

TORRENS BEATEN BY WEST BUT STILL TOP IN LEAGUE

Torrens met their first 1948 defeat in league football against West at Adelaide Oval today. The gold-and-blues head the premiership list by a slight percentage margin.

Sturt outscored Glenelg by 19 points and have moved up from third position. West (fifth last week) are now third. Norwood had a slight edge over North and remain fourth. In the other game Port easily defeated South.

Stronger in Ruck

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
West	3—2	11—6	15—10	18—14	122
Torrens	2—4	6—6	11—7	14—8	92

By Roy Colmer

WEST were too strong for Torrens in ruck, and won by 30 points. West won the game in the second quarter when they increased their lead from four points to 30. Their big men, particularly Smith and Taylor, gave the rovers a clear break over the opposing small men.

Another big factor in West's lead was the superiority of their half-forward line.

West were 52 points ahead at one stage of the third quarter. Then Torrens staged a brilliant burst, in which speed was the outstanding feature. This was the only time in which they had West completely subdued.

Ruck power again gave West the advantage in the last quarter. Their teamwork was smooth, but it was the followers who deserve most credit.

Brown, West back pocket man, stood out as best man on the ground. He showed keen judgment in meeting the ball, and rarely failed to clear with a long, driving kick. Braidwood

showed fine speed in holding centre half-forward.

Smith and Taylor took control of the rucks and played soundly in the open going. Williams roved with dash and determination, while Faehse, after a slow start, held centre half-back. Slattery (roving) and Atkins (half-forward right) were others to do well.

Mehaffey played a grand game for Torrens. He roved to beaten rucks, but still led most attacks by his side in the first half. Jim Edwards was little behind him with a fine performance at centre wing. Torrens held the centre wings all day, with Colin McKenzie also doing good work.

Bob Hank played brilliant football in the second half, after being held by Burkett. Commans was sound in goal, and received fine support from Sully. Low, at half-back right, was another to do well.

Scorers—West: Williams 4.2, Cannon 3.2, Braidwood 3.1, Smith 2.3, Zeuner 2.2, Atkins 1.1, Slattery 1.1, Coad 1.0, Agars 1.0, Taylor 0.1, Mackay 0.1. Torrens: Mehaffey 5.3, Bennett 2.1, Coverlid 2.1, H. McKenzie 2.0, Wyatt 1.1, Glastonbury 1.0, Pyatt 1.0, Bob Hank 0.1, Wood 0.1.

STURT GOT BREAK AND HELD IT

By LAWRIE JERVIS, JUN.

Sturt gained a three-goal break in the second quarter, and were able to hold it to the end to defeat Glenelg by 19 points in an interesting game at Glenelg Oval today.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts
Sturt	4—3	7—9	9—12	11—14	80
Glenelg	3—3	4—5	6—9	8—13	61

With the exception of the second quarter, when Glenelg could not match Sturt's pace and were inclined to maul their opponents and give away frees, the teams were evenly matched throughout.

In that term, Sturt increased a one-goal lead to more than three—a sizable margin on a wet day.

Yeo battled magnificently at centre half-back in the third quarter, and it must have been heartbreaking to Glenelg to see so many attacks smashed up there.

Glenelg had the chance to draw level early in the last quarter, but from three set shots, all within range, they scored only points.

Yeo for his consistently staunch defence at centre half-back was Sturt's best. There are few more determined players in the league than Yeo. Sturt captain, George Tilley, was often the target for Bay ruckers because of the gruelling he gave goalsneak Churchett.

Tilley, although he did not get many kicks, saw to it that Churchett did not either.

Schober (ruck), Hillary, and Baker, on a wing, were best of the others.

Ray Hunt, Glenelg goalkeeper, did an excellent job. He saved goal after goal in the second term.

Window and Robjent in defence did well, Robjent particularly in the second half. Crabb played his best football

when following. Neither he nor Boyall could cope with Yeo when resting at centre half-forward.

Boyall occasionally did the right thing, but more often than not the wrong.

Manning, on a wing, and McPherson were best of the others.

Scorers—Sturt: Pynor 2.4, Hockney 2.0, Hillary 2.0, Lowe 1.2, Willis 1.1, Langley 1.1, Ryan 1.1, Schober 1.0, Cave 0.2, Baker 0.1, rushed 0.2. Glenelg: Churchett 3.2, McPherson 3.0, Haussen 1.0, Boyall 1.1, Link 0.3, Laffin 0.1, Grimwood 0.2, Crabb 0.2, rushed 0.1.

Glenelg—Backs: Link, Hunt, Hasse. Half-backs: Vale, Robjent, Wallis. Centres: Manning, Karutz, Trenorden. Half-forwards: Grimwood, Crabb, Brown. Forwards: Haussen, Churchett, Laffin. Ruck: Boyall, Window, Greenbank. Reserves: McPherson, Hannaford.

Sturt—Backs: Kearns, Tilley, L. Giles. Half-backs: Fry, Yeo, Bowler. Centres: Baker, Wickham, Thomas. Half-forwards: Lowe, Cave, Willis. Forwards: Hockney, Pynor, Hillary. Ruck: Schober, Whelan, Langley. Reserves: Ryan, Hardy. Umpire: B. M. Harvey. Estimated attendance, 2,500.

Greenbank, Glenelg rover, didn't last long today. In the first quarter he tore the sinews of the same knee he injured in the first game of the season. This was his first game since then.

Willis (Sturt) missed a goal by two seconds at Glenelg. He collared the ball 10 yards out, and kicked just too late to beat the half-time bell.

Crowds at today's league football matches totalled 24,700—11,500 at Adelaide Oval, 5,000 at Glenelg, 4,600 at Kensington, 3,600 at Alberton.

Up for Ball At Glenelg



HUNT (Glenelg goalkeeper) was well above Sturt ruckman Schober when they went up for the ball during the Glenelg-Sturt match at Glenelg today. On the left is Link (Glenelg), and Pynor (Sturt) is on the right.

Main Worry To South

By Ray Barber

Bob McLean (goalsneak) was such a menace that Port had an unbeatable lead at half-time against South, at Alberton Oval. Port won by 78 points.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	2.5	10.8	12.9	16.14	110
South	0.4	1.4	2.8	4.8	32

All other Port forwards were on their game, and McLean had six goals at half-time.

South broke even across centre, and there was not much in the ruck work. But, elsewhere, Port made them look like novices.

Port had a back line playing together; they were faster, and they kicked to position. South's field kicking was shocking.

Bob McLean was the best magpie. Laurie Gates was next best with a good display of roving and teamwork. Roberts had plenty of opposition at centre, but set his team moving often.

Hewitson proved that he is a centre wing find, and L. G. McLean played the loose man effectively in the first half. Schumann was solid at centre half-back.

Hickinbotham was a little better than Roberts, and played the centre game within a prescribed area.

Don Pryor has found his place as a goalkeeper. After he switched on to Bob McLean just before half-time he restricted him to one goal.

Fraser and Linke worked hard at half-back to stem the tide, while Ward held his own in the ruck.

Scorers—Port: A. R. McLean 7.2, M. Gates 3.0, L. G. McLean, Boyd 2.2, L. Gates 2.1, Clarke 0.4, Nicholls O'Brien, rushed 0.1. South: Edgwood 1.2, Laphorne, Daniel, Ward 1.0, Allen 0.4, Deane 0.2.

PREMIERSHIP LIST

	P.	W.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts
Torrens	4	3	1	465	398	6
Sturt	4	3	1	412	380	6
West	4	3	1	450	424	6
Norwood	4	3	1	400	389	6
Port	4	2	2	418	334	4
Glenelg	4	2	2	435	415	4
North	4	-	4	418	452	-
South	4	-	4	283	510	-

Top Goalkickers

	Today	Total
Churchett (Glenelg)	3	26
Farrow (Norwood)	4	21
Tuckey (North)	5	20
Mehaffey (Torrens)	5	19
Parsons (Torrens)	—	14
Langley (Sturt)	1	13
Coulls (North)	3	13

Norwood Defence Too Good

By Colin Hay

Norwood's steadier defence under pressure, better handling of the slippery ball and greater speed, gave them a 14-point win over North at Kensington today.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Norwood	5.4	11.6	15.7	16.9	105
North	2.2	7.4	10.6	14.7	91

It was a scrambling game, with the ball kicked along the ground as often as in the air, and with a surfeit of handball by Norwood.

North showed sound form spasmodically but lack sustained driving force. Their losing margin was their greatest for the year. They have not worked into a smooth combination, although they have material for a strong team.

Best on the ground was Norwood's Matthews, solid in ruck and a strong link in a back pocket. Roberts (half-back right), LePage (centre half-back), and Johns (goalkeeper) were always sound.

Williams had a grand duel with Phillips at centre half-forward. Dansie (who came on the field in the first five minutes) was their best half-forward, and Oatey showed he will soon be at his top.

North's best was Crouch. His ruck work was superb, and he was rarely beaten in the air in a back pocket. Griffin maintained his fine form at centre, and had the call over Blackmore for most of the game, and Phillips again shone.

Coulls (roving and forward pocket), Cox (centre wing), Beeching (ruck), and Thomas (goalkeeper) were best of the rest.

Scorers—Norwood: Farrow 4.2, Dansie 3.2, Oatey 3.1, Trestrall 1.1, Marriott, Bell, Matthews, Mayo, Williams 1.0, Whitford, Heidenreich 0.1, rushed 0.1. North: Tuckey 5.0, Coulls 3.0, Kennett 2.1, Donnithorpe 1.3, Bolton 1.1, McKay 1.0, Arbon 0.1, rushed 0.1.