

Grand final berth for Southport in A-Rules wagon

By "PUNT HIGH"

Last Sunday saw Southport Coast to a grand final berth with a 20 point win over Surfers Paradise in the second semi-final at Owen Park in one of the most fiery games ever seen on the Gold Coast in Australian Rules football.

Both teams went in hard and heavy and heated clashes were frequent.

Southport's better teamwork and more accurate kicking for goal won them the game.

In a brawl in the last quarter three players were reported and will appear before the Gold Coast Independent Tribunal this week to answer charges.

In the under 16 second semi-final, Surfers Paradise after another hard game won through to the grand final with a 26-point win over Southport.

In the under 13 second semi-final, Surfers Paradise proved too good for Beenleigh and ran out comfortable winners.

Final scores

A grade: Southport 15-6 (96) d Surfers Paradise 10-16 (76); under 16: Surfers Paradise 5-10 (40) d Southport 1-8 (14); under 13: Surfers Paradise 7-5 (47) d Beenleigh 1-3 (9).

A big crowd saw the A grade game of the day between Southport and Surfers Paradise.

As the first-quarter siren sounded, Southport led narrowly by 2 points at the first change 3-0 (18) to Surfers Paradise 2-4 (16).

The second quarter began with both teams going in hard.

Both defences were working overtime as the ball was continually relayed between respective forward lines.

All Southport

But Surfers fought back towards the end of the quarter and Whitfield scored the Demons third goal.

Second quarter scores: Southport 6-3 (39); Sur-

fers Paradise, 3-6 (24).

The third quarter was all Southport as the Magpies left Surfers flat footed and far behind.

Surfers Paradise's only goal for the quarter came from Whitfield.

At three quarter time Southport seemed home and hosed with a 42-point lead.

Scores: Southport 12-5 (77); Surfers Paradise 4-11 (35).

The final quarter began with Southport holding a 7-goal lead.

Goals by Doyle, his fourth for the day and his 99th for the season, and Burns, seemed to seal the fate of the Demons.

Ditchburn, then Walsh, scored goals for the Demons, but Napper replied for Southport from the angle.

Surfers, not to be undone, went forward a point to Ralph, then a goal to Duncan.

Soon after a fight broke out on the Surfers half forward line and players converged from all parts of the field.

Umpire Bill Carmichael dispersed the players and took the numbers of three players.

Surfers Paradise again went goalward where Gorton scored full points. It was all Surfers as Walsh marked in front, but a poor kick and only one point.

Sutherland soon goalied, then Duncan hit the goal post, as Surfers made their belated finish and Whitfield brought off another goal for the Demons.

The siren sounded with Southport 15-6 (96), Surfers Paradise 10-16 (76).

Best players, Southport: E. Campbell, N.

Martin, K. Best, K. Rodger, T. Larkins, D. Hodgetts, C. Luhrs; Surfers Paradise: Don Franks (best on the ground), G. Whitfield, J. James, G. Walsh, K. Baldock, W. Cullen.

Goalkickers, Southport: T. Larkins (5), T. Doyle (4), L. Napper (2), D. Burns, I. Radcliffe, R. Tonks, D. Black (one each); Surfers Paradise: G. Whitfield (3), G. Duncan (2), G. Walsh (2), M. Garton, F. Sutherland, P. Ditchburn (one each).

Under 16

In the under 16 match, Surfers Paradise did not start with their usual brilliance as Southport fought tooth and nail and outmarked the Demons, however, several easy shots in front of goal were missed.

Goodall scored the only goal of the quarter for Surfers.

But Surfers Paradise showed their superiority as the game progressed and ran out comfortable winners.

Final scores: Surfers Paradise 5-10 (40); Southport, 1-8 (14).

Best players, Surfers Paradise: B. Martin, J. Radecki, A. Christie, N. Messinus, S. Anders; Southport: C. Caswell, S. Sharp, P. McGrath, P. O'Doherty, F. O'Rourke, M. Doyle.

Goalkickers: S. Anders (3), Goodall, Keir (one each); Southport: O'Rourke (1).

Under 13

In the under 13 game Surfers Paradise began brilliantly and had three goals on the board by

the first quarter to Beenleigh's one point.

Half time scores were Surfers Paradise 6-0 (36) Beenleigh 1-3 (9).

The third quarter was closely fought, neither team giving an inch.

The only scores for the quarter was four points to Surfers Paradise.

The last quarter saw another quarter of hard fought football.

Final scores, Surfers Paradise 7-5 (47); Beenleigh 1-3 (9).

Best players, Surfers Paradise: P. Kelly, M. Kelly, N. Emzin, G. Hearn; Beenleigh: R. Plisch, R. King, P. Fredricks, T. Hubner.

Goalkickers, Surfers N. Emzin (2), P. Kelly, Dave Franks, M. Kelly, R. Bennetts, L. Kelly (each); Beenleigh: R. Plisch (1).

Goal table

Leading goalkickers: T. Doyle (S'port) (4)—99; T. Larkins (S'port) (5)—49; G. Whitfield (S.P.) (3)—47; B. Manue (S'port) (0)—29; F. Travaglia (PB-C) (0)—28; B. Dumbrell (S.P.) (0)—26; K. Ball (L'dor) (0)—25; K. Jenkin (BP-C) (0)—24; I. Radcliffe (S'port) (1)—22; R. Henwood (PB-C) (0)—20; N. Martin (S'port) (0)—20; D. Burn (S'port) (1)—19; L. Walker (PB-C) (0)—17; R. Derrick (PB-C) (0)—14.

Players reported: F. Tonks (S'port); C. Luhr (S'port); J. James (Surfers Paradise).

Next week's games Preliminary finals (Sat Oval); A grade: Surfer Paradise v Palm Beach Currumbin; under 16 Southport v Coolangatta under 13; Beenleigh v Southport.

Gold Coast Bulletin: August 31 1966, p47

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