



# PAFL Round 1 – Match Report

Saturday, April 17, 2010

Author: Dezza    Spell check & Layout: Dezza

## How they lined up ....

### Dingoes:

Richie Amurao, Thomas Bell, Julian “Rooster” Clark, Ringo Dingrando, Brett Hickey, Mike Kopp, Michael Macaraig, Nate McKay, Fergus Mitra, Rob Powell, CJ Radcliffe, Pete Rorison, Lockie Sandor, Peter Sandor, Steve Scott, Peter Stone, Andy White.

### Eureka's:

Derek Ackary, Michael Bell, Nathan Clarke, Andrew Cope, Aidan Cotter, Andrew Egan, Jason Hickey, Jason Lock, Manoli Loukas, Seb Millette, Xandro Molato, Mick O'Connor, Mark Pekin, Winner Santos, Peter Tsiros, Warren Tyrner.

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

Boundary Umpire: Richard Spence

Goal Umpires: B. Morgan & M. Morgan.

Statistician: A. Holbrook

## How it all happened ....

Well, they say that a week is a long time in football. If that is the case, six months would be an eternity! And that is exactly how it felt in the lead up to the kick off of the PAFL 2010 season. It was a sensational turn out to begin PAFL's seventh season, with 30 players pulling on a jumper. It was very encouraging that despite the loss off several players from last year due to repatriation, there were several new, and old, faces.

PAFL debutants included Brett and Jason Hickey, Mike Kopp, Pete Rorison, Seb Millette, Mick O'Connor and Warren Tyrner, and coming back after long absences was Copey, Thomas and Michael Bell and Aiden Cotter, with Julian “rooster” Clark making his PAFL debut whilst visiting on business, and regular visitor Peter “the Malacca” Tsiros. Not to mention Brett Marshall assisting with the umpiring and big Azza Holbrook on stats. It was almost like a PAFL reunion! A great mix of old and new.

Luckily, despite the scorching temperatures of recent times, some cloud cover rolled in to shield the sun from the players making conditions a little more bearable. Luckily it wasn't from Iceland.

### FIRST QUARTER:

The game started off at a cracking pace as expected with the Dingoes moving it forward from the first bounce. PAFL debutant in Brett Hickey found himself on the end of the ball after a Robbie Powell forward burst, and he converted truly.

Once again, the Dingoes through Powell and Scotty got the ball into the attacking arc for the Dingoes at break neck speed, with the Rooster taking a strong grab and slotting the ball for the Dingoes second goal in 3 minutes. The Eukas were well and truly on the back foot as the Dingoes looked much faster out of the centre.

Then in the blink of an eye, bang! Rooster takes another mark 15 metres out directly in front and drills the goal. It was looking ominous for the Eukas as they only managed to register one behind by the time the quarter ended.

### SECOND QUARTER:

The Eukas needed something special to arrest the Dingoes onslaught and with the directive from Dezza to “just kick the bloody thing”, the Eukas began to put more forward pressure on the Dingoes. Jason Lock was outstanding across half back, helping the

Eurekas rebound with every Dingoes forward thrust, and Eegs was starting to make his presence felt as he slotted his first from a running shot. The Eurekas blew a fairly easy chance with the normally accurate Zorba missing a gettable set shot, as the Eurekas managed to keep the Dingoes goal less for the quarter, but were still 11 points down at half time.

#### **THIRD QUARTER:**

The Eurekas were determined to make a mends for their wasted opportunities and changed the centre bounce configuration by throwing Peaks into the centre and dropping Copey back in defence. This sparked the Eurekas as they almost had the ball on a string. Robbie Powell was still running hard, Nate McKay was having a blinder in the ruck, but the Eurekas defence led by Lock and Winner kept repelling all that was thrown at them. PAFL debutant and gaelic exponent Mick O'Connor was adjusting well to the oval ball, and Andy White was bobbing up here and there for the Dingoes.

Zorba finally got his radar sorted out slotting his first after a strong pack mark, and amazingly by three quarter time, the Eurekas had managed to keep the Dingoes goal less since quarter time, whilst sneaking to within 3 points, setting up a fascinating final quarter. Could the Dingoes hold off the resurgent Eurekas? Read on and you will find out.

#### **FOURTH QUARTER:**

The Eurekas decided to throw Peaks into the half forward line to try and turn on some magic. This move managed to spark the Eurekas, with a strong centre burst ending up with Eegs who found Zorba, who slotted his second goal to give the Eurekas the lead! It was a great fightback from the Eurekas when one considers the mauling they took in the first quarter, but the Dingoes never lie down.

The crowd was on the edge of their seat. The Eurekas were hopeful, the Dingoes were determined, and the game was evenly poised for either teams taking. Fantastic stuff for the first game of the season!

Enter Bato – yes, the man that just seems to find the bloody goals from any angle. After being virtually gang tackled by Winner and Dezza, he manages to burst through, throw the ball onto his foot and you guessed it, goal! This was a team lifting goal and considering it was the Dingoes first goal since the 7 minute mark of the first quarter, suddenly they had a spring in their step.

Winning the ball from the centre, the Dingoes get it into their forward line again and after a couple of twists and turns, and a helpful bounce you guessed it, that man Bato. It was a great 5 minutes of play with the Dingoes suddenly in a commanding position leaving the Eurekas needing 2 goals in 5 minutes to wrest the lead back. But, it wasn't to be and the Dingoes held on for a well deserved victory. It was a fantastic game with plenty of twists and turns with both sides enjoying periods of domination, but it was the Dingoes who walked away winner by 11 points.

It was fantastic to see so many new and old players for the first game of the season, and if PAFL can maintain these numbers throughout the year, 2010 will be a cracker!

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.

Also, thanks to all the umpires (at one stage we almost had more umpires than players), and a special mention to big Azza with zero notice.

## Final Score ...

Dingoes: 3.0, 3.1, 3.3, 5.5 (35)

Eureka's: 0.1, 1.2, 2.6, 3.8 (24)

## Goal Scorers ...

Dingoes: Stone 2, Rooster 2, Wong, B. Hickey.

Eurekas: Loukas 2, Egan.

## 2010 PAFL Premiership Table

	Wins (4 pts.)	Draws (2 pts.)	Losses (0 pts.)	For (Score)	Against (Score)	%	Premiership Points
Eurekas	0	0	1	24	35	68.57	0
Dingoes	1	0	0	35	24	145.83	4

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