

SPC make it nine BAS titles in a row



Report by Xavier Carey

Score: St Patrick's College 12 10 (82) d Ballarat Clarendon College 6.7 (43)

Goal Kickers: Jackson Carrick 3, Daniel Rioli 2, Jarrod Korrewha, Joel Cowan, Jacob Hopper, Ben Lusby, Ezekiel Frank, Clay Bilney, Yestin Eades 1

Best Players: Joel Cowan, Jacob Hopper, Jackson Carrick, Daniel Rioli, Hasker Dawborn, Yestin Eades



St Patrick's College has made it nine straight Ballarat Associated Schools championships after beating Ballarat Clarendon College by 39 points at Lake Wendouree Reserve.

The first quarter was described as including some of the best schoolboy football coach Mr Howard Clark had seen in his 13 years at the helm.

It proved to ultimately be the difference as the hot favourites started strongly kicking five goals to one to hold a 26-point buffer at the main break.

Ben Lusby, as he so often does, set the tone for SPC's intensity and won himself an early free kick, which he passed it to Jarrod Korrewha for the Paddy boys' first.

BCC tried to match the intensity that was applied to them however St Pat's continued to absorb the pressure and pile on goals.

Jackson Carrick and Jacob Hopper both came off early with dislocated fingers but both returned to the field shortly after and played important roles for their side.

The boys from BCC did look dangerous when they moved forward but, due to enormous pressure, were unable to create enough chances up in their attacking zone.



A nervy start to the second quarter allowed BCC to get control of the game early.

However, again, the team in red could not apply enough scoreboard pressure and it was the defensive efforts of Ben Simpson and Hasker Dawborn, and then a goal to Ezekiel Frank, which helped settle the boys in the green, white and blue.

A highlight of the term came when College's Trent Woolman overshadowed Jacob Hopper's one-handed effort earlier with a spectacular old fashioned 'specky' as he flew over everyone to take the grab. Meanwhile Jarrod Berry continued to try and get the underdogs going.

BCC were unable to gain any ground in terms of the scoreline despite having many chances and went in at the main break 37 points down.



From here on it was an arm wrestle. Clarendon managed to cut the margin to 25 points but, as good teams tend to do, St Patrick's College was up for the challenge. Jackson Carrick became the first multiple goal scorer and continued to look dangerous up forward.

In the end St Patrick's College's intensity at the footy early and the professionalism shown throughout the match was too far ahead of the valiant BCC.

Joel Cowan was a 'bull' all game while the dynamic duo of Yestin Eades and Daniel Rioli was hard to stop on the outside.

Captain Jacob Hopper led his side with true spirit all game and was a key component in his side's success.

"It was terrific effort by the boys and we've managed to get another one (BAS title) under our belt and now we look forward to our Herald Sun Shield Campaign," he said.

"It was definitely our intention to come out firing as they usually get on top of us early so we wanted to really come out strong and set the scene."

While SPC will play St Joesph's College in next week's Herald Sun Shield semi-final, this game marked the end of another successful season for BCC.

The young side won the Herald Sun Country Shield last week and will certainly come back a better side for next year's BAS competition.

