

# Party time as Bays show they're real deal

**Andrew Capel**

White-hot Glenelg celebrated the 50th anniversary of its famous 1973 grand final win against North Adelaide in spectacular style on Saturday, thrashing the Roosters by 57 points at the Bay.

The inspired Tigers turned what was billed as a heavyweight clash into a one-sided affair, kicking nine unanswered goals in the first and second quarters to blow the game wide open and send an ominous warning to the rest of the competition it is the real deal this season.

Fifty years after winning arguably the greatest SANFL grand final of all time, Glenelg produced champagne football against last year's beaten grand finalist to chalk up its fifth consecutive victory.

With 12 members of its '73 premiership squad watching from the sidelines, the Tigers kicked eight goals to one in the second term to lead by 58 points and have the game won by half-time.

Dominating the clearances through a winning midfield, led by Corey Lyons (31 disposals, six clearances), with triple Ken Farmer Medallist Liam

McBean leading the way in attack with six goals and 11 marks and captain Max Proud marshalling the defence, the Bays were irrepressible.

"That was really impressive," Glenelg coach Darren Reeves, a former North assistant, said of the resounding win.

"We've been threatening to do that, having played some really good footy in quarters this season, but this was the first time we've played close to four quarters of the way we want to play.

"We were able to play some really exciting footy while keeping North to 53

points, so defensively we were again strong."

Despite welcoming back star midfielders Aaron Young and Harrison Wigg from injury, the Roosters were outplayed and outmuscled. Their highly-touted on-ball brigade, which lost Sam Mayes early after he broke his hand for the second time this season, was well beaten, putting great pressure on their defence, as coach Jacob Surjan's side slumped to its second consecutive heavy defeat following a 47-point loss to the Crows.

North gained some respectability on the

scoreboard by kicking five unanswered goals in the third and fourth quarters and winning the second half by a point. But the damage had been done.

"It was a really disappointing day for our footy club and we're just not valuing our possession or our defence stuff at the moment, which is frustrating," Surjan said after having a long meeting with his leadership group after the game. "We have a blueprint of the way we want to go about it and we're not executing right now but we're still 3-3 and the group is driven to get better."



The Tigers get around defender Brad McCarthy after his final-quarter goal in the Bays' 57-point win against North Adelaide on Saturday. Picture: Cory Sutton/SANFL

GLENELG V NORTH	
3.4	1.1
11.5	2.1
12.9	6.1
16.14	8.5
<b>110</b>	<b>53</b>

**BEST – Glenelg:** McBean, Lyons, McGree, Proud, Snook, Partington, Allen, Bell, Bailey. **North:** Combe, Szekely, Young, Ramsey, Craig, Spina. **GOALS – Glenelg:** McBean 6, Reynolds 3, Holder 2, Hosie, Bell, McGree, Allen, McCarthy. **North:** Ramsey 3, Young 2, Elbrow, Casalini, Harvey. **INJURY – North:** Mayes (broken hand). **UMPIRES –** Millar, Harris, Lewis. **CROWD –** 3270 at Stratarama Stadium, Glenelg.

**RESERVES**  
**GLENELG** 8.4 13.7 17.9 21.11 (137)  
**NORTH ADEL** 0.1 1.2 3.2 5.3 (33)  
**Goals:** Glenelg: N Leck 10 M Miller 3 W Chandler 2 J Deep C McLeod B Carter H Tunkin B Edwards J Yates. North Adelaide: G Turner L Hoy C Wilson O Dignan C Dinning.  
**Best:** Glenelg: N Leck A Lovelock J Deep L Rayson J Kluske. North Adelaide: W Schreiber C Dinning L Simon.

STURT V ADELAIDE	
4.1	4.3
7.1	7.5
9.1	8.7
10.6	8.8
<b>66</b>	<b>56</b>

**BEST – Sturt:** Lewis, Battersby, Doyle, Wilson, Coombas, Voss, Burrows.  
**Adelaide:** Crouch, Schoenberg, Worrell, Cook, Hatley, Berry, Borlase.  
**GOALS – Sturt:** Hone, Burrows 3, Doyle, Rentsch 2. **Adelaide:** Madgen, Cook 2, Newchurch, Strachan, Dowling, Berry.  
**UMPIRES –** Sboro, Williams, Burke.  
**CROWD –** 2884 at Wigan Oval, Unley.

EAGLES V CENTRAL	
3.1	2.1
6.3	4.4
7.4	4.6
10.7	6.7
<b>67</b>	<b>43</b>

**BEST – Eagles:** Sinor, Brinker-Ritchie, Thompson, Ballenden, Lehmann, Hardie, Beecken. **Central:** Schiller, Grant, Iles, Lange. **GOALS – Eagles:** Ballenden 3, Pearce, Sinor 2, Nicholls, Rowe, Williams. **Central:** Pearce 2, Lange, Munn, Schiller, Whitelum. **UMPIRES –** Bowen, Klemm, Sobieraj. **CROWD –** 1649 at Maughan Thiem Kia Oval, Woodville.

WEST V NORWOOD	
2.2	4.1
5.3	6.6
9.7	8.10
11.8	8.14
<b>74</b>	<b>62</b>

**BEST – West:** K. Ryan, Johnson, Morrish, Park, Ellem, J. Stevens, Beech. **Norwood:** Boyd, Nunn, Rokahr, Lowe, Panos, Tranfa. **GOALS – West:** Beech, Ellem, Laudato, Redfern 2, Johnson, J. Stevens, Gore. **Norwood:** Panos, Lowe, Tranfa 2, Nunn, Rokahr. **UMPIRES –** Galletly, Hughes, Morgan. **CROWD –** 1554 at Centenary Oval, Port Lincoln.

PORT V SOUTH	
4.2	4.1
6.5	7.5
9.7	10.8
15.12	11.8
<b>102</b>	<b>74</b>

**BEST – Port:** Moore, Szust, Clurey, Jones, Dumont, Jackson. **South:** Brooksby, Freitag, Haines, Davis, Smith, Rose. **GOALS – Port:** Szust 3, Hayes, Weidemann, Moore 2, Scully, Burgoyne, Visentini, Barkla, Kirk, Turner. **South:** Freitag 3, Sproule, Fitt 2, Wilkinson, Mutch, Heaslip, Kirkland. **UMPIRES –** Hardy, Scott, Bennett. **CROWD –** 1194 at Alberton Oval.

## COACH'S MATCH REPORT

### GLENELG V NORTH – ROUND 6, 2023

# Tigers silence the Roosters

Stratarama Stadium, Saturday 13th May, 2:10pm

Glenelg	3.4	11.5	12.9	16.14	110
North Adelaide	1.1	2.1	6.1	8.5	53

**Goals:** Liam McBean 6, Luke Reynolds 3, Riley Holder 2, Matthew Allen, James Bell, Lachie Hosie, Brad McCarthy, Cam McGree

**Best:** Corey Lyons, Liam McBean, Luke Partington, Matthew Snook, Cam McGree

**Disposals:** C. Lyons 31, L. Partington 29, M. Snook 29, D. Bailey 26, M. Allen 23, M. Proud 23, B. Turner 23

**Magarey Medal:** 3 – Corey Lyons (GI), 2 – Cam McGree (GI), 1 – Liam McBean (GI)

The opportunity to have members of the 73 Premiership team as a large part of our pre-game preparation, both in the change rooms and out on the oval, set the scene for a positive day and Round 6 clash with North Adelaide Football Club. It was fantastic conditions as both teams competed for the John Sandland Cup and Dean Higgins Medal.

We have been able to play some pretty good football at different times over the last month, and we felt we were building nicely. In our first half, particularly the second quarter, both sides of our game came together as we had hoped. Defensively, we continue to be very good, and the work of the collective group in this area of the game set the platform for our offense and ball movement to click into gear. Some exciting end-to-end ball movement, and some outstanding finishing in front of goal allowed us to have an impressive advantage at half time. Most pleasing from the

coaching group perspective was the work rate and relentlessness in our method – a strong focus for us.

We expected North Adelaide to come back at us in the second half, as they are a quality team and football club. To their credit, they had the better of us in the third quarter – as is the case in any strong competition, if you drop off slightly, the opposition will take advantage. We missed some of our chances through that period, but we were able to scramble and scrap enough to not let them right back into the contest. Pleasingly, we were able to play some solid football in the last quarter, getting back to some of our first half form. We finished the game with a 57-point lead to claim our fifth win in a row. This sets us up nicely heading into the next phase of the season.

Our Reserves group put together their most impressive game of the season with an outstanding 104-point win. After a

disappointing result the week before, the group hit the ground running and never let up, playing an exciting brand both offensively and defensively. Some outstanding performances across the team, none better than Nick Leck kicking 10 goals in an impressive effort. Well done to the group.

We head into a bye this weekend, which has come at a good time for a few of our guys that have some bumps and niggles to get on top off. We have several players that are in contention to play in the State Game this coming Friday and we wish them all the best. Finally, well done to Corey Lyons who continues to play some outstanding football and was awarded the Dean Higgins Medal for the most courageous player on the day.

– Darren Reeves, Senior Coach  
 glenelgfc.com.au

Standings						
	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Sturt	6	6	0	510	353	12
Glenelg	6	5	1	497	335	10
Adelaide	6	4	2	576	348	8
Central Dist	6	3	3	361	372	6
North Adel	6	3	3	377	422	6
Port Adel	6	3	3	414	495	6
Eagles	6	2	4	374	401	4
West Adel	6	2	4	410	453	4
South Adel	6	2	4	371	509	4
Norwood	6	0	6	303	505	0





# ROUND 6 TEAMS

# Eye of the Tiger

Andrew Capel

CAM McGree had unfinished business.

After walking away from the SANFL for a year and achieving a premiership dream with close mates at Reynella, McGree returned to the state league competition - and a new club - with a point to prove.

"I needed to know how far I could push it," said the athletic, 199cm ruckman, who has joined Glenelg after starting his SANFL career with South Adelaide.

"Playing local (Southern Football League) footy you have a lot of people talking you up and saying, 'why aren't you playing at a higher level?'"

"I always had that in the back of my mind because I felt that I was good enough but things hadn't quite worked out for me.

"So I was really keen to find out exactly where I sat in SANFL footy, especially after having such a good year at Reynella last season, both personally and team wise.

"There definitely was some unfinished business."

McGree, 24, played 14 league and 42 reserves games for the Panthers in four years from 2018-21 after spending a season with their under-18s.

Despite showing enormous potential, he was unable to secure a regular league berth as he first became stuck behind Michael Knoll in the ruck pecking order and then Paul Hunter, who would both spend time on AFL lists.

Swingman Alex Cailotto, now retired from the SANFL, also was preferred in the ruck ahead of him.

A bad quad tear, starting a new full-time job as an electrician and not knowing where his SANFL football was heading led McGree to return to his junior club Reynella to play with a bunch of his former under-16 teammates.

"With so much going on - and the fact I was struggling with the time commitment - I lost a bit of enjoyment for the SANFL and it probably got a bit too much for me at that point," he said.

"So I decided to take a bit of the pressure off and play purely for fun with my mates.

"It was a great year, winning the flag (Reynella's first since 2015) with 16 or 17 blokes I played under-16s with, but it also reignited the fire to challenge myself a bit more and have another crack at the SANFL because I knew I could offer more."

McGree, who was named best on ground in the Wine Flies' grand final victory against Morphett Vale, had discussions with South and Glenelg but chose the Tigers because of greater opportunities.

The Bays were searching for a No. 1 ruckman while the Panthers had former AFL big man Keegan Brooksby leading their ruck division.

"That swayed my decision," the 102kg McGree said.

The move has paid dividends. McGree has started in the centre square in all five league games for 4-1 Glenelg this season and averaged 11 disposals, three marks, three clearances and 24 hit-outs.

He has been so impressive that he has been selected in the 32-man SANFL state squad for next Friday's clash against Western Australia at Adelaide Oval.

"Coming straight from local footy that was a bit of a surprise because I feel that I'm still finding my feet again at SANFL level, but it's a massive honour," McGree said.

"I've been happy with my consistency but I feel that I have a lot of improvement left in me and can still hurt the opposition more."

McGree will have his hands full at Glenelg Oval on Saturday when he goes head-to-head in the ruck with fellow state squad member, North Adelaide's Mitch Harvey.

It will be a big day at the Bay, with the Tigers celebrating the 50th anniversary of their famous 1973 grand final win against the Roosters.



Glenelg's Cam McGree, the former South ruckman who is reviving his SANFL career with the Tigers after spending a season at his childhood club, Reynella. Picture: Matt Loxton



## GLENELG v NORTH

STRATARAMA STADIUM, SATURDAY, 2.10PM



Gerloff 4, Hosie 20, McBean 1	F	Minervini 7, Hilder 12, Casalini 40
Holder 23, Reynolds 7, Lyons 8	HF	Young 13, Ramsey 3, McInerney 39
Allen 22, Partington 10, Bell 11	C	Szekely 16, Combe 18, Patmore 9
Stretch 18, Proud 5, Martini 16	HB	Spina 10, Finlay 37, Wilsdon 25
Bailey 9, Pink 32, Scharenberg 2	B	Magor 27, van Huisstede 15, Craig 5
McGree 19, Turner 27, Snook 3	R	Harvey 17, Mayes 32, Wigg 1
(from) Newman 12, Deep 41, McCarthy 14,	Int	(from) Dinning 49, Elbrow 33, Grubb 11,
Coulthard 35, Kuller 17, Rayson 25,		Miller 29, White 6
Kitschke 33	In	White, Wigg, Young
McCarthy, Rayson, Kitschke, Deep	Out	McCann (inj), Byrne
Wisdom (inj)		