

Tigers back to their best and on top again

Andrew Capel

Glenelg sealed its third minor premiership in five years and gained the all-important week off in the first round of the finals with a convincing 10-goal win against South Adelaide at the Bay on Saturday.



The Tigers overcame a tardy start to dominate the second half, kicking the last nine goals, to set up a second semi-final showdown against the winner of next Sunday's qualifying final between Adelaide and Sturt.

In an emotional day for the Panthers, who farewell veteran stars Bryce Gibbs, Matthew Broadbent and Matt Rose, Glenelg struggled early and led by only five points midway through the third quarter before over-running the short-handed visitors, who lost Broadbent (concussion) and Ben Shillabeer (hamstring) to first-half injuries.

Broadbent's final game lasted only 13 minutes after he was dazed in a strong tackle from Brady Searle.

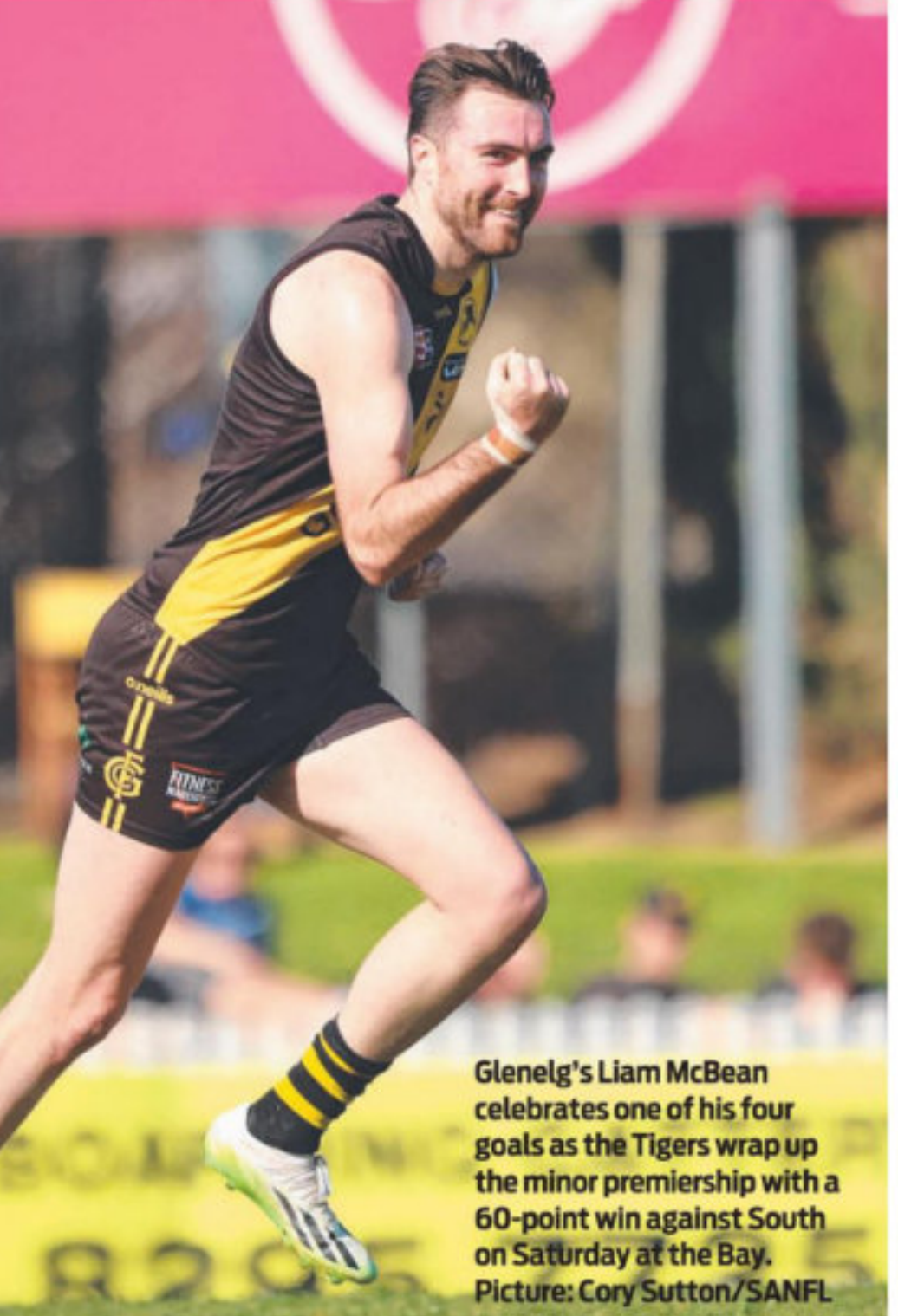
The Tigers found their groove in the second half to take some confidence into the finals. South did not kick a goal after Damon Freitag's major nine minutes into the third term left it trailing by only five points. Utility Matthew Allen (26 disposals, three goals), key forward Liam McBean (20 disposals, four goals) and midfielder Corey Lyons (29 disposals, eight clearances) were the driving forces in Glenelg's victory while full forward Lachie Hosie's two goals saw him claim his first Ken Farmer Medal as SANFL leading goalkicker. He finished with 52 for the year – nine more than runner-up McBean, who has won the Medal three times.

"We are happy finishing top, we think it's the best avenue going in (to the finals)," said Glenelg coach Darren Reeves,

GLENELG V SOUTH	
	
4.4	2.4
5.10	4.6
10.12	5.6
14.16	5.10
100	40

BEST – Glenelg: Allen, McBean, Lyons, Bailey, Proud, Newman, Stretch. **South:** Haines, Davis, Gibbs, Brooksby, Clavarino, O'Neill. **GOALS – Glenelg:** McBean 4, Allen 3, Reynolds, Hosie 2, Searle, Lyons, Stretch. **South:** Delean, Freitag 2, Fitt. **UMPIRES –** Whittlesea, Williams, Morgan. **CROWD –** 3123 at Stratarama Stadium.

LEAGUE PREMIERSHIP LADDER (end of Minor Round)							
	P	W	L	D	For	Agst	Pts %
GLENELG	18	15	3	0	1523	1048	30 59.24
STURT	18	14	4	0	1289	1193	28 51.93
ADELAIDE	18	13	5	0	1627	1069	26 60.35
CENTRALS	18	9	9	0	1084	1192	18 47.63
PORT ADEL	18	8	9	1	1311	1373	17 48.85
NORTH ADEL	18	8	10	0	1086	1245	16 46.59
NORWOOD	18	6	11	1	1053	1248	13 45.76
W-WT EAGLES	18	6	12	0	1152	1286	12 47.25
SOUTH ADEL	18	5	12	1	1084	1353	11 44.48
WEST ADEL	18	4	13	1	1110	1312	9 45.83



Glenelg's Liam McBean celebrates one of his four goals as the Tigers wrap up the minor premiership with a 60-point win against South on Saturday at the Bay. Picture: Cory Sutton/SANFL

who steered his side to the minor premiership in his first year in charge. "We needed to get that (performance) done against South because we were disappointed with the previous two weeks and felt we had gone off the boil a little bit and lost our intensity and defensive urgency. So there was a big focus on getting our DNA back defensively and I felt we were outstanding with that in the second half."

The Tigers finished the minor round with a 15-3 win-loss record, not dropping consecutive games.

South's loss saw it finish ninth with a 5-1-12 record

while former AFL star Gibbs signed off with a drop kick in the final term in a tribute to his dad, Ross, who famously produced one in the last quarter of Glenelg's 1985 grand final win against North Adelaide.

"We lost our legs midway through the third quarter, with some early injuries not helping, but Glenelg was far superior," coach Jarrad Wright said.

"We turned the ball over too much, which made us have to defend for long periods, and that's just not sustainable and has been our Achilles heel all year. It's been a disappointing, frustrating year but we'll grow from it."

2023 STANLEY H. LEWIS TROPHY



Team	M	R	UIB	UI6	W	Total
Glenelg	1500	800	500	225	600	3625
Sturt	1400	650	500	325	600	3475
Central	900	650	550	275	900	3275
South	550	425	600	150	1000	2725
Norwood	650	350	350	125	700	2175
Eagles	600	350	550	200	350	2050
North	800	150	400	225	400	1975
West	450	225	150	275	250	1350
Adelaide	1300	0	0	0	0	1300
Port	850	0	0	0	0	850

STURT V NORTH	
	
5.4	1.1
8.5	3.4
10.7	7.6
15.10	11.7
100	73



BEST – Sturt: Lewis, Doyle, Voss, Coombas, Page, Carruthers, Grivell, Dakin. **North:** Moore, Hilder, Mayes, Combe, Ramsey, Magor. **GOALS – Sturt:** Burrows, Grivell 3, Mathews, Hone 2, Rentsch, Carey, Doyle, Shute, Carruthers. **North:** Hilder, Ramsey, McInerney, Harvey 2, Finlay, Mayes, Lockyer. **UMPIRES –** Sboro, Bennett, Bowen. **CROWD –** 2475 at Prospect Oval.

RESERVES							
	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts
GLENELG	4.2	7.7	13.10	21.14	(140)		
STH ADELAIDE	2.1	3.2	3.4	3.4	(22)		



Goals: Glenelg: A Kitschke 5 J Moore 4 J Yates 4 N Sims 2 R Kuller 2 N Leck B Carter D Scott B Ridgway South Adelaide: J Collins N Dunshea. **Best:** Glenelg: N Paredes B Carter A Kitschke J Yates J Moore. South Adelaide: Not provided.

CENTRAL V PORT	
	
0.2	3.6
3.6	4.7
6.6	8.9
14.7	11.10
91	76

BEST – Central: Grant, Schiller, Iles, McCormack, Larkins, Whitelum, Linke, Lange. **Port:** Mead, Moore, Dumont, Jackson, Burgoyne, Bonner, Pasini, Hagan. **GOALS – Central:** Lange 3, East, Munn, Linke 2, Whitelum, Schiller, Chisholm, Grant, Grace. **Port:** Hagan, Szust 3, Visentini, Fantasia 2, Scully. **UMPIRES –** Hardy, Sobieraj, Burke. **CROWD –** 2253 at X Convenience Oval.

NORWOOD V ADELAIDE	
	
5.1	2.4
8.1	4.8
8.1	10.11
15.3	10.14
93	74

BEST – Norwood: Kennerley, Callow, Rokahr, Seymour, Ling, Heard. **Adelaide:** Nankervis, Dowling, Sholl, Hatley, Hamill, Cook. **GOALS – Norwood:** Callow, Jarvis, Kennerley 3, McLean, Wilkins 2, Panos, Seymour. **Adelaide:** Sholl, Cook 2, Coleman, Hatley, McKenzie, Brown, Newchurch, Smithson. **UMPIRES –** Wittenberg, Scott, Packard. **CROWD –** 2333 at Coopers Stadium.

WEST V EAGLES	
	
5.1	5.4
6.3	6.5
8.6	9.6
13.8	12.8
86	80

BEST – West: K. Ryan, Park, Mattingly, Delahunty, White, Maguire. **Eagles:** Sinor, Goldsworthy, Rowe, Williams, Herbert, D'Aloia. **GOALS – West:** Delahunty 4, N. Stevens 3, Gore 2, Redfern, Mulady, Beech, K. Ryan. **Eagles:** Rowe 3, Ballenden, Beecken 2, Pearce, Herbert, Beattie, D'Aloia, Sinor. **UMPIRES –** Reardon, Millar, Hughes. **CROWD –** 1595 at Maughan Thiem Kia Oval.

SANFL LEADING GOALKICKERS (Minor Round)			
Player	Club	Games	Goals-Behinds
Lachie HOSIE	Glenelg	18	52-27
Liam McBEAN	Glenelg	17	43-25
Josh HONE	Sturt	18	41-24
Lachlan GOLLANT	Adelaide	14	37-19
Luke REYNOLDS	Glenelg	18	37-17

COACH'S MATCH REPORT

GLENELG V SOUTH – ROUND 18, 2023

Tigers secure minor premiership with 60-point win over Panthers

Stratarama Stadium, Saturday 26th August, 2:10pm

Glenelg	4.4	5.10	10.12	14.16	100
South Adelaide	2.4	4.6	5.6	5.10	40

Goals: Liam McBean 4, Matt Allen 3, Lachie Hosie 2, Luke Reynolds 2, Corey Lyons, Brady Searle, Billy Stretch
Best: Matt Allen, Liam McBean, Corey Lyons, Brodie Newman, Billy Stretch
Disposals: C. Lyons 29, M. Allen 26, D. Bailey 21, M. Snook 21, B. Stretch 21, J. Deep 20, L. McBean 19
Magarey Medal: 3 – Matt Allen (GI), 2 – Corey Lyons (GI), 1 – Joey Haines (SA)

While round 18 presented us with the opportunity to finish the regular season on top of the table, our only focus was to get all parts of our game back to a level we had been working towards since the beginning of January. The starting point of that was our team defence, with strong focus on our pressure on the ball and our ability to make it hard for the opposition to move the ball with any fluency. If we get this right, the rest of the game will follow and pleasingly that was the case by the end of the day. We can take great confidence from this performance into the next and most important part of the season.

South Adelaide was always going to start the game with lots of energy and passion, with several players retiring and this being their last game for the season. They certainly did that, and for a large part of the first half, they made it difficult for us with some clean and fluent ball movement. Equally they were getting the better of us around contest which has been a strong area over the season for us. Like last week, we were able to be efficient with our opportunities which allowed us to stay slightly in front in the game, even though it felt the other way for most part. It set up for

a good encounter heading into the second half.

After a tight beginning to the third quarter, our energy defensively went to a level we have expected over the season, and it allowed us to play the game in our forward half of the ground for long periods. As we have been able to do consistently over the season, once we get the game looking like this, we are able to put really strong pressure on the scoreboard, and this was certainly the case throughout the second half. We had set ourselves some targets coming into the game, and with our intensity and relentless pressure throughout, we were able to stay strong on them. To only concede ten points against in the second half was extremely pleasing – this area is no doubt key over the next few weeks. All in all, a strong effort and solid result.

Our reserves group played an outstanding game against another finals contender, running out 118-point winners. They continue to play at a consistent brand of football with great contributors all over the ground. Great credit to the entire group, it can be really frustrating when they are

playing at such a high level without necessarily seeing the reward for that effort in selection. Without doubt there are several guys that are playing at a league level standard week after week. We have been impressed with how they keep getting to work at every session and continue to strive to improve. It is a great position for the club to be in and we look forward to watching the rest of the season play out for this group.

With both grades finishing the season on top of the table – a great result for the club – we head into a bye weekend in the first week of finals. We will take the opportunity to get stuck into some solid training and fine tuning in preparation of what is ahead in the next few weeks.

Congratulations to Lachie Hosie on winning the Ken Farmer Medal as the leading goalkicker in the competition. A great reward for an outstanding season to date.

Go the Bays!
 – Darren Reeves, Senior Coach
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