Round 15, 2022 – Glenelg v WW Eagles @ Glenelg – Won 25 pts

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2022 advertiser.com.au

BAYS BACK INTO IT AS EAGLES FEEL THE PINCH

GLENELG	6.5 8.6 11.8 13.8	86
EAGLES	0.0 0.4 3.5 9.7	61

CAPEL'S BEST

Glenelg: Snook, McBean, Bailey, Pink, Allen, Gerloff, Partington.

Eagles: Clarke, Knight, Hardie, Ballenden, Mutch, Ellis-Yolmen.

GOALS

Glenelg: McBean, Hosie 3, Leck, Reynolds 2, Allen, Bradley, Snook. **Eagles:** Ballenden 3, Ellis-Yolmen, Pearce 2, Guilhaus, Hardie.

INJURIES

Glenelg: Moore (ankle), Proud (nose).

UMPIRES

Sobieraj, Hardy, Hundertmark.

CROWD

1533 at Glenelg Oval.

ANDREW CAPEL

GLENELG coach Brett Hand called for a response and he got it.

After losing flag favouritism by being thumped by a total of 129 points in the previous two weeks by Adelaide and South Adelaide, the Tigers on Saturday produced a stunning form turnaround.

Under serious minor round pressure for the first time in the Hand era, Glenelg convincingly beat back-to-back premier Woodville-West Torrens by 25 points at the Bay, casting major doubt over the Eagles' three-peat hopes.

The margin wasn't reflective of the Tigers' superiority, as they led by 50 points at half-time – having kept the Eagles goalless – and a game-high 57 points early in the final term.

"We had some chats with the leadership group and players during the week, we came with a good attitude and executed our game plan really well," Hand said. "We changed a few things up personnel and position-wise and it worked. We needed to respond and we responded well, which was really pleasing."

The Tigers, led brilliantly by veteran midfielder Matthew Snook, quickly turned the re-match of last year's grand finalists into a one-sided affair. They matched their dismal three-goal effort against South last week – their lowest return in 11 years – in the opening 12 minutes.

Young midfielder Brady Searle set the ball rolling with a powerful run through the centre square before delivering the ball superbly to forward Nick Leck as the Tigers took early advantage of the strong wind blowing towards Glenelg Primary School.

Key forwards Lachie Hosie and Liam McBean then got in on the goalkicking act as the Bays continued to go long and direct, using the wind with great effect.

Displaying a ferocious desire for the ball and gang-tackling its opponents, Glenelg raced 41 points clear at quarter-time, while keeping the Eagles scoreless.

It then sealed the game in the second quarter, kicking two goals into the wind while restricting the visitors to four behinds, to lead by 50 points at the long break.

"The way we defended in the second quarter set the game up for us," Hand said.

Woodville-West Torrens, which had Ken Farmer Medal leader Daniel Menzel blanketed by Toby Pink, took until 19 minutes into the third quarter to register its first major, when Connor Ballenden waltzed into an open goal following a defensive turnover.

It kicked three consecutive majors in nine minutes and six goals to two in the final term to add some respectability to the scoreboard. But it was a case of too little, too late.

"Glenelg was tougher around the ball early, wanted it more than we did, which was disappointing," said Eagles coach Jade Sheedy, whose side slumped to sixth.

"We fought the game out well, but it was too late and the scoreboard flattered us.

"We didn't play our Eagles brand, which is unsociable and contested, and we have to get back to that."

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by Zac Milbank

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Glenelg responded to its fortnight from hell with a stirring 25-point win against Woodville-West Torrens at ACH Group Stadium.

Coming off uncharacteristically heavy losses to Adelaide and South Adelaide in consecutive weeks, the Bays were outstanding in the first half as they made the most of a strong breeze in the opening quarter.

Brett Hand's charges – without key defender Jordan Moore in the second half – slammed on 6.5 while keeping the reigning premier scoreless in the first term, before driving home their advantage against the wind in the second stanza.

Having made the most of a 26-3 inside 50m advantage up until the first change, the Tigers then managed two goals against the grain while continuing to hold the Eagles without a major until Connor Ballenden goaled 19 minutes into the third quarter.

Jack Oatey Medallist Matthew Snook earned the Coles Value Player award for his trademark grunt work at the stoppages, collecting 29 disposals, 10 clearances and kicking a rare goal on his right foot in the fourth term.

After being blanketed last round, Darcy Bailey returned to form with 29 touches for the Bays while Matt Allen was very constructive with his 18 disposals on his wing.

Glenelg debutant Lewis Rayson played an intelligent game in defence while collecting 12 disposals while fellow backman Toby Pink did an excellent job of keeping Daniel Menzel to just one kick and no score.

Eagles milestone man Jimmy Toumpas finished with 26 disposals in his 100th SANFL League game while Riley Knight never gave in whilst accumulating 25 disposals, 12 tackles and eight clearances.

Under-sized forward Jack Firns competed hard for the Eagles through centre-half forward to have 20 disposals and lay seven tackles while Connor Ballenden returned from his hamstring strain in positive fashion with three goals, seven marks and 14 disposals.

Talented Glenelg youngster Cooper Horsnell wins the ball ahead of the Eagles' Joseph Sinor in the Tigers' crucial win on Saturday at the Bay. Picture: Matt Loxton

	P	W	L	FOR	AGNST	PTS	PERCENT
ADELAIDE	14	10	4	1338	971	20	57.95%
NORTH ADELAIDE	14	10	4	1231	918	20	57.28%
GLENELG	14	10	4	1089	968	20	52.94%
NORWOOD	14	9	5	1058	903	18	53.95%
STURT	14	9	5	1009	929	18	52.06%
WOODVILLE-W TORRENS	14	8	6	1003	926	16	52.00%
SOUTH ADELAIDE	14	6	8	899	939	12	48.91%
CENTRAL DISTRICT	14	4	10	884	1132	8	43.85%
PORT ADELAIDE	14	3	11	813	1213	6	40.13%
WEST ADELAIDE	14	1	13	874	1299	2	40.22%