Gold Coast wins Rules championship

The Australian Football Country Championships have been played on the Gold Coast, and won by the Gold Coast.

RULES

by JACK REBBECHT

The running of the championships, and the winning of the championship, were brought by a big team effort on both counts.

Before the start of the first match between the Gold Coast and the South Queensland Association, the big crowd was entertained by the Royal Naval Reserve band.

Then with all teams lining up in full football gear, the Mayor of the Gold Coast Alderman Bruce Small, looking young enough and fit enough to run the team, officially opened the championships, after being introduced by the President of the Gold Coast League, Mr Phil Cawthorn.

After the match the Mayor again assisted in the presentation of the Hart and Fisher trophies.

These magnificent trophies donated by the Sunshine Shopping Centres were won by Les Russell (Sir Oxenham), Ray Gregory (Darling Downs) Eddie Greenacre (Sunshine Coast) and Geoff Arnold (Gold Coast).

The personal trophy for the Champion team, struck by the Gold Coast League and named the Roley Daniels Shield in honour of Mr Daniel's contribution to football, was then presented to the coach of the Gold Coast, Frank Sutherland.

The smooth running of the successful championship is due to the hard work of many people, from the President right down to gate keepers, ticket sellers and stall workers.

The coach and players were particularly impressed with their team managers, trainers, nurse, and property steward.

But all round it was a great and far more than successful.

The umpires too, did their job well, courteous, and their time table worked to perfection, and their standard was good.

It is hoped that the Country Championships can again be run on the Gold Coast next year.

Matches on the Final Day:

SUNSHINE COAST
v
DARLING DOWNS

The Darling Downs once again were quickly on the attack and once again bad kicking for goal was evident.

Sunshine Coast could not get into the game, and were overdoing their handball. At the first change, Darling Downs held a slight lead.

The second quarter saw the Sunshine Coast getting control. Baker was coming into the game, but Eddie Greenacre was leaving now and then" driving Sunshine Coast forward.

Lavery in the centre was winning kicks everywhere and the Sunshine Coast were now making full use of the breeze, and were doing all the attacking, and held a good lead at half time.

The final half saw Sunshine Coast consolidate their position. Greenacre and Lawes were combining well and the Darling Downs had no answer to them.

Schwarz and Pechlebury were trying hard for Darling Downs, but they were breaking down in the forward line.

Gregory was the Downs best player, but they needed many more like him. Greenacre was best on the ground.

In the last quarter, Sunshine Coast had Darling Downs under pressure all the way, and added a further five goals to go on to a big victory.

Scores: Sunshine Coast quarter time 1.1 (7), half time 6.14 (50), three-quarter time 7.15 (57), final 12.21 (93); d. Darling Downs quarter time 2.3 (15), half time 2.3 (15), three-quarter time 3.3 (21), final 7.5 (47).

GOLD COAST
v
SOUTH QUEENSLAND

Umpire Cavanagh had charge of the game, and gave one of the best exhibitions I've seen.

If I was one of the amateur judges, I'd give him about 9.7 points.

In a great first quarter, the Gold Coast kicking with the wind played brilliant football, and in a great period of systematic football left the South Queensland Association flat, footed to run away in the board.

The match looked like developing into a one sided race, when the teams showed Gold Coast 23 points ahead, and with the wind also right in the next quarter, but South Queensland fought back with Ken Dash (by name and nature) in the vanguard, and with good support from Annesley, they closed the margin to eight points at the first break.

Arnold was sizzling over Tepalis most of the time, but Tepalis still manage to get enough kicks to be dangerous.

South Queensland were starting to beat their man to the ball, and were looking a better team now.

Fowler and Templar are keeping the Gold Coast active, but many Gold Coast attacks were repelled by the strong back play of Charlie Tipungwuti and Les Russell playing a good captain's game.

Then the Coast were struck another purple patch with Arnold now in the centre, Crockett and Templar all doing their forward and Andrews winning the knockdown, they started on quick goals.

South Queensland would not give in, but many of their forward moves were well directed by Wayne Hunter.

Good football resulted in South Queensland scoring just before half time, but the Coast had established a good lead.

Replied

Arnold was back on the wing, and Thorpe again took the centre. South Queensland soon attacked and Johnstbridge goaled, but Ewing replied for the Gold Coast.

There is a great buzz of football, South Queensland with Gregory and a rampaging Ewing, added several quick goals to be with a 11 points at three quarter time.

Speirs was on for the Coast when the last quarter started and Kelly had come on earlier.

It was a great last quarter effort by both teams and South Queensland took advantage of the occasions when the Coast played poorly.

South Queensland got within a goal when Glen Tepalis goaled, but the Coast rallied and goals by Downie and Fowler made sure that the Gold Coast would be the champions.

Two great South Queensland players Dash and Solly were still trying desperately as the final siren sounded, to end a great game and a feast of top class football.

Scores: Gold Coast, 7.2 (44), 12.5 (77), 13.11 (89), 17.12 (114) d. South Queensland 5.6 (36), 6.10 (46), 11.12 (78), 14.14 (98).

Best players: Gold Coast: G. Arnold, M. Fowler, C. Cross, H. Henderson, C. Ellis, L. Tucker, K. Dawes, L. Crockett. South Queensland: K. Dash (best on ground), L. Russell, G. Little, W. Pelley, M. Solly.

Goal Kickers: Gold Coast — K. Dawes 6, M. Fowler 3, R. Crockett 2, R. Andrews, R. Ewing, D. Templar, W. Ewing, R. Thorpe, G. Downie 1 each. Sunshine Coast: Association F. Antonasso 5, K. Dash 4, G. Little, J. Burridge 2 each, M. Solly, L. Russell and J. Anderson 1 each.

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