

Wk 3 FINALS WRAP

Division One Under 18s



By Alex Patterson

Predicted as underdogs to make it to the final stage after finishing fourth on the ladder, Deer Park will meet Spotswood in today's showcase event having defeated Werribee Districts by seven points in the Preliminary Final last week.

The Lions' form over this final series has been quite consistent, defeating Altona, Hoppers Crossing and now Werribee on their way to the big dance, defying all the odds.

The game was Deer Park's to lose after taking a 21-point lead into the first change with a flurry of quick goals, much to Werribee Districts shock.

The second quarter opened up though, and the Tigers fought their way back set up a fascinating last half.

The premiership quarter went the way of the second-placed side Tigers, as they kicked five goals to two to close the gap to 12-points going into the final and deciding quarter.

Yet the Lions held on to storm home to record an emphatic victory, eliminating the chance of a 2014 Grand Final rematch between Spotswood and Werribee. The final margin 11.12 (78) to 10.11 (71).

Nick Christofi played the game of his life for Deer Park, booting four goals up front to steer his team to victory, with brilliant support from fellow forward Josh Schembri who also booted four.

Cooper, Harrison and Scerri dominated the middle of the park and found a lot of the ball, providing multiple forward opportunities for the Lions.

Bior Malual tried his best for Werribee, kicking four goals in a lone effort, with adequate support from Donnon and Kerruish who added two each.

McMahon, King and Copley were the standouts for Werribee but will feel disappointed that their side couldn't get over the line.

And now we're down to the last game- the big one.

While tipsters may have Spotswood marked down as hot favourites, you can bet that the confidence and momentum of this Lions outfit will give the reigning premiers one hell of a fight.

Make sure you head down to Avalon Airport Oval from 9:15am this Saturday, because this one is set to be a cracker.

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