in the third term after being rewarded for a strong tackle on Motlop.

Round 3, 2020 – Glenelg v North @ Glenelg – Lost 3 pts

Glenelg	4.1	6.3	7.4	11.5	71
North Adelaide	3.3	7.7	9.11	10.14	74

Glenelg

Goal Kickers: L.McBean 3, L.Reynolds 3, D.Bailey 2, C.Gregson, A.Bradley, C.Nicholson

Best Players: C.Nicholson, J.Hannath, A.Bradley, B.Agnew

North Adelaide

Goal Kickers: K.LeBois 3, A.Moore, R.Young, J.Allmond, C.Barns, B.Jarman, W.Combe, K.Ramsey

Best Players: C.Combe, J.Allmond, A.Moore, T.Schwarz, B.Jarman, K.Ramsey

By ZAC MILBANK

North Adelaide survived a spirited comeback to edge out a fast-finishing Glenelg by three points at ACH Group Stadium.

Now the Statewide Super League's sole undefeated team, the Roosters were forced to defend grimly as the Bays finally sprang to life to kick four of the five goals scored in the final quarter.

But it wasn't enough to reel in Jacob Surjan's charges, who benefited from an extremely even contribution despite their inaccuracy in front of goal – North had 24 shots to Glenelg's 16 – almost proving fatal.

For the majority of the first three quarters, North defended in unison to ensure it would be difficult for reigning premier to score on their home deck.

It wasn't until the final half-an-hour that Glenelg was able to generate any fluency as Darcy Bailey ran on to a loose ball over the back to trim the margin to 13 points just 60 seconds into the final term.

But then former Carlton rookie Kym LeBois snared his third goal to stretch the difference back out to 20 points for North nearing the ninth minute.

A well-held Lewis Hender looked to have kicked his first major of the game when it just fell short on the goalline for LeBois to pounce from close range.

Mark Stone's men refused to lie down though, as forwards Luke Reynolds and Liam McBean began to benefit from quicker ball movement inside 50m.

Reynolds flew high for a chest mark from a McBean pass before converting his 30m set shot as the Tigers gained momentum.

Suddenly the Bays had the margin pegged back to just nine points when Reynolds marked on the lead, received a 25m penalty and nailed his second set shot in the space of three minutes.

North forward Robbie Young took a chest mark falling backwards but when he missed his set shot from 35m, the door was still ajar for the hosts to win.

Courageous Carl Nicholson timed his run nicely to crumb at the front of the pack and snap truly along the ground from 20m, putting the Bays within three points.

But with just little over a minute left on the clock, North was able to win the last centre clearance of the game and hold on for a valuable victory.

North forward Keenan Ramsey is sandwiched by Glenelg defenders Alex Martini (front) and Max Proud. Picture – Deb Curtis

LeBois was a constant threat around the goals all afternoon, his two majors in the second term arriving at a critical juncture as North began to gain control of the contest.

The speedy left-footer spun out of traffic to snap from 20m before nailing a snap shot from 45m which bounced through to give the North fans plenty to cheer about.

No frills-pair Campbell Combe and Tom Schwarz did a power of work at the stoppages for the visitors, the latter celebrating his 100th League game with 24 disposals and seven tackles.

Jarred Allmond racked up 26 touches for the Roosters, one of them being a successful 55m set shot late in the first term.

North – who had Billy Hartung withdraw from the game with a back injury – had its win soured by Cam Hewett leaving the ground on crutches after the final siren after hurting his foot in the fourth quarter.

Glenelg got plenty of grunt from hardnuts Matthew Snook and Brad Agnew through the midfield, the pair continually throwing their bodies into the contest.

Snook laid a whopping 13 tackles to go with his 27 disposals and six clearances while Agnew had nine clearances and six tackles alongside his 23 possessions.

Jack Hannath found plenty of ball around the ground, the Tigers' ruckman tallying 21 disposals and 10 clearances with his 31 hit outs.

First-year defender Luke Parks did a solid job of keeping the dangerous Hender under wraps as the Bays missed Marlon Motlop, who was a late withdrawal due to a calf complaint.

Round 4, 2020 – Glenelg v West @ Richmond – Lost 16 pts

West Adelaide	2.1	5.1	9.1	10.4	64
Glenelg	3.3	5.6	5.6	7.6	48

West Adelaide

Goal Kickers: T.Keough 5, S.May, N.Batley, I.Johnson, L.Hupfeld, M.Waite

Best Players: T.Keough, B.Turner, K.Stevens, M.Duval, J.Boyle, E.Dunkin

Glenelg

Goal Kickers: L.Reynolds 3, L.McBean 2, M.Merrett, C.Park

Best Players: A.Bradley, C.Nicholson, M.Snook, C.Curran

By ZAC MILBANK

West Adelaide caused a boilover as it secured its first premierships points in more than a year with a plucky 16-point win against Glenelg at Hisense Stadium.

Without a win since defeating North by two points on July 13 of 2019, the Bloods piled on the pain for the Tigers during the third quarter, booting four goals while holding the reigning premier scoreless.

"I'll sleep a bit better tonight – I haven't slept very well since our last win over a year ago," a relieved Bloods coach Gavin Colville told Channel 7 after the final siren.

"It's just so rewarding for the players because they have been trying and learning for so long now. The message at three-quarter time was just to keep going with the process. I knew if we stuck at our game plan we would be OK."

West captain Tom Keough flourished in his team's three-prong forward line with five goals, as fellow forwards Lyndon Hupfeld and Riley Thilthorpe played important structural roles.

Keough set the tone for his side in the first term with two classy snap shot goals, he then found plenty of space inside 50m early in the second quarter to mark low to the ground ahead of booting his third.

The former Gold Coast Sun restored the lead for the hosts after marking strongly on the lead from a Hupfeld pass before giving West a 13-point lead 7

minutes into the fourth term from his 20m set shot, directly in front.

"It's nice to finally get a win on the board," Keough told Channel 7 after the match.

"We knew the work we were doing, we were nearly there, but now it's nice to just finally get there.

"It was good to get on the end of the few but I was just happy for us to get the win."

West's hunger at the stoppages was evident as it made the most of its 47-26 hit out advantage to gain a 40 to 27 edge at the clearances, whilst also posting 48 inside 50 entries to Glenelg's 31.

Bloods midfielders Jordan Boyle, Brett Turner, Kaine Stevens and Pat Fairlie were instrumental in this, collecting 23 clearances between them.

Murray Waite and Isaac Johnson showed plenty of dash in registering 17 disposals and a goal each while vice-captain Logan Hill was rock solid for West across half-back with 21 possessions.

Glenelg defenders Andrew Bradley, Chris Curran and Max Proud defended tirelessly against the tide as did Michael Virgin, who took 10 marks – at least two of them in a courageous manner – in his return to the side.

Jack Oatey Medallist Matthew Snook also never gave in for the Bays, tallying a game-high 12 clearances to go with his 25 possessions.

2020 SANFL League Premiership Ladder after Round 4

Teams	P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Agnst	Pts	%
WW Eagles	4	3	1	-	329	204	6	61.73
South Adel	4	3	1	-	314	246	6	56.07
North Adel	4	3	1	-	287	268	6	51.71
Glenelg	4	2	2	-	292	303	4	49.08
Sturt	4	2	2	-	215	266	4	44.70
West Adel	4	1	2	1	281	302	3	48.20
Norwood	4	1	3	-	269	321	2	45.59
Centrals	4	-	3	1	242	319	1	43.14

Round 5, 2020 – Glenelg v W-WT Eagles @ Glenelg – Lost 20 pts

Glenelg	1.2	4.5	8.9	12.11	83
WW Eagles	4.2	11.3	14.6	16.7	103

Glenelg

Goal Kickers: L.McBean 5, L.Reynolds 2, A.Weir, M.Allen, M.Snook, J.Kluske, A.Bradley

Best Players: A.Bradley, L.McBean, M.Snook, B.Agnew, M.Virgin

Eagles

Goal Kickers: J.Rowe 4, J.Von Bertouch 4, J.Firns 2, C.Hall 2, J.Hayes, J.Comitogianni, A.Poole, T.Carcuro

Best Players: L.McNeil, J.Foote, R.Mansell, J.Redden, J.Sinor

By ZAC MILBANK

Woodville-West Torrens survived a spirited comeback from Glenelg to earn a valuable 20-point victory at ACH Group Stadium.

Leading by as much as 45 points midway through the third quarter, the Eagles were forced to steady during the final term after the Tigers piled on six of the last eight majors in the match.

Glenelg's AAMI Rookie Angus Weir produced a memorable snap during the third quarter to start the momentum swinging in his team's favour.

Jack Oatey Medalist Matthew Snook – who was once again outstanding for his side with 31 disposals, eight tackles and 12 clearances – nailed his set shot to have the hosts within 33 at the final change.

Then Liam McBean booted the first two goals of the final stanza to take his tally to five before fellow forward Luke Reynolds finished off his excellent work rate further up the ground with a third in succession.

But just as they had all afternoon, the Eagles continued to answer as mature-age forward Tristan Carcuro hit James Rowe up on the lead.

Rowe, now leading the race for the Ken Farmer Medal, then calmly slotted his set shot from 30m.

Carcuro was soon involved again after kicking his tricky set shot from the boundary just two minutes later to make Glenelg's fightback too difficult to execute, with the visitors leading by 28 points midway through the final term.

With the majority of the key stats categories even, the Eagles' efficiency inside 50m was illustrated by them having 15 fewer entries.

It didn't matter that captain Luke Thompson was sidelined with a corked thigh or that future SANFL 200 Club member Matt Goldsworthy (glute) was a late withdrawal for his milestone match, the contributors for coach Jade Sheedy were plentiful.

Past Eagles Club Champions Jordan Foote and Joseph Sinor gave their team plenty of drive with 21 and 23 disposals each while Chris Hall and Jake Comitogianni also hit the scoreboard.

Launceston recruit Rhyan Mansell continued his impressive start to the season with 16 disposals and a goal-saving chase and tackle which prevented a certain major to Glenelg's Marlon Motlop late in the third term.

Reduced to 21 men for the majority of the match after defender Matt Merrett found himself on crutches at half-time, Glenelg had plenty of heart displayed by veterans Snook and Andrew Bradley.

Bradley, one of few Tigers to play four quarters of footy, finished with 35 disposals and 10 marks across half-back and the wings while Magarey Medallist Luke Partington had 25 touches and three clearances.

The Tigers now have a 2-3 win-loss record just inside the top four while the Eagles sit at the top of the table with an impressive 4-1 mark while playing full of confidence.

2020 SANFL League Premiership Ladder after Round 5

Teams	P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Agnst	Pts	%
WW Eagles	5	4	1	-	432	287	8	60.08
South Adel	5	4	1	-	393	305	8	56.30
North Adel	5	4	1	-	379	330	8	53.46
Glenelg	5	2	3	-	375	406	4	48.02
Norwood	5	2	3	-	357	394	4	47.54
Sturt	5	2	3	-	288	354	4	44.86
West Adel	5	1	3	1	340	381	3	47.16
Centrals	5	-	4	1	304	411	1	42.52