



# Wakehurst Premier League News

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Latest News - Social Events - Match Reports - Player Profiles

7<sup>th</sup> May '05  
Issue No. 3

## Latest News



### Tiger Talk

by Ben Molyneux

Well, as you all know by now, or witnessed last week, the Tigers had a MASSIVE win over Brookvale. While it was only one game, it had special significance for some of the veterans in the Tigers squad. Whilst there was plenty of celebrations on Saturday night, I managed to catch up with a few of the team to find out what the game meant for them and their thoughts on the big win (comments in order of veteran-ness - ie. Age):



The boys singing the victory song

**Eddy Fong (aka Fongy)** - "Great win, but I wasn't as surprised as some. I knew they were beatable, and that we have the team to do it - just look at the depth on the bench. It's opened up the premiership once again."

**Justin Rainbird (aka Birdman)** - "That is why I play the game and train for months and months. All the off-season weights training to build up my massive legs really paid off. If all the hard work only means you win ONE game per season, you just hope it is Brooky."

**Ashley Mathieson (aka Asha)** - "It was a hard struggle, always is against Brooky and usually we fail at the final hurdle after leading, but some how the team played out the 90 minutes and got the chocolates... considering I have never beaten Brooky (pauses and wipes tears from his eyes)... it still hasn't set in yet and everyone from parents, coaches and other teams that I have run into have been saying "well done", "you beat Brooky" etc... and all this is why you play... this is the reason why I didn't retire last year... it's the reason why I love the game so much... to win the big games... and we did... and I scored."

**Adam Townsend (aka Townsy)** - "My life has been shattered. One moment, I am celebrating one of the biggest wins of my illustrious career, then the next thing I know, the mighty Canaries (Norwich City) have let in four goals and are on the verge of relegation. I can't handle this sort of emotion!" (Note: Townsy was escorted from The Ivanhoe for crying in a public bar.)

**Dave Sutherland (aka Sutho)** - "I've got around one player in the last ten years and it happened against Brooky, only to be brought down in the box and no penalty awarded! I know we won, but I was robbed."

**Nick Rainey (aka Rains)** - "I thought the game was always in our control. I thought the defense really stood out, particularly Timmy Sheather (tough job keeping Brooky scoreless). I thought the crowd was first class... great support from family and friends. My hand is still tired from signing so many autographs! The Tigers are within striking distance of the lead... season turner!"

**John O'Leary (aka Pommie)** - "The game meant a lot to me especially because I took such a major roll in how the two winning goals were constructed! Running the ball 30m into the opposition territory and feeding Ash onto Nick - I showed such great intuition. Then picking out Ash's head from the corner, swung with pace and spin from the new boots - not that it was hard to hit Ash's head. Also, we've never had a clean sheet against Brooky, which is a credit to the defence which has become really solid since I moved to the midfield. Made my weekend that win.

**GO THE MIGHTY TIGERS!!! COME TO THE DEN AND YOU GET WHAT YOU DESERVE!!!**



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## Match Report – First Grade

### Brookvale Breakthrough

Score: 2-0 Goal Scorer(s): Nick Sheather, Ash Mathieson



Jubilant post match scenes marked a long awaited victory against the Tiger's nemesis, Brookvale on a sunny Saturday afternoon at "The Den". For many of the players it was the first time they have tasted success against Brooky and they sure did enjoy it. I've never heard a louder rendition of the victory song and I'm sure it's something the players and supporters will remember for a long time (Tears running down the cheek as I write this column) but enough of the mushy stuff...

The team was under pressure early as Brookvale came out of the blocks strongly and put plenty of pressure on the Tiger's defence. The back three of Birdy, Tim Sheather and Robbie did exceptionally well early on with several crunching tackles, cutting off many Brookvale raids. It seemed like we had a thousand corners against us in the first half but the defensive formation held strong only allowing long range shots which Benny, in goals, handled with ease. We weren't without some great first half chances ourselves when Nick Rainey turned his man superbly just outside the box then cracked a low drive just wide. Shortly after a pin point cross from John O'Leary saw Ash out jump the defence but put a well timed long range header just wide once again.

The second half was a different game as the Tigers started to dominate and were rewarded when Nick Sheather scored his first of the season. After beating his defender on the right hand side of the penalty box, he cut inside and delicately placed a left foot shot curling into the top left corner. We started to create numerous chances but were somehow denied a penalty, after some delightful lead up play down the left side saw Sutho beat the last defender in the box, but was chopped down in the process. The opposition couldn't believe their luck and to everyone's disbelief the Ref waved play-on. Fortunately, Ash relieved the pressure and gave us a 2-0 lead after towering above the Brookvale defence at the far post and burying his header in the back of the net. Dave Sutherland had one more chance to seal matters, but his touch while rounding the keeper, left him with a tight angle which he couldn't convert from.

An outstanding effort by everyone on the pitch with some exceptional individual performances as well. In particular, Benny had a blinder in goals making several crucial saves with Tim Sheather a standout in defence. FYI Tim, apparently Fabio is still in the shower waiting for a lift home!!! Not sure if he used the tap or it's just pure tears ☺

**Man of the Match:** Tim Sheather / Ben Molyneux



John O'Leary about to miss-kick the ball while Fabio makes a dash for the shower



Ash leaving the opposition in his wake



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## Match Report – Reserve Grade

### Defence Wins It Again

Score: 1-0    Goal Scorer(s): Guy Halpin



Having several regular defenders out indicated that we may struggle defensively against Brookvale, but to the boys credit they handled the opposition's attack exceptionally well. Andrew Stahl, in goals, had his best game of the season pulling off several great saves. In particular, he saved a long range shot that looked certain to go in after it deflected up and over the defence but he somehow managed to scramble back and tip it over the bar.

It seemed like Brookvale had plenty of time and space in the middle of the park, which is where most of their attack centred from. A majority of their chances fell to their midfield but only resulted in long range shots. Joe and Rich worked tirelessly in the middle of the park but seemed to be outmanned, with play coming through the deep centre half region.

It seemed that Brookvale were controlling play until a great chance down the left hand flank saw Dwayne cross the ball to Andrew Reid, not realising he had plenty of time to control and shoot, hit an awkwardly bouncing ball over the bar with the keeper nowhere to be seen. Shortly after Guy offered for the ball down the right hand side, looked up to see Dwayne in the middle, crossed the ball and fortunately directed it into the far top corner of the net. Guy was adamant it was a shot but the Fines Committee never lies!

There were few chances in the second half and the Tigers found themselves defending their one goal lead for the majority. Fortunately the defence was resolute and didn't allow Brookvale many scoring opportunities. A great win once again and some consolation for last year's grand final loss. Keep up the good work lads!

Man of the Match: Andrew Stahl

## Fines

Greeny	Mr Agosta. Not turning up for last years Grand Final	\$2
Nick Sheather	Forgetting shorts on match day	\$1
Charlie	Kicking ball over sideline	\$1
Johno/Townsy	Towns called "Flick" from 5m away and Johno flicked it 40m past him	\$1
Andrew Stahl	Comment of: "Can you be offside from a header"	\$1
John O'Leary	Not wearing "Stinker Shirt" to training on Thursday	\$1
John O'Leary	For saying Nick Rainey's sister is hot	\$1
Andrew Reid	Open Goal... Shoots... "Two Points"	\$1
Guy Halpin	Claiming his goal was a shot and not a cross	\$1
Dave Sutho	Adding extra player to Brookvale	\$2
Benny	Drop kick out for throw-in	\$1
Benny	Wearing the same unwashed lucky orange undies every week	\$1
Charlie	Boring old man fine. Doesn't want to go out	\$1
Mel Sheather	Comment after her husband Nick Sheath scored. "Who scored that?"	\$1
Townsy	Losing his wallet at a fat chicks place	\$1
Tim Smithies	Air Swing	\$1
Townsy	Borrowing Jim Eaton's daughter's shorts as the men's sizes were too big	\$1
Debbie Towns	Comment of: "Even Sutho played well today" (versus Brookvale)	\$1
Tim Sheather	"Quick Draw McGraw" award for not performing in bed	\$1





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## Stinker of the Week

### Andrew Reid

Open goal versus Brookvale... He shoots... "Two Points"



## Player Profile – Darren Leach

**Nickname(s):** Athlete/Playmaker/Fantastic/The Package Deal King

**Position:** The Dance Floor (The Leachy 2 Step)

**Favourite Team/Player:** Narrabeen / The Red Head at the Sports Academy

**Most Despised Team:** Parramatta Eels / Liverpool

**Favourite Junk Food:** Shakespeare's Cheese and Spinach Pie

**Favourite Beverage(s):** Shandy of Light Ice

**Hobbies:** Sunbaking and Joining the Dots, Sticking my tongue out while running, picking up soccer balls during the pre-match warm-up and working out on my calves.

**Favourite Sportsman:** Brian Smith (Parramatta Coach) / Fatty Vautin / Pauline Hanson

**Favourite Movie/Actor:** Ginger Megs the Movie / Ginger Megs

**Favourite Band/Song:** The Fantastic Furniture Theme Song

**Best Sport Moment:** The first 5 minutes of the 1997 Champion of Champions final. The best passage of football I've ever played! Just watch the video (coming out soon on Captain Socceroo)

**Worst Sport Moment:** Using my electrifying pace to beat the defence at DY oval and only having the keeper to beat, upon shooting, I kicked the dirt, did a forward roll and all that could be seen from the sideline was a puff of dust and the ball going out for a goal kick

**Personal Motto:** I'm the playmaker, just pass it to me. Make sure you warm-up properly. Don't close your legs or I won't be able to use my only move

**Comments:** I've been an athlete all my life and just love hanging around the loading docks at work carrying lounge suites over my shoulder but have the occasional problem picking up 100g soccer balls.

I could have made it to the top if someone just passed me the ball. Mosman realised just how dangerous I could be when calls of "watch out for the playmaker" echoed around the ground when entering the game during the SA Cup semi-final last year. Pity there was only 5 minutes to go and I didn't have enough time to leave my usual mark on the game. I love defending and have one of the sweetest outside rights in the game. I have fond memories of the 1997 Champion of Champions final where I made sure we got off to a bright start and played a blistering opening 5 minutes. My favourite pastime is hanging around old grandma's houses in Manly at 3am looking for my wallet. I've also dabbled in the media and have been spotted on prime time TV (in between 3am dating service advertisements) and enjoy mixing with the other well known Fantastic Furniture Celebrities.

I am the Package Deal King!!!

P.S. If you like rock solid sofas and lounges then come see me.

Don't be scared of the Ball

