

Somerville V Takapuna (Premier Women)

Saturday 8th August

After finishing round one at the top of the table we now move into Top six. Every week the nerves build as game day gets closer and this week was no different. The “Mighty Green” of Takapuna made their way across the bridge for a great battle.

The wonderful Auckland weather greeted us with its four seasons in one day, but this did not deter a large crowd including our club faithful’s from coming out to show their true support.

We won the toss and immediately chose to go forward creating a lot of opportunities on attack. Throughout the first half there were some really good passages of passing play however we just couldn’t quite finish them off.

In addition, the presses were really good which created a lot of stress for Takapuna resulting in us winning a lot of turn-over ball.

Tarryn Davey impressed us right from the changing rooms with a swollen face due to wisdom teeth extraction, (3 weeks prior it had been Jess Bestall with a falling can of chick peas) however there was no stopping this superstar from getting her work done out on the pitch.

With the scores locked up 0-0 at halftime, a good halftime lolly and chat was needed. After a few positional changes we came out calm and collected and shifted the ball well. Relentless pressure resulted in a ball being passed along the face of the goal with Amy Robinson (aka me) sitting on the far post for a tap in midway through the third quarter. To add to the excitement in the third quarter the water sprinklers decided they did in fact work and subsequently went off with 6 minutes remaining ... 5 seasons in one day who would have thought.

Into the fourth quarter with a 1-0 lead we continued strong connections and held on to the ball nicely. A little brain fade resulted in Amy Robinson (aka me, for a well-earned rest) being shown a yellow card. Down to 10 players we adjusted well and kept the pressure on. Great passing around the circle edge saw “team mother” Jasmin McQuinn finding herself free in the circle diving full length to get a sensational deflection. Two nil down Takapuna Blackstick Megan Hull was also shown a yellow card to join me for a catch-up in the umpires naughty girl chair.

Back to 11 players now Somerville continued to be patient with Lucy Talbot, Belinda Smith and Fran Davies working the ball around to help create more chances for our midfielders. On the day Maddy Dowe and Anna Bannatyne stood out with their usual energy whilst Julia King and Rose Tynan showed off their astute passing repertoire of skills. Our GK Grace O’Hanlon was called on occasionally but really was not threatened. Hopefully we can finish off more of these chances in our future games. Unfortunately, Lucy Bannatyne was shown a green card in the closing minutes of the game however Somerville was able to nicely close out the game for a 2-0 top of the table win.

Final Score: 2-0 (Amy Robinson, Jasmin McQuinn)
Grit Award: Tarryn Davey
Play of the Day: Amy Robinson
Match Report: Amy Robinson

Somerville V ABC (Premier Men)

Saturday 8th August

The premier men came into the weekend with a double header of must win games, both matches away to North Harbour teams. First up was ABC on the Saturday, where the boys put in a strong performance creating many opportunities on goal through some great team play and a large number of PC's resulted (12 in total). Unfortunately, this was a day when the ABC defence had our measure in this department. Not to be deterred, we maintained solid pressure to score 3 field goals with a key goal coming from the Stables, stable "big red" (or James Stables) when he scored his first goal for the premier side on an individual run along the baseline, his deceptive shot totally bamboozling the ABC goalkeeper. As the opportunities kept coming ABC were forced to defend and fall back to their circle while Somerville worked hard to come away with a 4-0 win. The day ended brightly for James and teammate Josh Irwin when they raced away immediately after the match to celebrate AGS thrilling rugby win over Kings in their school's annual clash.

Final Score: 4-0 (Stables, Finlayson, Rowsell, Houston)

Somerville V North Harbour Indians (Premier Men)

Sunday 9th August

Next up was North Harbour Indians on the Sunday evening where the Somerville men came out with a relentless 13-1 win. Jake Smith lead the charge with 4 goals and Ollie MacIntyre added 2 PC goals on his 19th birthday. Overall a great weekend for the team as they fight to secure a spot in the top 6 which is likely to be decided on goal difference.

Final Score: 13-1 (Miskimmin, MacIntyre 2, Ritchie 3, Smith 4, Rowsell 3)

Match Report: Sam Houston