

10 out of 10 as Tigers clear out in front

Andrew Capel

White-hot Glenelg made it a Perfect 10 with a crushing 63-point victory against Central District at the Bay on Sunday.

The super-impressive Tigers – clear premiership favourites after 11 rounds – overcame a strong first-half challenge from the Bulldogs to record their 10th consecutive win and consolidate top spot.

It was also Glenelg's 10th straight victory against Central, which hasn't beaten it for five years.

The Tigers' only loss this season was in the opening round against Sturt at Unley 93 days ago.

"It's a great result for us, winning 10 games in a row, but we also got a lot of learnings out of this performance against a really competitive Central side,

which is a positive," said first-year Glenelg coach Darren Reeves, who has his side humming.

"That is based around valuing defence first and foremost, and also contest. Once we got those things right I felt we played some really exhilarating footy with ball in hand."

The Tigers, who handed recruit Connor McLeod – son of Crows legend Andrew McLeod – his Glenelg debut after his off-season move from Woodville-West Torrens, had too much class for the blue-collar Dogs outfit.

Ruckman Cam McGree made the most of Bulldog Billy McCormack's absence through suspension to give his midfielders, including Matt Allen (27 disposals, three goals), first use of the ball in the centre square, while the Bays'

star-studded forward line proved too tough for the visitors to handle.

Lachie Hosie, who took two spectacular marks in the final quarter, Luke Reynolds (four each) and Liam McBean (three) booted 11 goals between them while the unselfish McBean also gifted McLeod his first Glenelg major.

The Tigers played some scintillating footy early, kicking a goal through Hosie after just 21 seconds and before Central had touched the ball.

They opened up a four-goal lead after 16 minutes before the Bulldogs lifted their pressure rating and turned the game.

In the blink of an eye Central was remarkably in front, having kicked four unanswered goals – two each to Nick Lange and Marcus Barreau – to grab a

four-point lead early in the second quarter.

But the home side responded strongly.

The classy Allen steadied his team with consecutive goals and further majors to Reynolds and McBean saw Glenelg regain the initiative and skip back out to a 21-point lead at half-time.

There was no way back as Central, 5-6 and chasing its first finals appearance since 2017, remained winless away from home this season, losing all five road games.

"We were really competitive in the first half and played some really good footy but in the second half fundamentally we were just off a little bit and a class side like Glenelg capitalised," Bulldogs coach Paul Thomas said.

"Our challenge is to become more consistent."

GLENELG V CENTRAL

5.0	3.1
9.3	5.6
11.9	6.9
18.12	8.9
120	57

BEST – Glenelg: Allen, McGree, Hosie, Bailey, Reynolds, Stretch, McBean, Partington, Lyons. **Central:** Grant, Iles, Liddy, McLennan, Dudley.

GOALS – Glenelg: Hosie, Reynolds 4, McBean, Allen 3, Lyons, Bell, McLeod, Partington. **Central:** Lange, Barreau, Grace 2, Liddy, Munn.

UMPIRES – Morgan, Hardy, Galletly.

CROWD – 2606 at Stratarama Stadium, Glenelg.

NORTH V ADELAIDE

6.3	1.3
7.3	4.6
9.6	6.9
10.6	7.15
66	57

BEST – North: Spina, Wigg, Szekely, Gowers, Mayes, White, Magor, McCann, Patmore. **Adelaide:** Crouch, Berry, Borlase, Parnell, Strachan, Hatley, Newchurch.

GOALS – North: Lockyer, Szekely 2, Mayes, Patmore, Hilder, McCann, White, Dinning. **Adelaide:** Newchurch 3, Gollant 2, McAdam, Hatley.

UMPIRES – Sboro, Burke, Williams.

CROWD – 1683 at Prospect Oval.

SOUTH V EAGLES

4.1	3.3
8.5	5.3
11.7	7.4
11.10	8.10
76	58

BEST – South: Brooksby, Davis, Shillabeer, Mutch, Gibbs, Tucker, Megins, O'Neill. **Eagles:** Beecken, Rowe, Beattie, D'Aloia.

GOALS – South: Shillabeer 3, Brooksby, Fitt, Heaslip 2, Wilkinson, Hayes. **Eagles:** Beattie 3, Rowe 2, Nicholls, D'Aloia, Pearce.

UMPIRES – Bowen, Millar, Lewis.

CROWD – 1144 at Maughan Thiem Kia Oval, Woodville.

PORT V WEST

5.3	3.2
7.4	7.4
10.8	10.6
13.14	12.10
92	82

BEST – Port: Mead, Moore, Jackson, Evans, Duursma, Hayes. **West:** Park, Mattingly, Maguire, J. Ryan, K. Ryan, Goe.

GOALS – Port: Moore 3, Duursma, Ferrari 2, Evans, Scully, Hagan, Lord, Mead, Jackson. **West:** Delahunty, Gore 2, Ellem, Maguire, Park, Mulady, Johnson, Redfern, K. Ryan, Kennedy.

UMPIRES – Harris, Hughes, Bennett.

CROWD – 1314 at Alberton Oval.

NORWOOD V STURT

1.3	2.2
3.3	2.7
5.3	3.8
9.5	3.12
59	30

BEST – Norwood: Rokahr, Boyd, Surman, Nunn, Seymour, Heard, McLean. **Sturt:** Voss, Dakin, Slimming, Page, McFadyen.

GOALS – Norwood: Panos, Hamilton, McLean 2, Lowe, Cresswell, Lok. **Sturt:** Hone, Rentsch, Richards.

UMPIRES – Sobieraj, Tee, Scott.

CROWD – 3344 at Wigan Oval, Unley.

SANFL LEAGUE Standings

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Glenelg	11	10	1	988	610	20
Sturt	11	9	2	766	721	18
Adelaide	11	7	4	946	643	14
Port Adel	11	5	6	802	868	10
Central Dist	11	5	6	630	714	10
North Adel	11	5	6	684	784	10
Eagles	11	4	7	686	712	8
South Adel	11	4	7	669	826	8
West Adel	11	3	8	706	827	6
Norwood	11	3	8	588	760	6

RESERVES

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
GLENELG	0.5	7.6	9.9	14.9	(93)	
CENTRAL DIST	2.1	3.2	4.3	7.6	(48)	

GOALS: Glenelg: N Leck 5 A Kitschko 2 H Brokensha A Cole H Stagg N Sims J Yates N Paredes M Rossmann. Central District: B Owen 3 D Pearce B Thomas C Hooper L Habel.

BEST: Glenelg: A Lovelock H Stagg B Searle H Brokensha J Moore. Central District: L Habel J Hall B Thomas T Richard C Dahms.

Standings

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts
Glenelg	11	9	2	0	895	615	18
Central Dist	11	8	3	0	735	667	16
South Adel	11	6	4	1	762	656	13
Sturt	11	6	5	0	792	610	12
Norwood	11	5	6	0	709	736	10
Woodville	11	4	7	0	754	805	8
West Adel	11	3	7	1	582	823	7
North Adel	11	2	9	0	565	882	4

COACH'S MATCH REPORT – GLENELG V CENTRALS – ROUND 11, 2023

Tigers victorious in First Nations Round

Stratarama Stadium, Sunday 2nd July, 2:10pm

Glenelg	5.0	9.3	11.9	18.12	120
Central District	3.1	5.6	6.9	8.9	57

Goals: Luke Reynolds 4, Lachie Hosie 4, Liam McBean 3, Matthew Allen 3, James Bell, Corey Lyons, Connor McLeod, Luke Partington

Best: Matthew Allen, Cam McGree, Billy Stretch, Luke Partington, Jonty Scharenberg, Brett Turner

Disposals: D. Bailey 35, L. Partington 31, M. Allen 27, B. Stretch 27, M. Snook 26, M. Proud 23, J. Scharenberg 23

Magarey Medal:
3 – Matthew Allen (GI), 2 – Cam McGree (GI), 1 – Luke Partington (GI)



An interesting challenge awaited us in our Round 11 clash with Central District Football Club. We went into the game completely aware that they have been one of the real improvers over the season so far, plus they gave us some real headaches in our Round 7 encounter a few weeks back. We have great respect for how they can compete around contest, and knowing that, they will keep coming at you for the full four quarters.

This is exactly what we got in the first half. We were able to start the game in a positive way, using the ball well and turning it into scoreboard reward. But full credit to Central District, in that they were able to shift the momentum in their favour and have the game on their terms late in the first quarter and most of the second quarter also. We were slightly disappointed in the fact we had gone away from our strong value of defence and our ability to be assertive around contest. What is pleasing though is our ability to recognise on the run and

adjust in the heat of the battle. We were able to do that late in the first half and get back some advantage in the game leading into the break.

Our second half focus was about getting that side of the game right and getting back to what we know is working. Although we didn't get the complete reward on the scoreboard through the third quarter, our ability to play the game in our forward half of the ground had the game completely back on our terms. And when we have our forward half pressure and defensive method up and going, we are able to break games open with our offense – something we've done well over the year so far. The last quarter was a great example of this, with a seven goal reward. Equally pleasing is the even contribution from all our players and our ability to play at a high level for the entire game.

Our Reserves group continue to impress, playing a strong brand of football both sides of the ball. As a coaching group, we are really pleased with how the group is going about their work. The intensity and drive to improve within every training session is translating into consistently strong football each week. We are excited by the talent and depth we have within the club, and I have no doubt we will need to utilise this as the season moves on. But it is also an exciting look into the future of our club. Well done to all players throughout the group.

While we sit in a strong position currently, we are aware of what is ahead and how there is a need for us to keep improving. We will continue to do that into this week as we prepare for the challenge against the defending premiers, who have played as well as anyone over the last three games.

– Darren Reeves, Senior Coach
glenelgfc.com.au



ROUND 11 TEAMS

SANFL

	P	Pts	%
Glenelg	10	18	61.1
Sturt	10	18	52.7
Adelaide	10	14	60.6
Central District	10	10	49.1
Woodville-WT	10	8	49.7
Port Adelaide	10	8	47.5
North Adelaide	10	8	46
West Adelaide	10	6	45.9
South Adelaide	10	6	43.7
Norwood	10	4	42



James Bell celebrates a goal for the Swans with a war cry in 2019 and (below) after scoring a goal for Glenelg against Sturt this month. Pictures: Getty Images, SANFL Image/David Mariuz

GLENELG v CENTRAL STRATARAMA STADIUM, SUNDAY, 2.10PM

Holder 23, Reynolds 7, Hosie 20	F	Grace 32, Splann 36, Schiller 38
Stretch 18, McBean 1, Turner 27	HF	Barreau 19, Munn 24, Lange 29
Bell 11, Partington 10, Lyons 8	C	Whitelum 31, McLennan 12, Carroll 44
Wisdom 26, Newman 12, Bailey 9	HB	Hoskin 20, Little 28, Presbury 7
Pink 32, Proud 5, Scharenberg 2	B	Iles 15, Kendall 11, Chisholm 4
McGree 19, Snook 3, Allen 22	R	Pickering 52, Liddy 6, Grant 10
(from) Martini 16, Deep 41, Leck 38,	Int	(from) Cowham 27, Dahms 41, Dudley 30,
McLeod 29, Lovelock 39, Chandler 36,		Larkins 8, Lochowiak 42, Olsson 17, Shaw 26
McCarthy 14	In	Dahms, Larkins, Olsson, Pickering, Shaw
Leck, Lovelock, McLeod, McCarthy	Out	East, McCormack (susp)
Gerloff (susp)		

RINGING THE BELL

Andrew Capel

Eight years ago, a 16-year-old James Bell made a promise to himself.

After witnessing dual Sydney Brownlow Medallist Adam Goodes famously perform an Indigenous war cry goal celebration during AFL Indigenous Round at the SCG against Carlton, Bell vowed to do likewise if he ever played AFL and kicked a goal.

"I was a spectator in the grandstand and I remember seeing Goodes, who I idolised, do that and my eyes just lit up," Bell explained.

"I promised myself straight away that if I was to play AFL and kick a goal, my first ever AFL goal, I would do a similar celebration."

Four years later, Bell danced on the MCG.

Playing his second AFL game for the Swans after being drafted as a Category B rookie in 2017, Bell goaled two minutes into the final quarter of the round 22, 2019, clash against Melbourne to put his side 43 points in front.

He then unleashed his

Goodes-like celebration. "That was probably the highlight of my AFL career," said Bell, who was delisted by the Swans at the end of last season after playing 28 games and kicking 10 goals.

"I was able to represent my family back home and I love being a part of ceremonies and embracing culture, so that's what it was all about."

Goodes had explained that his celebration was "all about representing our people and our passion and dance is a big way we do that".

His iconic gesture has since been immortalised with a statue at the Swans' headquarters at Moore Park.

On Sunday – for his new club Glenelg against Central District – Bell will play in a SANFL First Nations Round for the first time.

The speedy, 183cm forward/midfielder will don the Tigers' classy Indigenous guernsey, designed by Northern Territory artist Amanda Turner, and can't wait to add it to his collection.

"I love being able to play footy in Indigenous round,"



the 24-year-old said. "The Glenelg design is great and I love how clubs have embraced these rounds, which mean a lot to me because I am a proud Indigenous man."

"I was lucky enough to play in a couple of these rounds with Sydney (against Fremantle in 2020 and Carlton in 2022) and I have those guernseys up on my wall. This one is going to sit proudly alongside them."

All 10 SANFL clubs will don their Indigenous guernseys in the next two rounds.

Bell, who has four sisters and one brother, is a Yuin, Dughutti and Dharawal man whose family hails from the

south coast of New South Wales.

"NSW is a very rugby league oriented state, so my family didn't know too much about footy until I popped up on the scene," Bell said.

"Now they love it and watch all my Glenelg games on the SANFL App."

Bell, who was once a groundsman at the SCG and a promising soccer player, was drawn to the Bays through his close friendship with former Swans teammates Toby Pink, who is now back at Tigerland, and Will Gould, a 2019 Glenelg premiership player.

"I watched a lot of SANFL games with Will on the app and you hear a lot about the competition being the best outside the AFL," Bell said.

"When it was looking like I wasn't going to re-sign at Sydney, my manager said, statistically, the majority of mature-agers that get back into the AFL come from the SANFL."

"So I spoke to Toby and told him it was a no-brainer for me, I'm coming to play footy with him again."