

**FOOTBALL SEASON OPENED TODAY IN FINE WEATHER**

**GLENELG GAIN FIRST VICTORY**

**In Stirring Finish North Defeat South**

**STURT WIN NARROWLY FROM PORT**

**NORWOOD OVERWHELM WEST**

Football was ushered in this afternoon with the beginning of the 1924 League matches. Although the prolonged absence of rain made the ground hard, the weather was ideal. The majority of players were fit and eager after their long spell from the game. It was not surprising, therefore, that the games were unusually keen. The results of today's matches is early evidence that the season is going to be an extremely lively and entertaining one.

The surprise of the day was the winning of a match by Glenelg against West Torrens, last season's premiers. This is the first victory of Glenelg in A Grade football.

**Positions of Clubs**

	P.	W.	L.	For	Ag.	Pts
Norwood	1	1	0	113	39	2
North	1	1	0	76	63	2
Sturt	1	1	0	77	67	2
Glenelg	1	1	0	78	70	2
Torrens	1	0	1	70	78	—
Port	1	0	1	67	77	—
South	1	0	1	65	76	—
West	1	0	1	39	113	—

**GLENELG OUTCLASS TORRENS**

**Seasiders' Dashing Display**

Probably the best crowd that has ever attended the Glenelg Oval was there this afternoon, when Torrens (last year's premiers) met Glenelg. Walsh stood down from the seasiders, and O'Malley was not required by Torrens. Umpire J. Quinn had charge of the match.

The opening ruckmen were Mills, Broderick, and Karney for Torrens, and Toms, Sampson, and Gotts for Glenelg. Although the visitors were first away Glenelg quickly recovered, and in a few seconds were pressing at Torrens' goal and drew first blood, Toms having registered a behind. From the kick-off the ball came back again, Owens was interfered with, and taking his kick scored full points.

Torrens momentarily gained control. Fleet sent the ball into the goal mouth. Glenelg, however, came with a rattle and Torpy passed to Jackson, who with a good kick placed Glenelg's second goal on the board.

Torrens again broke loose, and Mills managed a single. After even play Brown passed to Fleet, but the ball was again brought back to the centre. W. Hill, a new man, was defending brilliantly for the seasiders, while Minear was prominent for the blue-and-golds. Adams marking well for Torrens placed the ball, but his shot fell short.

The "Tigers" were still having the better of the encounter. Lyne secured and passed to Toms, who placed the seasiders' another goal ahead. Again Glenelg attacked. C. Hill, with a fine kick from near the boundary, again raised two flags. He recorded Glenelg's fifth goal a minute later, giving them a 32 points' lead. Quarter time scores:—

GLENELG	5-3
TORRENS	0-1

Torrens at the opening of the second quarter set off with determination to reduce the deficit. Almost immediately Karney sent up full points. Play was rough and frees were plentiful. The new rules were working out much better than in practice matches. Torrens, with the help of a slight wind, were pressing hard and raised one flag.

O'Grady received a free within kicking distance and neatly sent the ball through the tall uprights. Hoft forwarded for Glenelg, but Conroy, after saving well, started a Torrens sortie. Adams was given a chance, but he placed the ball and kicked poorly. Brown secured possession near the centre, and running through goaled for Torrens. Mills sent the ball forward and Marvell managed a behind. He was freed shortly after, and from an angle scored a good goal.

It was Torrens' quarter so far. They had wiped off much of the leeway. Glenelg eventually gained the upper hand. Lyne passed nicely to Owen, who potted a goal.

Half-time scores:—

GLENELG	6-3
TORRENS	5-6

Only three points in favor of Glenelg separated the teams after half time. Torrens led from the bounce and O'Grady raised one flag. With the aid of the wind Glenelg worked the ball forward and Toms raised both flags. The game was fluctuating and with the ball at the other end O'Grady had a shot. Perry saved and Torpy and Lyne sent the leather into the forward line. Jackson had a good chance to score, but only thumped a behind. Owens marked well and placed Glenelg further ahead by scoring his third goal. Torrens began to attack fiercely and Mills receiving a free placed the ball. Perry

**TEAMS CHOSEN.**

**WEST TORRENS V. GLENELG.**  
Brown (capt.), Karney (vice-capt.), Adams, Ashby, Broderick, Davies, Hollis, Fleet, Marvell, McCarthy, Naylor, Oaten, O'Grady, Minnear, Mills, Osborne, O'Malley, Conroy, Oehm (reserve).  
Hoft (capt.), Lloyd (vice-capt.), Bail, Barnett, Fuss, Gotts, W. Hill, C. Hill, Hack, Handby, Sampson, Lyne, Owens, Perry, Sallis, Sampson, Toms, Porty, Walsh (19th).

marked and the Bay men rushed the ball to the other end. C. Hill was freed and kicked true.

The seasiders were again well in the lead. Hack gave O'Grady a free and the Torrens rover scored a behind. He quickly added another. Barnett and Toms were fighting hard for Glenelg, but the latter were giving away too many free kicks. Continuing well, the seasiders worked the ball forward. Bail passed finely to Owens and the latter goaled. Marking again, he added his fifth major. O'Grady however retaliated with a sixer for Torrens. Third quarter scores were:—

GLENELG	11-5
TORRENS	6-8

Torrens were 27 points in arrears when the final quarter began. Although Glenelg started off well they were repulsed, and with the ball at the other end Adams scored a behind and followed with a goal. Play ranged all over the field with both teams struggling hard on the wings. Beautiful system by the Torrens men again

**ATTENDANCES AND TAKINGS.**

	Attendance	Takings
Adelaide Oval (Norwood v. West)	12,700	£474
Unley (Sturt v. Port)	10,000	374
Glenelg (Glenelg v. Torrens)	5,060	212
Prospect (North v. South)	4,800	187
Totals	32,560	£1,247

gave them the ascendancy and a point resulted. Glenelg were not to be denied, and persistence brought the ball into the forward line. Owens marked a place kick from Hoft, and raised one flag. Gotts secured from a scrimmage and scored full points with a snapshot. Adams was one of Torrens' best men, and marking brilliantly he scored his second goal. Each team attacked alternately. It was easily the best match seen at Glenelg.

Glenelg came with a rattle and Jackson had a shot, but missed. However, the Tigers continued to attack. Fleet goaled for Torrens, and Adams added another. Glenelg were attacking when the bell rang, with the Tigers victorious.

**Final Scores**

GLENELG	12-6
WEST TORRENS	10-10

Goalkickers.—Glenelg—Owens (5), C. Hill (3), Toms (2), Gotts, and Jackson. West Torrens—O'Grady (3), Adams (3), Fleet, Brown, Marvell, and Karney.

Best Players.—Glenelg—Owens, C. and W. Hill, Fuss, Hoft, Gotts, Toms, Lyne, Jackson, and Lloyd. West Torrens—Adams, O'Grady, Brown, Karney, Mills, Fleet, and Marvell.



**JACK OWENS,** who kicked five goals for Glenelg, and generally played a brilliant game.

**LEADING GOALKICKERS**

G. Scrutton (Sturt)	6
Owen (Glenelg)	5
A. J. Ryan (South)	5
Manuel (North)	4
Allingham (Port)	3
Bent (Norwood)	3
Adams (Torrens)	3
Fleet (North)	3
C. Hill (Glenelg)	3
Hepburn (Norwood)	3
Lee (Norwood)	3
O'Grady (Torrens)	3
Wainwright (South)	3

**NOTES ON GAMES**

**Glenelg's Triumph**

Glenelg made history this afternoon when they defeated West Torrens, last year's premiers at the Bay. It was a stirring struggle and the "Tigers" undoubtedly won on their merits.

The display of the Glenelg team was not altogether surprising, as they ran Torrens to within a few points when the teams last met on the Glenelg Oval.

When the final bell rang leaving the seasiders victorious by eight points crowds rushed the field and carried off their heroes. In the dressing room there were further scenes of enthusiasm. The "Tigers" were heartily congratulated by the vanquished.

Glenelg fully deserved their success. At no time, except perhaps in the second quarter, did they lose their grip on the game. Thereafter, though Torrens were always dangerous, Glenelg had the upper hand. The Bay men surprised everyone in the last quarter when they held the Torrens team and finished with surprising dash. It was only a spasmodic flash that yielded Torrens two majors just before time.

The first quarter was entirely in favor of Glenelg. Although Torrens battled hard the seasiders were quicker to the ball and their forwards opened out well. They also appeared to be as fast as their opponents.

In the second term, however, last season's premiers got into their stride and were quicker to the ball. Their kicking could have been better, although no fault could be found with O'Grady's and Marvell's shots.

In the third term Glenelg again came with a rattle, while Torrens could only add one goal. The last quarter was even. If anything the visitors combined better than Glenelg. The latter, however, have a wonderful team in the making, and as many new men have stripped, system was naturally not fully developed.

All of the winners played well. Owens with five goals showed that he is still a forward of class. He played with an injured knee.

C. Hill, with three to his credit, also did well. Sharpshooting and roving he was full of energy and dash. Lyne assisted the full forwards in a pleasing manner.

Hoft led his team well, and in the last quarter played exceptionally well. He was well supported by Lloyd (vice-captain).

Fuss on the other wing also played a good game.

In the back lines W. Hill, Barnett, Sallis, and Perry did well.

Others to acquit themselves creditably were Torpy, Bell, Gotts, Jackson, and Handby, while Toms was the mainstay of the ruck. He also kicked two goals.

For the losers Adams and O'Grady were the best. Others who shone at times were Karney, Brown, Marvell, Fleet, and Osborn.

**NORWOOD SCORE FREELY**

**Twelve Goals Win Over West**

NORWOOD	17-11
WEST	5-9

Best Players.—Norwood—Scott, Schumacher, Ackland, Lee, Mutton, Hepburn, Stephens, Potts, West—Peters, McGregor, Barnes, Martin, Bishop, Moore, Dansie, Chaplin.

Goalkickers.—Norwood—Bent, Lee, Hepburn (each 3), Mutton, Wadham, Potts (each 2), Westley, Errington. West—Barnes, Andrews (each 2), Dansie.

**CLOSE MATCH AT UNLEY**

**Sturt Better Than Port**

STURT	11-11
PORT	10-7

Best players—Sturt: Gordon, Scrutton, Leak, E. Beatty, Golding, R. Whitehead, Colquhoun, Hutton and S. Scrutton. Port: Bampton, C. Dayman, Dewar, Hodge, McInnes, Bayley, Allingham and Keal.

Goalkickers.—Sturt: Gordon Scrutton (6), Leak (2), R. Whitehead, C. Whitehead and Weller (each 1), Port: Allingham (3), C. Dayman and Logan (each 2), Bayley, Latimer, Keal (each 1).

**NORTH TRIUMPHANT**

**Kay Breaks Collarbone**

With three minutes of the final quarter remaining the result of the North versus South struggle on the Prospect Oval hung in the balance. Then Morris, the northern defender, smashed a southern offensive, and the ball flew like a flash to the other end. The tall form of Manuel flew into the air near the goal mouth, held the ball, and a titanic battle was over. North won a glorious victory; South went down to glorious defeat.

NORTH	11-10
SOUTH	10-5

Goalkickers.—North—Manuel (4), Fleet (3), Kinnear, East, Townley, and Munn. South—A. J. Ryan (5), Wainwright (3), Kay, and Gibson.

# PREPARATIONS FOR SEASON BEGUN

## GLENELG IMPROVED

### Host of Players Ready

With nearly all last season's players available, and with a general strengthening of the team, Glenelg expect to do well. The Bay men have yet to win a match.

"Snow" Exley, a former team-mate of C. Hoft, from the Perth Club, is expected to strengthen the forward line. Exley has been living at Glenelg since June, and has qualified. Usually he plays half forward, and should do well in that position, as he is tall and well-built.

In Jim Handby, Glenelg will have a brilliant defender. Handby, who lives at Seaclyff, previously played for South, and last season was one of that team's best.

Another experienced player who is still living in the Glenelg district is H. Lyne, who distinguished himself in Sturt's back line. Efforts are being made to induce Lyne to don the yellow-and-black guernsey.

Harold Jackson, another Sturt player, living at Glenelg, has promised to strip for the seariders. Jackson, who is a brother of Keith, Sturt's centre half forward, has been a brilliant defender in the B grade, and is a Magarey medallist.

Broken Hill will again send some recruits to the Glenelg ranks. Jack Ward, who played at centre for West Broken Hill, has been secured. C. Hill, a follower from the same club, will also strip for Glenelg. Both players are now living at the Bay, and will have qualified before the opening of the season.

When the Yorke Peninsula team played the combined B grade on the Adelaide Oval last season, one of the best players for the visitors was "Young" Barberry. He will play for Glenelg this year. Fast and well-built, Barberry is an ideal wing or centreman. He is about 21 years of age.

W. N. Hill, of Coromandel Valley, who played in the Mid-Southern Association, has also decided to strip for Glenelg. Davey from Albany (Western Australia) is also likely to be seen in the Glenelg colors this season. C. Tilbrook, a fine centre half forward, who has done well for Glenelg previously, has now decided to live in that



Jim Handby

the South backman, who will play for the Bay team

district. Last year he was at Port Victoria, and was unable to play in many matches.

Of last year's players nearly all will be available. Jack Hanley (vice-captain) is at present in hospital, and it is doubtful if he will strip during the coming season. He has contemplated retiring for some time.

L. Beck, a reliable rover, who came from Broken Hill to Glenelg last season, may be unable to play. He injured his left eye, and is at present being treated by a specialist. E. Toms, a solid ruckman, may go to Tasmania.

C. Barnett, who showed good form in the half back line two seasons ago, may play again. C. Sallis, however, is suffering from flub on the knee, and this may hinder his usual brilliant wing play.

Among promising juniors and B grade players who may get an opportunity in senior ranks this season are the Levering brothers, C. Hill, and Morley, from Brighton, L. Page and A. Mühlbach (B grade), and Sexton, from Plympton.

Mr. Tom Lock, who was president of the Glenelg Club last year, will not stand for re-election at the annual meeting on February 24.

# FOOTBALL SEASON OPENED AUSPICIOUSLY

## GLENELG BEAT 1924 PREMIERS.

### GLENELG'S FIRST WIN.

#### Defeat Last Year's Premiers.

There was a record attendance at the Glenelg Oval on Saturday afternoon. Altogether 5,000 persons paid for attendance, and the takings amounted to £212. Glenelg met West Torrens, last year's premiers. Glenelg, the youngest club in the league, had gone four years without winning a match, but they broke the ice on Saturday, when, after a spirited contest, they defeated the visitors by eight points.

Mr. J. Quinn was central umpire. The opening rucks were:—Glenelg—Toms, Sampson, and Gotts; West Torrens—Broderick, Mills, and Karney. Hoft winning the toss, decided to kick towards the north, as there was a fairly strong southerly breeze blowing. Immediately on the bounce Glenelg attacked, and after



C. HOFT, first to captain a winning Glenelg A grade team.

vigorous play, in which Sampson and Toms figured prominently, Owens, from a free, scored the first goal. Jackson shortly afterwards kicked a fine goal from an acute angle. Torrens by good combined play on the part of Brown, Karney, and Oaten sent the ball to Mills, who succeeded in raising only one flag. Encouraged by a further goal by Toms, the "tigers" again attacked, and C. Hill, from a running dropkick close to the boundary, scored Glenelg's fourth goal. Hill soon again became prominent, being successful in raising the two flags with a fine, low dropkick.

#### Torrens Force the Pace.

With the wind in their favour, Torrens set out to wipe off their deficit; and rushed Glenelg off their feet in the first few minutes of the term. When Karney kicked a goal immediately following on the bounce the hopes of their supporters increased perceptibly. Brown and Oaten combining, sent the leather well forward, where O'Grady, who was displaying his usual determination, marked and goaled, having taken the ball right in front of the posts. A second goal shortly afterwards came from the same player's boot. Then Brown, running down from the centre, eluded two or three opponents, and punted a fine goal from a good distance. Glenelg at this stage appeared to be becoming disorganized. Marvell, scouting near the boundary, gained possession, and was successful in scoring another goal for Torrens. Glenelg worked the ball into the Torrens' territory. Lyne passed to Owens, who took a splendid mark between two opponents, and followed it up with the best goal of the day. At half-time the scores were:—Glenelg, 6.3; West Torrens, 5.6.

#### Glenelg Recover Their Lead.

Glenelg suffered a severe setback in the third term owing to Handby receiving an injury to a knee. Up to this point he had been probably Glenelg's best man, and to have him practically put out of action was a heavy blow. After working the ball forward with the assistance of Lloyd and Lyne, Toms secured a good mark and succeeded in kicking his second goal for the day. The play for some time was even, but eventually Owens,



J. OWENS, who, as his share of Glenelg's first win, kicked five goals against West Torrens.

taking another fine mark, made no mistake with his kick. Torrens could manage only behinds. A quick movement by Perry and Foss down the field enabled C. Hill to gain possession, and with his left foot he smartly snapped another full-point. Fine work on the part of B enabled Owens to kick his fourth goal. Within a few moments Hoft dashed in and punted the ball well down the field, and his skirmishers taking up the running. Owens flew for a brilliant mark and once more found the opening. Torrens at last met with success. O'Grady secured and kicked his second goal from a good distance.

Glenelg supporters were on the tip-toe of excitement when the last quarter commenced. Torrens now had the advantage of the wind, and, with a leeway of 27 points to make up, set about the task in

dead earnest. Adams goaled twice in succession. Glenelg instituted an attack, and Gotts, scouting on the fringe of the followers, kicked smartly and registered full points. This goal practically made the game a certainty for the seariders. Brown made great efforts by shifting his men to various positions to break the Glenelg defence. Hoft appeared to be more concerned about his rucks, which he changed very frequently in order to make the pace as hot as possible. Adams was proving a thorn in Glenelg's side, and had Torrens won, it would, undoubtedly, have been due to his play. Davies, by good play, worked the ball up the field. Minear passed to Fleet, who successfully goaled. When, with two minutes to go, Adams kicked another goal for the visitors, the excitement was intense. Time, however, was against last season's premiers, and the Bays ran out victors by eight points, after a splendidly fought contest.

#### Great Enthusiasm.

The utmost enthusiasm prevailed among Glenelg supporters when the bell rang for the last time. They rushed the field and every man was carried off the ground. Hoft and Owens being the recipients of a tremendous ovation from the pavillion as they were borne to the dressing room. The Torrens supporters took their defeat splendidly. Brown, the Torrens skipper, and Karney, his lieutenant, were among the first to go to the Glenelg dressing room and offer congratulations to the victors. The only incident that marred the proceedings occurred as the umpire, Mr. Quinn, was leaving the field. It was stated that as he passed through the oval gate on his way to the umpires' dressing room he was pushed and tripped by a West Torrens player. He fell on his face, cutting his right elbow and knee, and being covered in dirt. It is understood that he intends reporting the matter to the league. With regard to Glenelg's victory, Hoft demonstrated his ability as a footballer and his qualifications as a leader.

#### Progressive scores:—

<b>First Quarter.</b>	
Glenelg	5.3
Torrens	1
<b>Half Time.</b>	
Glenelg	6.3
Torrens	5.6
<b>Third Quarter.</b>	
Glenelg	11.5
Torrens	6.8
<b>Final.</b>	
Glenelg	12.6
Torrens	10.10

Best players.—Glenelg—Hoft, Lloyd, Foss, Owens, Handby, Toms, C. Hill, Bail, and Jackson; West Torrens—Brown, Karney, Adams, Fleet, Marvell, O'Grady, Minear, Davies, and Mills. Goalkickers.—Glenelg—Owens (5), C. Hill (3), Toms (2), Gotts, and Jackson. West Torrens—Adams and O'Grady (3 each), Brown, Karney, Marvell, and Fleet.

#### HONOURING THE VICTORS.

##### GLENELG TEAM ENTERTAINED.

There was great jubilation in Glenelg when the victory of the team became known, and in the evening, when the result of the match with West Torrens was thrown on the screens at the local picture theatres, the audiences rose up and cheered lustily. At the invitation of the Mayor (Hon. H. Tassie), the Glenelg A grade players, their committee and trainers, assembled in the new banqueting room of the town hall, where they were tendered a smoke social.

The Mayor (who occupied the chair), congratulated the members of the A grade team, their committee and trainers, upon their victory of the afternoon. (Applause). Glenelg residents had been looking forward for a long time to the event. There was even a reasonable possibility that Glenelg might win a premiership. (Applause). He submitted the toast, "Success to the Glenelg Football Club, coupled with the names of their captain, Cyril Hoft, and their head trainer, J. A. Page," which was enthusiastically honoured.

Hoft, who met with a rousing reception, said, in response, that he was the proudest man in Glenelg that night. Glenelg had at last won their spurs, and what was more, in battle with last year's premiers. Speaking as their captain, he could say that whatever instructions he had given had been obeyed willingly, and without the slightest demur. That was a great thing in a football team. He did not think there was a solitary member of the team who had not justified his inclusion that day, and if they could maintain that standard it would take a good team to beat them. It would be a big encouragement to the team, since it showed that the town appreciated their efforts.

J. A. Page returned thanks on behalf of the trainers. J. Lloyd (vice-captain) also briefly acknowledged the toast.

Mr. Frank Smith (President of the club) submitted "Kindred clubs," which was drunk with musical honours.

Mr. F. K. Gould (Chairman of the Sturt Club), in replying, said they had done what Sturt had not been able to do last season, and that was, defeat Torrens.

Mr. J. Cooke (Chairman of the South Adelaide Football Club) also spoke. The health of the Chairman was enthusiastically honoured.

#### PRESENTATION OF HATS.

It was announced recently that Messrs. Gollin & Co., Limited, agents for Woodrow's hats, had notified their intention to give one of these hats to the best player of the Glenelg football team when the team secured its first win. After their victory on Saturday the matter of selecting the best candidate was left to Mr. Jack Hanley, captain of Glenelg last year. Mr. Hanley was unable to decide between Messrs. Jack Owens and Jim Handby, and the firm generously decided to give a hat to each of these players.

#### TEAMS PHOTOGRAPHED.

Photographs of all the A grade teams will appear in The Observer this week.