Proud leads way as Bays step up

Andrew Capel

Glenelg took a big step towards winning the minor premiership – and spoiled North Adelaide's day of celebrations – with a convincing but hard-fought five-goal win in a fiery clash at Prospect Oval on Sunday.

With the Roosters celebrating their 2018 premiership team and unveiling the Bob Hammond Mound in honour of their club great, the Tigers played party-pooper and showed why they are this year's flag favourites. North, fighting for a top-five spot, threw everything but the kitchen sink at the Bays but Darren Reeves' outfit soaked up the finals-type pressure in wet conditions and kicked away late to clinch its league-leading 13th win from 15 starts.

The gritty victory – built on a clearance domination (45-27) and rock-solid defence – pushed Glenelg one win and percentage clear of secondplaced Sturt with three minor round series to play.

"North is a high-quality team that has got some talent back on the ground and the intensity, the way both teams cracked in, was a finals-like game, so it was a really professional win," Reeves said.

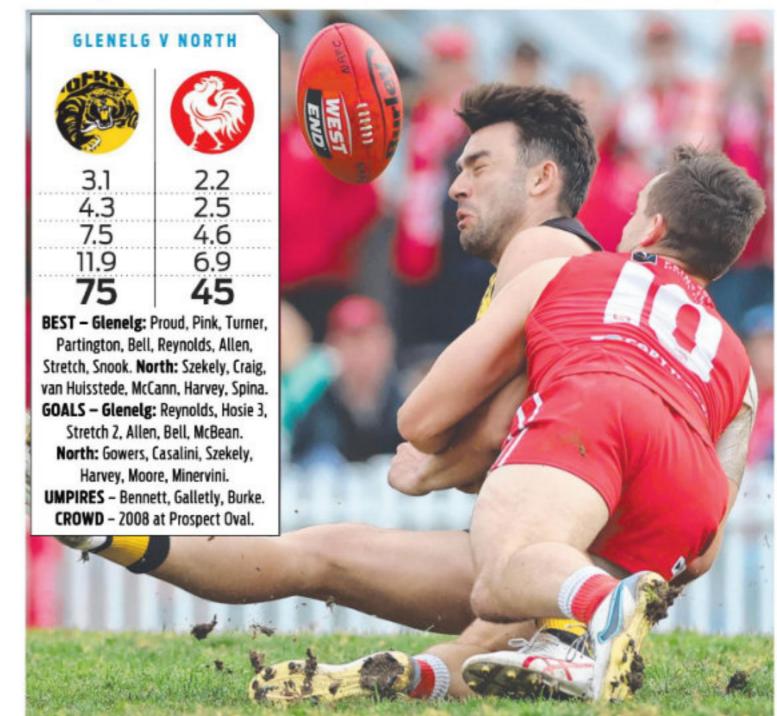
"We knew it was going to be a tough challenge and I was really pleased with how we defended when things were going against us. I thought our back seven were outstanding. Then, as the game wore on, we were really strong around the contest, were able to own territory for long periods and in the end were able to break them down and get some scoreboard reward."

With Magarey Medallist Campbell Combe returning from concussion, the Roosters fielded their best team of the season and they won the territorial battle early, winning the inside-50 count 16-9 in the first term.

But Glenelg's defence led superbly by inspirational captain Max Proud, who took a remarkable 16 marks in the slippery conditions, and the ever-reliable Toby Pink, who eclipsed Keenan Ramsey – held firm to lead by five points. The Tigers then methodically - and very professionally – won every quarter, midfielders Brett Turner (25 disposals), Luke Partington, James Bell, Matthew Allen and Matthew Snook influential.

Key backmen Cameron Craig and Reed van Huisstede were terrific for the Roosters, while dashing wingman Frank Szekely had a game-high 30 disposals.

But the loss saw North (7-8) slip out of the top five on percentage behind Central District. "It was a really good contest but Glenelg took its opportunities and we didn't," coach Jacob Surjan said. "We were really sloppy with some of our ground-ball stuff ... and that was the difference."



The result is up in the air as Glenelg midfielder Brett Turner is tackled ferociously by North Adelaide skipper Alex Spina in the Tigers' hard-fought 30-point win at Prospect Oval on Sunday. Picture: David Mariuz/SANFL

STURT V EAGLES

\$	
1.5	3.2
5.8	7.5
6.10	8.6
10.15	9.6
75	60

BEST – Sturt: Hone, Fahey-Sparks, Battersby, Lewis, Voss, McFadyen, Wilson. Eagles: Beattie, Sinor, Beecken, Williams, Goldsworthy, Rowe. GOALS - Sturt: Hone 3, Burrows 2,

Reschke, Rentsch, Slimming, Mathews, Richards. Eagles: T. Menzel, Beattie 2, Nicholls, D'Aloia, Beecken, Toumpas, Pearce.

UMPIRES - Harris, Packard, Williams.

CROWD – 2237 at Wigan Oval, Unley.

SOUTH V WEST

0.3	0.0
3.3	2.0
5.5	4.1
8.11	6.1
59	37

Haines, Skinner, Mutch, Delean. West: K. Ryan, Mattingly, Stevens, Morrish, Maguire. GOALS - South: Freitag, Sproule, Delean 2, Schuback, Shillabeer. West: Beech 2, Mulady, Delahunty, Thackeray, Liebech. UMPIRES - Wittenberg, Scott, Reardon. CROWD - 908 at Flinders University Stadium

BEST - South: Brooksby, Davis,

ADELAIDE V PORT

TAIDE	
3.2 8.2	0.4
12.5	0.12
92	27

BEST - Adelaide: Himmelberg, Berry, McHenry, Cook, Madgen, Strachan, Dowling, Parnell. Port: Mead, Bonner, Burgoyne, Montgomery, Marshall. GOALS - Adelaide: Himmelberg 4, Cook, Newchurch 3, Boyle, McHenry, Gollant, Sharrad. Port: Mead, Jackson. UMPIRES - Hardy, Morgan, Sobieraj.

LEAGUE PREMIERSHIP LADDER

	Р	W	L	For	Agnst	Pts	%
GLENELG	15	13	2	1275	847	26	60.08
STURT	15	12	3	1040	959	24	52.03
ADELAIDE	15	11	4	1354	831	22	61.97
PORT ADEL	15	8	7	1081	1119	16	49.14
CENTRALS	15	7	8	875	996	14	46.77
NORTH ADEL	15	7	8	875	1020	14	46.17
W-WT EAGLES	15	5	10	903	1038	10	46.52
SOUTH ADEL	15	5	10	866	1073	10	44.66
NORWOOD	15	4	11	801	1017	8	44.06
WEST ADEL	15	3	12	890	1060	6	45.64

RESERVES

GLENELG 6.7 10.9 14.13 NORTH ADEL 2.6 1.4 1.5 Goals: Glenelg: H Stagg 3 A Kitschke 2 N Paredes 2 J Deep 2 A Moir H Brokensha C McLeod M Miller R Kuller. North Adelaide: H Williams W Tasker B Jarman T Evans.

Best: Glenelg: B McCarthy N Paredes R Kuller C McLeod J Yates. North Adelaide: C Dinning B Jarman M Blacker W Tasker.

W	L	D	F	1		
13	2	0	1265	744		
11	4	0	1032	859		
10	5	0	1151	764		
7	6	1	891	856		
6	9	0	997	1114		

5 10 0 925 1090

3 12 0 731 1173

1

Standings Pts

22

20

15

10

7

NORWOOD V CENTRAL 3.0 1.6 6.8 5.4 9.10 9.5 59 64

BEST - Norwood: Boyd, Rokahr, Seymour, McLean, Panos, Ling, Nunn. Central: Schiller, Grant, Presbury, Cowham, Liddy. GOALS - Norwood: McLean 4, Jarvis, Nunn, Kennerley, Lok, Panos. Central: Grace, Schiller 2, Dudley, Hoskin, Lange, Liddy, Linke.

UMPIRES - Bowen, Sboro, Millar. CROWD – 1733 at Coopers Stadium, Norwood.

COACH'S MATCH REPORT - GLENELG V NORTH - ROUND 15, 2023

686 1078

Tigers roast the Roosters

Prospect Oval, Sunday 30th July, 2:10pm

North Adelaide 2.2 6.9 45 4.6 2.5 4.3 75 7.5 11.9 Glenelg 3.1

Lachie Hosie 3, Luke Reynolds 3, Billy Stretch 2, Matt Allen, James Bell, Liam McBean Goals:

Max Proud, Brett Turner, James Bell, Toby Pink, Luke Reynolds, Matt Allen Best:

Disposals: M. Proud 27, B. Turner 26, L. Partington 25, J. Bell 24, M. Allen 22, M. Snook22, B. Stretch 19

Magarey Medal: 3 - Matthew Allen (GI), 2 - Max Proud (GI), 1 - Brett Turner (GI)

Glenelg

Sturt

Central Dist

South Adel

Woodville

Norwood

West Adel

North Adel

15

15

15

14

15

15

14

3 10

Our Round 15 clash shaped up to be a game with finals-like intensity. North Adelaide have played some solid football over the last month, and also saw the return of important players into their team. Needless to say, they are a strong contender coming into the last part of the season.

From the start it was a fierce battle around the contest, as we had expected, and there was a back-and-forth, free-flowing battle once the ball got outside into space. While we certainly were not comfortable with how the game was looking, we were thrilled with how we were holding up defensively. As they have been all season, our back line group were exceptional from start to finish, and that was particularly important through the first half of the game. Into a reasonable breeze against in the first quarter, we were able to grab a couple of opportunities and

take the lead at quarter time.

The second guarter played out much the same, with some rain and slippery conditions making things a little more difficult. We went into half time with a similar advantage and understanding we had some work to do into the second half.

One of the big positives in our season to date has been our ability to play the game in our forward half of the ground for long periods and eventually seeing this turn into scoreboard reward. The game felt like this for most of the second half, but as good teams do, North Adelaide never let us get a real advantage on the scoreboard. While we felt we had some good control around the contest and in the game, it remained a tight battle at three quarter time.

Our last quarter was really pleasing in how we were able to keep responding to

challenges that were thrown at us. The big

take away from a coaching perspective is I

felt we were getting stronger the longer the game went. We do have a lot of work to do in some areas still, but we were strong in a lot of the key areas of the game. A strong result in the end to walk away with a fivegoal win.

Our Reserves team remains two games clear on top of the table with another convincing performance over four quarters. Both offensively and defensively, the group continue to impress and can respond to any challenges that are thrown their way. As mentioned over the last few weeks, it is not just by chance – the group has been very impressive with how they continue to prepare and go about their work week to week. Again, we had several really strong performers over the day and look forward to watching them continue on their way.

- Darren Reeves, Senior Coach glenelgfc.com.au