

Port vs Lions Round 3, 2016.

Port – 13.9=87

Lions – 17.10=112

A great opportunity for us to bounce back this week was to test ourselves against a hard running side. We needed to be hard at the ball and stop the half back line of Lions.

The first quarter had us chasing jumpers with our poor use of the ball and not hitting targets which caused too many turnovers. Lions made the most of their opportunities and scored 4 straight goals. Our midfield needed to have quicker reaction to their defence to stop the pressure in the forward line.

The second quarter we were able to slow their scoring and add to the scoreboard. The ball was coming in quicker to our key forwards of Brad Inglis and Brett Woodards which made their one on one contests easier without having to compete against 2 or 3 players.

A few positional changes but more emphasis on slowing their run from a standing mark or free kick we were able to add 5 goals to their 3 goals. Josh Byerlee took control in the ruck with big hits of the ball forward and James Gruitt and Cain Pisani running away with the ball.

The last quarter was focussed and getting the first couple of goals to see if we could chip away at the margin. Getting to within 1 point half way through the game was a credit to the playing style at the time but the last 10 minutes it did not hold up and the opposition were able to kick 3 goals.

The positive out of efforts were our ability to slow the opposition down and make them play our footy. To chase down a lead and individuals who responded when asked.

The other factors continue to be to play 4 quarters of footy without fade outs, to play as a team and not rely on individuals to win us contests and to improve our defensive side when the opposition has the ball.

- The better players for the day included James Gruitt (centre), Josh Byerlee (ruck), Brett Woodards (CHF), Zak Hutchinson (back pocket) and Cain Pisani (rover)

Cheers

Damien Mellow (A Grade Coach).