

Crouch has a ball as Crows send out premiership warning

Adelaide's Matt Crouch takes possession again in the Crows' big win against Glenelg on Saturday at the Bay. Picture: David Mariuz/SANFL



ADELAIDE	126
6.1 12.6 14.8 19.12	
GLENELG	52
2.3 2.4 7.4 8.4	

CAPEL'S BEST
Adelaide: Crouch, Strachan, Frampton, Davis, Himmelberg, Taylor, McPherson, Nankervis.
Glenelg: Bailey, Horsnell, Snook, McBean, Proud.
GOALS
Adelaide: Wright, Gollant 3, Crouch, Himmelberg, Boyle, McAsey 2, Taylor, Davis, Strachan, McKenzie, Hall.
Glenelg: McBean 2, Stagg, Partington, Kuller, Reynolds, Murdoch, Hannath.
UMPIRES
 Hughes, Medlin, Scott.
CROWD
 2087 at Glenelg Oval.

ANDREW CAPEL

MATT Crouch sent a message to Adelaide's match committee - and the Crows sent an ominous warning to their SANFL rivals - as they demolished flag favourite Glenelg at the Bay on Saturday.

Crouch had a whopping 42 disposals, including a stunning 17 in the first quarter, as his side romped to a 74-point victory, embarrassing the Tigers on their own turf on a day they were supposed to be honouring club legend Neil Kerley.

With former Glenelg midfielder Brett Turner playing his first game for Adelaide, after being snapped up in the AFL mid-season draft, the Crows turned the highly anticipated blockbuster between second and third into a fizzer. The match was over as a contest by halftime.

The Tigers kicked the first goal after three minutes through star forward Liam McBean. That was about when their resistance ended in the club's heaviest defeat in the Brett Hand coaching era, surpassing the 67-point loss to the Eagles in last year's grand final.

With 2017 All-Australian Crouch igniting its engine room, Adelaide kicked 12 of the next 13 goals before the long break to storm to a 62-point lead.

While the Bays fought back from 41 points behind to win by 15 points when the clubs last met in round 3 - largely inspired by Tur-

ner's four goals and 38 disposals - this time there was no comeback.

The statistics painted a picture of the Crows' first-half dominance as they controlled the territory battle, leading inside 50s 38-16. They finished with 31 scoring shots to Glenelg's 12 in a result that will shake up premiership odds.

The emphatic win saw Adelaide leapfrog the Tigers into second spot - one win behind ladder leader North Adelaide. And it looms as a genuine flag threat unless injuries strike its AFL and SANFL lists in the run home.

"I was really impressed with our performance, especially in the first half," said Crows coach Michael Godden, who fielded 16 AFL-listed players. "Our attitude was really good, what happened to us last time down here in the second half was front of mind, and we played a real team game right across the board."

Godden said Crouch, who also kicked two goals and had 11 clearances in a performance that enhanced his claims for an AFL recall, set the tone for Adelaide in a "damaging" performance.

Tigers coach Brett Hand described his side's performance as "bitterly disappointing".

"We were beaten by a much better team whose pressure was elite, and we couldn't handle it," Hand said. "We didn't play the way 'Knuckles' (Kerley) would have wanted us to play."

CENTRAL	66
1.1 4.1 6.3 10.6	
SOUTH	65
2.3 3.4 7.5 10.5	

MARCHIORO'S BEST
Central: Presbury, Lange, T.Schiller, J.Schiller, Dahms, Fort, Montgomerie.
South: Sampson, Dunkin, Haines, Heaslip, Brooksby, Gunther.
GOALS
Central: Lange 4, East, Kendall, J.Schiller, Neagle, McCormack, T.Schiller.
South: Sampson 3, Gunther 2, Bogle, Dunkin, Heaslip, Overall, Kraemer.
UMPIRES
 Galletly, Lewis, Burke.
CROWD
 1113 at Elizabeth Oval.

NORTH	136
6.2 11.3 16.9 20.16	
PORT	10
0.1 0.3 1.4 1.4	

ARMSTRONG'S BEST
North: A. Moore, Spina, W. Combe, Craig, Wigg, C. Combe, Hewett, Young, Szekeley, Grubb, Ramsey.
Port: Sutcliffe, Mayes, N. Moore, D. Williams.
GOALS
North: Ramsey, Lockyer 3, McInerney, W. Combe, Szekeley, Moore, Minervini 2, Elbrow, Wigg, Grubb, Young.
Port: Jackson.
UMPIRES
 Sobieraj, Bennett, Bowen.
CROWD
 2017 at Prospect Oval.

STURT	75
2.3 7.6 8.7 11.9	
WEST	35
0.1 0.4 3.7 4.11	

PARTLAND'S BEST
Sturt: Thiele, Voss, Page, Hone, Lochowiak, Illman, Coombas.
West: P. Fairlie, Ryan, Park.
GOALS
Sturt: Hone 3, Thiele, Davis 2, Shute, Carruthers, Burrows, Emmett.
West: Hartlett, Keough, Beech, Gore.
INJURIES
Sturt: Wilson (shoulder), Thiele (hamstring).
INJURIES
 Williams, Hundertmark, Morgan.
CROWD
 1824 at Wigan Oval, Unley.

NORWOOD	90
3.4 7.5 9.10 13.12	
EAGLES	66
0.2 3.4 4.4 10.6	

BEST
Norwood: Rantall, Spence, Boyd, McLean, Rokahr, Hamilton, Jarvis, Heard. **Eagles:** D. Menzel, Knight, Sinor, Clarke, Goldsworthy.

GOALS
Norwood: McLean 4, Rantall, Jarvis 3, Spence, Wilkins, Lowe.
Eagles: D. Menzel 4, Goldsworthy 3, T. Menzel, Redden, Allmond.
UMPIRES
 Harris, Bryce, Sboro.
CROWD
 1811 at Woodville Oval.

	Standings					% Pts
	P	W	L	F	A	
North Adel	12	10	2	1107	733	60.21 20
Adelaide	12	9	3	1192	841	58.63 18
Glenelg	12	9	3	978	837	53.88 18
Norwood	12	7	5	901	785	53.44 14
Sturt	12	7	5	871	806	51.94 14
Eagles	12	7	5	853	811	51.26 14
South Adel	12	5	7	785	867	47.52 10
Central Dist	12	3	9	749	1022	42.29 6
Port Adel	12	3	9	730	1043	41.17 6
West Adel	12	0	12	739	1160	38.87 0

Crows completely dominate Tigers

- Brett Hand, Senior Coach

After an emotional week for the SA Football community and the club, with Neil Kerley passing away and a number of other deaths in the club, it was disappointing for us to play the way we did.

Celebrating Indigenous Round with our guernsey designed by Gibson Turner's aunty, Amanda Turner, we were excited to wear it and were looking forward to a tough hit out against a strong, mature Crows outfit. And they gave us what we expected - a tough and uncompromising brand of football that I thought we managed to cope within the first 15 minutes of the first

glenelgfc.com.au/news

quarter. However, we then we conceded numerous goals from turnover in the next quarter and half and we were unable to find a way back into the game.

Unlike last time, when we were able to wrestle the ascendancy back in our favour, we just couldn't find room for us to move the ball, and every time we did they seemed to outnumber us at the contest.

With a few structural changes and tweaks to our plan at half time we were competitive for the second half, outscoring them in the third quarter.

ACH Group Stadium, Saturday 2nd July, 1:10pm

It certainly wasn't a display of football that would have made Knuckles proud, and it is one that we need to learn from and look forward to next week against South to rectify our poor showing.

Condolences to the Kerley, Kavanagh, Tanner and Robinson families and friends for the recent deaths of their loved ones. All were wonderful contributors and supporters of this great club and will be sorely missed.

Hope to see you this week for our game against South down at Flinders University Stadium.