



PAFL Round 18 – Match Report

Saturday, September 18, 2010

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How they lined up

Dingoes:

Richie Amurao, Tom Bell, Damon Blackwell, Philip Boncahig, Ben Cannon, Ringo De Grando, Bruce Hathway, Mac Herbert, Michael Macaraig, Brett Maston, JD Mitchell, Will Robinson, Matt Stephens, Peter Stone, Luke Sypkes,, Andy White.

Eureka's:

Derek Ackary, David Boyce, Sam Chittick, Nathan Clarke, Michael Dillon, Daniel Edge, Andrew Egan, Frank Goold, Will Lawrence, Manoli Loukas, Mick O'Conner, Mark Pekin, Paul Retzlaff, Nick Whalley, Craig Wislang.

Central Umpires: Bluey Lawrence, Ricardo Spence

Goal Umpires: Bernard & Margaret Morgan

Statistician: M. Edge

The Decider

A great day for footy saw 31 players turn up for the final match of the season. The Dingoes needed a big win to overcome the one game deficit and significant percentage advantage held by the Eureka' s. For the Dingoes it was a last gasp effort to claw back into premiership contention and for the Eureka's it was their opportunity to stamp their authority on the season and ensure their third consecutive premiership. With both teams at full strength the scene was set for an epic battle between two teams who were both desperate to win.

1st QUARTER

The bounce of the ball saw newcomer Nick Whalley go up against the Dingoes hard man in Maston with the first centre clearance going the Dingoes way . Stevo, all refreshed from several weeks break combined well with Hathway and Delgrando which provided several goal scoring options for the Dingoes forwards in Bato Stone and Ben Cannon. This saw a rushed behind before Bato burst onto the scene and kicked his first for the day. A late rally by the Eureka's through the strong defensive work and tackling of Sam the Man Chittick and Whizzer Wislang and the hard running of Juddy Egan and young gun Franky Goold saw the ball pumped into the Eureka's forward 30 and big Zorba uncharacteristically fighting for the ball at ground level and locking it in which allowed Dillon and Boyce to chip in with a goal each. Eureka's by 4 points.

2nd QUARTER

The second quarter was a fierce affair with both teams desperately looking to get a break. Centre clearance's were the key and the first half of the quarter saw the Dingoes on top resulting in goals to Maston and White and behind to Bato to lead by 9 points. With some great rebound football off the half back line by Robinson this allowed the danger man Maston to kick his second for the quarter and the Dingoes started to take control with a 15 point lead. This spurred the Eureka's into action. Clarke and Juddy started to find some space, Irish O'Conner repelled several forward thrusts with strong marking and long clearing kicks and this allowed the Eureka's to hit back with two late goals, one to Mr Reliable Pekin and another to Whalley who was showing some good form in his first game of PAFL. At half time the Dingoes in front by 3 points.

3rd QUARTER

The half time break saw a tired group of players re- group and map out their strategies for the premiership quarter. It had been a hard fought first half with players giving their all in a real pressure cooker environment. The spectators were being treated to one of those classic games that makes Aussie Rules the greatest game in the World.

The Eureka's came out hard with a good centre clearance by Goold resulting in a strong contested mark to Pekin. While the shot on goal was called good by the goal umpire it was over ruled by Umpire Bluey who was in a better position. This resulted in a quick clearance by the Dingoes and a goal to Cannon. This was a pivotal point in the match and seemed to be the spark the Eureka's needed. With some great defensive work by Irish, Retzlaff and Chittick backed up by long accurate clearances by Dezza who was finding targets all over the ground the Eureka's kicked the next three goals courtesy of Juddy, Whizzer (after a great run) and of course Mr Reliable in Pekin while keeping the Dingoes scoreless. By the end of the third quarter the Eureka's had turned a 3 point deficit into a 12 point lead going into the last quarter.

4th QUARTER

The excitement from the crowd was at fever pitch, the players were withering in the heat and a classic last quarter encounter was shaping up. The game was there for the taking! Who would prevail and what a way to end the season.

With Whalley rucking tirelessly all day the Eureka's got first use of the ball however the quick hands of Stevo negated the clearance and saw the ball kicked long into the Dingoes forward line and a quick behind to Bato. A long clearing kick from Dezza gave the Eureka's a chance but the Dingoes pressure was taking its toll. A long ball was marked strongly by Zorba but he failed to convert from 25. One behind each, 10 minutes to play and the Eureka's up by two goals. The Dingoes half back line was proving a real problem for the Eureka's. With Robinson and Sypkes rotating off the half back line and into the centre these young legs were giving the Dingoes plenty of run and drive. This allowed Maston to step in to kick his third and the pressure lifted another notch with the Eureka's now in front by only a goal. From the centre clearance Zorba swapped onto a loose ball turned and snapped truly to see the Eureka's back in front by two goals with about 8 minutes left on the clock. And then it was all over. In an amazing few minutes of football the Dingos came from behind in an inspired burst of football to kick four unanswered goals. Bato with two in the blink of an eye, Cannon from a contested mark and then once again that man Maston bringing up goal number four for the day. What a turnaround and what a finish to a great game of football and a fantastic season for PAFL.

The Dingoes emerged victorious by 14 points but this was not enough to unseat the Eureka's as premiers for season 2010.

Congratulations to Michael "Irish" O'Connor who was awarded the player of the match as voted by the Umpires, and was presented with a bottle of fine wine from Wine Depot, our Platinum Sponsor.

Congratulations to the Eureka's on winning their third consecutive premiership. They are now only one behind the Dingos who have four premiership cups to their name.

For those that have followed PAFL over the years you will have observed how well our great game has developed in this time. This is testimony to the hard work and effort of many people and to those who come along each week to play and support our game. Season 2010 has been a pivotal year for PAFL. The standard of the competition has improved significantly and this was proven with the improved results of our national team

the Philippines Eagles in the Manila 12's International Cup. What a season 2011 is shaping up to be.

Thank you to everybody that has been involved in PAFL for 2010 and in particular to our Committee, Umpires and all involved in organizing such a great season.

Finally a very special thank you too our sponsors without whom, we would not be able to enjoy our great game each weekend.

Final Score ...

Dingoes 1.2, 4.4, 5.4, 10.7 (67)
Eurekas 2.0, 4.1, 7.4, 8.5 (53)

Goal Scorers ...

Dingoes – Maston 4, Stone 3, Cannon 2, White.
Eurekas – Pekin 2, Dillon, Loukas, Egan, Boyce, Wislang, Whalley.

2010 PAFL Premiership Table

	Wins (4 pts.)	Draws (2 pts.)	Losses (0 pts.)	For (Score)	Against (Score)	%	Premiership Points
Eurekas	6	0	6	675	595	113.44	24
Dingoes	6	0	6	595	675	88.14	24

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