

# Southport got better of 'battle'

SOUTHPORT won the Australian Rules Reserve grade premiership when they finished too strongly for a tiring Broadbeach side at Currumbin's Salk Oval on Sunday.

The Cats had the better of the Magpies during the first half and held a handy lead at half time, but the Magpies better condition enabled them to wear the Cats down and win well.

The game was a torrid affair with more spite and biff than could be justified, even for a grand final and the umpires were kept busy separating angry players.

Final scores: Southport 16-15 (111), Broadbeach 11-16 (82).

The Magpies with the stiff breeze behind them did most of the early attacking, but Broadbeach defence offered stout resistance and the Pies had hard work to score.

John Gough and John Keogh played strongly for the Pies and scored handy goals — but fine marking by Kevin Dore and Greg Millard in defence kept the Magpies out.

The Cats took a hand when they had the breeze behind them and their small, fast players Greg Sklavos, Brendan Marcroft and Murray Dickinson created openings.

Noel Emzin proved a

very slippery full forward and Steve Palmer took control in the centre.

The Cats took a firm grip on the game as they stormed ahead to lead by 17 points at half time.

The game was in the balance as the Magpies made their bid.

## Desperate

Keogh played a great game for the Pies to create opportunities for his forwards.

Barry Lowe, with good positional play gave the forward line a lift and despite desperate defence by the Cats, the Magpies led by 15 points at the final change.

The Cats attacked ferociously and a goal to Emzin gave them a chance.

Several costly misses through over anxiousness stopped the Cats run and the Magpies gained some respite when Lowe and Keogh each goaled.

The Southport defence came under extreme pressure, but Milton Davis, Ken Watts and Hank Allard played great defensive football to keep the Cats goals less.

Broadbeach appeared to wilt slightly and the Pies finished strongly to win convincingly.

Best players: John Keogh (Southport) 3; Steve Palmer (Broadbeach) 2; Ken Watts (Southport) 1.

Gold Coast Bulletin: September 26 1979, p83

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