

SPC TOO STRONG FOR VALIANT ST JOSEPH'S



By Xavier Carey

Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at St Patrick's College

Score: St Patrick's College 19.9 (123) def. St Joseph's College 2.3 (15)

Goal Kickers: Clay Bilney 7, Ben Russell, Jake McQueen, Jacob Brown, Daniel Rioli 2, Pat Fitzgibbon, Max Scales, Bailey Veale, Tom Evans 1

Best Players: Jake McQueen, Ben Hurley, Bailey Veale, Liam Howarth, Daniel Rioli, Clay Bilney

St Patrick's College continued its early season form with a crunching victory over St Joseph's College, Geelong by a demoralising 108 points.

With 12 changes being made to the side, including a number of players making their debut, a slow start was inevitable however a well waited kick from Jackson Carrick to Clay Bilney got the ball rolling for the home team.

The St Pat's midfield took control of the game in the second quarter, led by Bailey Veale (right), as they kicked out to a five goal lead at the main break.



A blunder from SPC defender Sam Mead gifted St Joey's their first goal of the day and gave them a sniff heading into the second half.

However it was not to be for the travelling side as the speed and running game of the Paddy boys such as Daniel Rioli, Jake McQueen and Pat Fitzgibbon proved to be the difference in the end.

St Patrick's did not end the game with no suffering though, as Mickitja Rotumah-Onus, a key player and forward was stretchered off midway through the second quarter after an ankle injury.

Tom Evans took no further part in the game after a shoulder injury early in the third and first gamer Ben Russell re-injured a calf he had recently strained. The extents of the injuries are unknown.



Despite a consistent four quarter team effort, there were individuals who played the game on their terms.

Jake McQueen in his first game at this level, carried the ball extremely well and accumulated plenty of possessions running on the wing.

Liam Howarth and Bailey Veale led the midfield with their game sense and ball winning ability.

Ben Hurley's attack on the footy and rebound from defence was invaluable, while Daniel Rioli's ability to create something from nothing is special.

Clay Bilney's day out in front of goal also cannot go unmentioned.

Coach Howard Clark was pleased with how much depth the squad has this year.



"We are such a big school with really big numbers and for a lot of boys pushing to try and play First XVIII footy is an absolute luxury for the coaching group".

"We have had 170 wanting to go to the football camp which reflects the strength of our program at the moment".

“I think we have played 42 boys over a two week period and to win both games collectively by about 185 points speaks volumes.”

The triumphant win comes right before a well-earned rest before majority of the squad will take the trip down to Melbourne for training camp before a game against reigning APS champions Brighton Grammar next Thursday.

