

Men's Premier 2 Match Report – Round 17

Westside Wolves (4) def. Fremantle (2)

Saturday 17 July 2010 – 7:00pm @ Shenton

Friends, fans, countrymen. After weeks away from the typewriter gaining some ever needed travelling experience I am back. Wipe your faces clear of tears and bask in the words of Chaffey's Chat.

7pm on a Saturday night is never a nice time to play. The Magoo's however, were coming off a terrible draw to the bottom team so winning was the only thing on their mind. After watching the 1's sweep aside Freo in quite melodic style, the Magoo's stepped onto the field determined to whitewash a team still in the race for finals. Fielding one of the strongest sides the 2's has seen this year we were confident we could control the match.

Standard to the 2's style of play, we played a tight defense run by Paul Armitage and Tom Rowohlt with both men not allowing anything through their lines, a controlling midfield with Andrew Murie (being welcomed into the 2's once again) playing a crucial role at inside forward, and our strikers causing havoc, namely Charlie Angliss with his ability to sneak in behind defenders and create numerous opportunities. A scoreless 15 minutes was not something that sat right with our team and so something needed to be done. Enter Paul Armitage. A turnover by Fremantle allowed the ball to fall into Paul's hands and with that he bounded forward, eliminating players with such finesse and ease eventually handing the ball off only to keep running forward, gaining the ball back at the top of the D and slamming one through for what could be considered one of the goals of the year. Sitting on the bench Charlie Angliss quoted right after, "I am feeling it tonight. You know I just am feeling it tonight." Well sure enough he was, and after Fremantle had scored 2 goals in quick succession Charlie Angliss went on one of his trademark runs across the left wing, to enter the D, spin on his reverse side and tomahawk right past the keeper with electric pace.

Leaving the field 2-2 the Magoo's were disappointed to have created so many opportunities only to squander them in the D. North Korea explained that we were too narrow with our passages of play. It clogged our movements and made the forwards crowd each other. Transfers needed to be quicker from our back 4 and we needed to keep the ball moving instead of running it. This was a game we needed to win and we couldn't let this game slip away from us.

The second half showed our mettle. Our defense was extremely tight not allowing any players to get a clean shot in the D, our outlets were clean and accurate and we linked up well when transferring. Pushing through the middle of the ground, the Magoo's were setting up numerous plays all over the field, not allowing our press to be broken and looking the goods. Our breakthrough came with a Sam Kendall flick. His quote just before the short corner commenced "I can't do this. I bet I will stuff it up." Interesting that. Our final goal came from a brilliant passage of play involving nearly everyone in the team. Two transfers allowed the ball to be driven up the left hand side of the field finding its way into Sam's hands again for him to drive the ball into the D for Nick Blackiston to be on the receiving end and deflect it into the top of the goal.

Next week sees us take on Hale, the team who beat us in last year's grand final. With 2 points separating the top 4 teams, this game is crucial.

It's good to be back.

James Chaffey.