Round 11 Fitzroy Vs Glen Iris

It was a wet wintery day when Fitzroy ventured to Glen Iris to take on the Gladiators. T H King Oval was anything but fit for a King. A large percentage of the surface was under water, with great mud patches at either end of the ground. This ground brought back memories of the grounds that I used to play on in my distant past. Today, the team with the greater desire and willingness to play wet weather football would surely prevail.

The first quarter started with both sides fielding only 16 players, due to Glen Iris’ lack of numbers. Fitzroy dominated the play early, with Joseph giving his all in the ruck, and plenty of drive coming from Nick Gibbons, Sam G and Sam B. Dylan was providing a real focus point up forward and Max was the opportunist, who capped off the good work of his team mates with two wonderful first quarter goals. Roger and Dieter were playing solid games in defence, although Glen Iris did managed to kick a goal for the quarter, although this was generally seen to be against the general trend of play.

Glen Iris had some reinforcements arrive for the start of the second quarter. The arrival of these players marked a change in fortunes for both teams. From this moment forward Glen Iris looked the team most likely to score in the trying conditions. Too often they force the ball into their forward line to find Dieter outnumbered 2 or 3 to 1. On all occasions he worked tirelessly, often forcing the ball to the boundary, or conceding a rushed point. However, on some occasions the weight of numbers told against him and he could do very little to stop Glen Iris scoring relatively easy goals.

Fitzroy continued to have plenty of possessions throughout the remainder of the game, however too often the players were endeavouring to play dry weather football in the trying conditions, while the Gladiators played the smarter football given the state of the ground.

Thanks to Craig and Ross for their assistance today. It was truly appreciated. I hope that Sean will be available for next week and the rest of the season, as the team really needs his guiding influence and his expertise. Come back Sean, I, I mean the team needs you!