



Western off to great start - Matsons PFL Round 1 review

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Western proved to be the big winners from the opening round of the Matson's Premier Football League when totally over running Rangers - 6 nil with defending champions, Ferrymeads Bays, Nelson Suburbs and Nomads also starting their season with wins.

New Western coach, Robbie Stanton, had an arm chair ride as his side cracked home three goals in each half to against Rangers in the late game at English Park. Gareth Turnbull had completed the first hat-trick of the season by half time with Matt Boyd adding the fourth goal after the break before Turnbull scored his fourth of the game with Simon Rennell completing the scoring from the penalty spot after Dave Mawhinney has been up ended in the area.

In the early game in Sunday Nomads were made to work hard before scoring late in the game to defeat Halswell 2 - 1. Halswell had the better of the early exchanges before Jean-Claude de Joux broke clear to score after 28 minutes. The hard working Halswell side draw level midway through the second half with a Élan Baker cross finding Dan Martin unmarked by the far post to score. Just when it looked like the sides were going to share the points a Nomads free kick bobbed around the Halswell goal before Greg Feutz found de Joux who crashed home the winner from close range.

On Saturday Ferrymead traveled north to face new comers, Richmond City with Bays securing the points with a 3 - 1 victory with all the goals coming in the opening spell. Dan Terris put his body on the line when opening the scoring for Bays on the opening minutes. Terris suffered a shoulder injury when scoring and while playing on with be seeking medical advise early in the week. Greg Draper then doubled the scoring before Batram Suri reduced the margin. Ramzi Toumi then restored Bays two goal margin before the break and despite having the better of the scoring chances in the second half they could not add to their scoreline.

In the final game Nelson Suburbs came from behind to edge out the newly merged Woolston Technical side 2 - 1. Tom Cairns opened the scoring when Nelson failed to clear the ball after 24 minutes. Four minutes later the scores were level when Woolston Technical keeper, Jordon Ashton raced out of his area to clear a ball which then fell to Suburbs George Kwanae in his own half who thwn ran to fifteen metres before firing home a 35 metre shot as Ashton was still scrambling back to cover his line. A fine strike by Joses Nawo broke the deadlock with Nelson then having the better of game and would have been disappointed that they did not double their scoreline.

Results - Round 1

Richmond City 1 (Batram Suri) Ferrymead Bays 3 (Dan Terris, Greg Draper, Ramzi Toumi) HT 1 - 3

Woolston Technical 1 (Tom Cairns) Nelson Suburbs 2 (George Kwanae, Joses Nawo) HT 1 - 1
Halswell 1 (Dan Martin) Nomads 2 (Jean-Claude de Joux 2) HT 0 - 1

Western 6 (Gareth Turnbull 4, Matt Boyd, Simon Rennell pen) Rangers 0 HT 3 - 0