

ROUND 11 REVIEW

NPL 3 NSW MEN'S

Step aside Stanmore Hawks as we welcome Bankstown City as the new frontrunners of the National Premier Leagues 3 NSW Men's competition.



Stanmore Hawks' unbeaten record came to an end in what was yet another weekend of fast paced, electrifying football. So, take it all in as we dissect all the highlights from the latest round of the NPL3 competition.

Dunbar Rovers and Gladesville Ryde Magic drew 1-1 at Hensley Athletic Field; Camden Tigers snatched a 1-0 victory against Western NSW Mariners at Proctor Park; Dulwich Hill were consigned to a 2-0 defeat at the hands of Bankstown United at Arlington Oval; SD Raiders sealed an impressive 4-1 triumph over Sydney University at Ernie Smith Reserve; Parramatta registered the same winning margin from their fixture away to Granville Rage at Garside Park while Inter Lions beat Hawkesbury City 2-1 at Valentine Sports Park on Sunday night.

Jensen Park was the place to be on Saturday night as Football NSW took in all the action from the thrilling contest between league heavyweights Bankstown City and Stanmore Hawks.

BANKSTOWN CITY FC 2 STANMORE HAWKS FC 1

Bankstown City edged out Stanmore Hawks by two goals to one in their Saturday night encounter at Jensen Park.

A measured performance from the hosts throughout the course of the match was enough to see them strip the Hawks of their unbeaten start to the season.

With plenty of anticipation surrounding this tie, it was always billed to be a high stakes encounter and that is the way it played out in the first quarter of an hour.

Both sides stuck to their game plan early on which made for quite a tactical showing as neither side placed any real pressure in the attacking third.

Stanmore's Jovan Blagojevic's sweeping run and strike from the left wing provided the first real threat to Bankstown's defence.

Lions' Ante Tomic caused a heart in mouth moment for the Hawks after 21 minutes after he had his effort cleared off the line by Riccardo Lo Russo.

That last ditch defending only delayed the Lions first of the contest as they struck three minutes later through Marko Filipovic.

Nikola Todoroski's searching pass from the left-hand side of the 18-yard box found the defensive midfielder unmarked at the back post to give him the easiest of finishes to provide the first breakthrough.

The home side looked set to take their one goal advantage into the sheds however their opponents thought otherwise after Peter Yannopoulos capitalised on a defensive mix up on the stroke of half time.

Damian Jakimovski's mishit pass failed to reach teammate Stefan Dubocanin before Blagojevic intercepted the pass and played in Yannopoulos who slotted the ball into the net.

Six minutes into the second half and it was only a spectacular save from Stanmore's Nick Carosi that prevented Dubocanin from collecting his third goal of the season after he had his long-range effort tipped over the crossbar.

The Lions dominant start to the second half paid off after 57 minutes as Todoroski flicked in Lawrence Hanna's floating cross at the back post. The big attacker once again showed to many his class at this level steering his goal in.

Despite going behind, the Hawks kept their heads held high and manufactured another stern test for the Lions' defence five minutes after they conceded.

Blagojevic was once again the architect as he cut in from

the left flank before his shot was parried by Lions' shot stopper Carl McMahon before Yannopoulos followed up and forced another smart save from McMahon.

The visitors continued to pepper the visitors goal, but it was to no avail and apart from Angus Chance's volley with just under five minutes to go, the hosts were able to close out the game in quite comfortable fashion.

The defeat for Stanmore sees them drop to second while Bankstown rise to the top of the table for the first time this campaign.

Match Stats

National Premier Leagues 3 NSW Men's Round 11

Saturday, May 18, 2019

BANKSTOWN CITY FC 2 (Filipovic 23', Todoroski 57')

STANMORE HAWKS FC 1 (Yannopoulos 44')

Substitutions Not Used – 5.H.Brown, 20.H.Timms.

Yellow Cards – N/A.

DUNBAR ROVERS – GLADESVILLE RYDE MAGIC 1-1

A late equaliser ensured that Gladesville Ryde Magic shared the points with Dunbar Rovers as they drew 1-1 at Hensley Athletic Field on Saturday afternoon.

A dominant first half performance saw Dunbar take the lead after 32 minutes thanks to Andrew Doddy's effort from outside the box.

The hosts closed out the half well and began the second half in similar fashion. All three points seemed like they were coming their way until a late equaliser from Magic's Jordan Barrett in the 86th minute spoiled the party.

TEAM OF THE WEEK

JENNINGS

SANCHEZ

MENDY

PARKHOUSE

BICZO

OKADA

ROMERO

KING

WARREN

LEWIS

NORVAL

ROUND 11

#NPLNSW

Ultra Football Round 11 Team of the Week and three teams feature twice with Manly United FC's Charles Mendy and Adam Parkhouse, Blacktown City FC's Leroy Jennings and Matt Lewis and finally Sutherland Sharks FC's Marc Warren and Raul Romero all earning their spots. While it was a huge game from Wollongong Wolves Football Club's Takeru Okada who was the difference in the South Coast side's win at Marconi.