



PAFL Round 16 – Match Report

Saturday, August 30, 2008

Author: Dezza Spell check & Layout: Dezza

How they lined up

Dingoes:

Richie Amurao, Thomas Bell, Fred Biggar, James Braithwaite, Ringo Dingrando, Brad Drinkwater, Jermery Guthrie, Adam Heremaia, Michael Macaraig, Anthony Maxwell, Milosz Mogilnicki, CJ Radcliffe, Peter Solomon, Andrew Young.

Eureka's:

Derek Ackary, Steve Arthur, David Bell, Michael Bell, Liam Braithwaite, Patrick Duffy, Scott Fittock, Harry Fontalvo, Mark Gilroy, Christian Jones, Mark Pekin, Kurt Plummer, Craig Wislang.

Central Umpires: P. Lawrence, L. Martin & G. Barnes

Goal Umpires: B. Morgan & M. Morgan.

Statistician: M. Edge

How it all happened

The PAFL season is really starting to hot up with the 2nd last game of the year taking place in the boiling afternoon sunshine at the Manila Polo Club. The Eureka's were missing a few of their regular players in Zorba, Pete Benson, Richard Spence, Sam Chittick, Winner and Andy Cumpston who was off eloping in Queensland somewhere with his lovely now wife, Alexa.

The Dingoes also had a few notable absentees in Steve "the handbrake has been fully applied" Scott, Nick Wong, Paul Retzlaff and Glen "my sunburn is better thanks" Batterbury who is apparently going to be out for the rest of the season with an anterior cruciate injury. As a result, both teams took on a new look. Once again, there was white maggots everywhere in Bluey, Gazza and Lozza so we were all set as the thunder and lightning threatened in the distance.

The umpire tosses the coin the Dezza calls correctly and decides to put the opposition in on a pitch that was tipped to turn as the game wears on.

FIRST QUARTER

With Belly being taken from the ruck to try and even up the contest, I can't remember who actually started in the ruck, but the Eureka's did get the ball forward to Scotty Fittock who took a strong grab and converted truly to get Edgely warmed up for the day. The Eureka's almost extended the advantage further as big Belly took a mark in the goal square after a nice short pass. However, from about 10 metres out dead in front, he managed to kick it behind the stick. The Dingoes then got the ball forward as Solly was still doing up his bootlaces on the boundary. But once he was all tied up, he sprints out onto the field and somehow ends up with the ball, baulks and weaves his way around a couple of Eureka defenders, and slots a nice goal bringing the lead back to one point. The Dingoes then hit the lead courtesy of a goal to Drippy but the Eureka's strike back with two tries to the tireless Wislang to take a 7 point lead into the quarter time huddle.

SECOND QUARTER

The Eureka's come outta the blocks strongly in the second term with Gilroy hitting a winner down the line and Fittock also getting a strike to take the Eureka's lead out to 20 centavos. With the Eureka's deciding to enforce the second powerplay, Jimmy "I'll show you b**tards how it's done" Braithwaite streams away to get a par in regulation, with young Andrew Young crashing and barging his way through the pack to slot one from just inside the golden triangle. After a couple of misses by the Dingoes, Wislang lets fly with a torp to

score maximum points and takes the lead for the Eureka's out to 12 points as the half time siren blows.

THIRD QUARTER

With a few field changes, the Eureka's opted to go with a regulation field, bowling on or around off stump, hoping to force an error from the middle order as the pitch began to lose it's moisture.

As has been the trend for the game, the Eureka's get the first ace of the quarter through Wislang but the Dingoes were not to be outdone with Jimmy Braithwaite kicking an inspirational running goal from the penalty area. However, the Eureka's now had ball in hand with two racks left to play and all bases loaded. This allows Jones to hit a six and take the Eureka's lead out to 17 runs with Pekin also slotting one through to stretch the lead out to 23 rupees. The job was getting tough for the bowlers with the pitch now looking very flat and more suited to the batsmen.

As the siren blew to signify the end of the quarter, the Eureka's were looking good with a 23 point advantage.

FOURTH QUARTER

With all the players looking exhausted, the last quarter was shaping up to be a hard fought battle. The Dingoes were looking to get on the board early and didn't mess about as Jimmy B kicks his third winner to bring the lead back to 17 points. Only three straight kicks were needed to put the Dingoes ahead – can they do it?? Keep reading and I'll tell you.

No fairy tale ending here I'm afraid to say. The Eureka's finished off the game by kicking three straight goals with Belly slotting a great running goal followed by Plummer who had now pushed up the field after giving Christian a rest, and boy didn't Kurt love that goal – his first for the season. Pekin then slotted one through to put the conclusion beyond doubt, allowing the Eureka's to run out comfortable winners by 35 points.

The Eureka's are now on top of the table with only one game to play. It looks like the PAFL season is set up for an intriguing finish. Whoever wins the last game will take out the coveted PAFL premiership Cup. Even though the Eureka's are a game clear, they do have a poor percentage so if the Dingoes win the next game, even though they will draw equal on points, their superior percentage will give them the glory. See you all on September 13 for the final game which is shaping up to be an absolute ball biter!!!

Thanks once again to our umpires and also to our sponsors without whom, we would not be able to enjoy our great game each weekend.

Final Score ...

Dingoes: 2.1, 4.3, 5.4, 6.5 (41)

Eureka's: 3.2, 6.3, 9.4, 12.4 (76)

Goal Scorers ...

Dingoes: Braithwaite 3, Drinkwater, Solomon, Young.

Eureka's: Wislang 4, Pekin, Fittock 2, D. Bell, Gilroy, Jones, Plummer.

2008 PAFL Premiership Table

	Wins (4 pts.)	Draws (2 pts.)	Losses (0 pts.)	For (Score)	Against (Score)	%	Premiership Points
Eurekas	7	0	6	632	761	83.05	28
Dingoes	6	0	7	761	632	120.41	24

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