

## **WANDERERS WIN TILLEY SHIELD**

Wanderers led from start to finish and shutout Hawks to win the coveted Tilley Shield and Eagles upset ladder leaders Saints in Round 6 action of the Sunraysia Baseball League O'Malley's A Grade competition played on the weekend.

Hawks played host to Wanderers for the annual Tilley Shield. Reigning holders of the trophy, Wanderers were missing Troy Kortekaas and Brad McGrath and welcomed back Dale Twaddle and Lharn Howard. Hawks were without veteran catcher Tony Probert and promoted Ben Barker into the lineup.

Hawks began with in-form youngster Matt Smith on the mound and although he hit Wanderers lead-off batter Nick Carroll, a sharp double play ended the innings. Wanderers had reigning league MVP Dion Tregagle available and he started well by shutting Hawks down in order.

Jay Fleming legged out an infield hit in the second dig for Wanderers but another slick double play from Hawks ended the innings again. Michael Wade beat out an infield hit for Hawks but Tregagle struck out two Hawks' to end the innings.

Wanderers were the first to score when, in the third dig, Tregagle and Carroll hit well score help their side score two runs. Clint Williams and Smith replied well for Hawks in their turn at bat but were stranded on base as Carroll chased down Trent Cross' deep outfield flyball to end the innings.

Smith was doing well on the mound for Hawks and he shut down Wanderers in order in the fourth and fifth innings but Tregagle was matching him and Hawks couldn't make any inroads into Wanderers' two run lead.

Wanderers extended their lead by two more runs in the top of the seventh dig as Hawks had an infield error and Adam Job hit safely. Nathan Lynch and Jason Mobbs hit well to try and rally Hawks but Tregagle was in a good rhythm and finished the innings.

Hawks had chances to score during the match but several base running mistakes gave away outs and with one innings to go they were still unable to score. Job walked to start the ninth and when Carroll hit him home Wanderers held a five run lead.

With two outs Scott Giles hit safely to keep Hawks flickering hopes alive but Tregagle kept his cool to record the final out and complete the five-nil shutout and retain the Tilley Shield for Wanderers.

Eagles travelled to Chaffey Park to take on Saints with both sides at full strength as Saints welcomed back Andrew Fairlie into their lineup.

Saints began with young left-hander Chris Prevedello on the mound and he found himself in trouble early. Three walks, a hit batter and two fielding errors were capped by Jedd Millers' three-run home run to give Eagles an early five run lead.

Saints were facing Miller and they replied well as Prevedello and Tony Trinnick hit safely to score two runs and keep Saints in touch.

Two more walks and two more fielding errors from Saints saw Eagles add three more runs to their total and when they shut Saints down in the second dig, they had a stranglehold on the match.

Eagles added two more runs in the fourth innings as Shane Trinnick took over from Prevedello and when Miller shut down Saints, Eagles held a commanding 10-2 lead.

Trinnick was successful in stopping the scoring from Eagles as they could only manage one more run over the next four innings. Saints managed to score four runs in the last dig and add some respectability to their total but it wasn't enough to close the gap and Eagles came away with the 12-8 win.

The Mildura Sports Centre A Grade player of the week is awarded to Wanderers' pitcher Dion Tregeagle. He pitched a nine innings shutout and also grabbed a safe hit for himself in his sides' win over Hawks.

In the B Grade competition Wanderers outscored Tigers in a high scoring game to win 23-11. Brad McGrath, Brett Higginbotham and Travis Mclean played well for Wanderers with Rob Purgar, Matt Boston and Matthew French doing well for Tigers.

The second match saw Eagles outplay Saints to win 15-9. Clint Minette, Roger Taylor and Steven Scott played well for Eagles with Darcy Waldron, Shayne Haffenden and Dale Russell playing well for Saints.

The Mallee Burger B Grade player of the week is awarded to Eagles pitcher Clint Minette. He pitched his side to a win and had four safe hits in his sides' win over Saints.

In the C Grade competition Wanderers One defeated Hawks One 8-2. Daryl Hynoski, Gary McNally and Phil Gee played well for Wanderers with Paul Holman, George Hancock and Dylan Rickard playing well for Hawks.

The second match saw Wanderers Two defeat Tigers 17-3. Graeme Witte, Brad Lever and Brett Bertalli played well for Wanderers with Michael Thornton, Gavin McDonald and Craig Johns playing well for Tigers.

In the third match Eagles make a clean sweep out at Chaffey Park to defeat Saints 15-8. Jayden Austin, Ben Gathercole and Chris Murray played well for Eagles with Alister McBain, Alan Gourlay and Glen Kelly playing well for Saints.

The Mallee Burger C Grade player of the week is awarded to Wanderers outfielder Brad Lever. He had three hits in his sides' win over Tigers.

## **RESULTS**

### **A GRADE**

**WANDERERS: - 0 0 2 0 0 0 2 0 1—5**

**HAWKS: - 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0—0**

**SAFE HITS:** - Wanderers—N Carroll 2; M Gee, J Fleming, D Tregeagle and A Job 1.

Hawks—C Williams, M Smith, T Cross, M Wade, B Arnold, S Giles, N Lynch and J Mobbs 1.

**EAGLES: - 5 3 0 2 0 0 0 1 1—12**

**SAINTS: - 2 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 4—8**

**SAFE HITS:** - Eagles—J Miller 3 (inc. 1 home run); B Heagerty 2; A Bell, M Austin, A Law and T Press 1.

Saints—S Trinnick 3; T Trinnick and S Haffenden 2; D Hosking, C Prevedello, G Wallace and A Fairlie 1.

### **B GRADE**

**WANDERERS: - 8 0 8 7—23**

**TIGERS: - 5 2 2 2—11**

**SAFE HITS:** - Wanderers—B McGrath 3; B Higginbotham and D Hayes 2; T Malycha and R Whitchurch 1.

Tigers—R Purgar 3; M Boston 2; T Landells, B Meyer, D Eastwood, M French and B Purgar 1.

**EAGLES: - 3 3 1 8 0—15**

**SAINTS: - 5 0 3 0 1—9**

**SAFE HITS:** - Eagles—C Minette 4; S Scott and R Taylor 2; L Fuda, Z Schurr, T Cooksley, T Pay and M Raymond 1.

Saints—S Haffenden and D Waldron 2; D Russell, B Gowers, J Doyle and I Burrows 1.

### **C GRADE**

**WANDERERS ONE: - 0 0 5 1 2—8**

**HAWKS ONE: - 1 1 0 0 0—2**

**SAFE HITS:** - Wanderers—P Gee and G McNally 2; Colin Clifford, M Withnell, B Begg, T Job and H Petersen 1.

Hawks—P Holman and G Hancock 2; D Rickard, B Darley, C Irons and W Dawson 1.

**WANDERERS TWO: - 5 3 1 3 2 3—17**

**TIGERS: - 0 0 0 0 0 3—3**

**SAFE HITS:** - Wanderers—B Lever and B Bertalli 3; S Malycha and K Morrison 2; R Witte, G Witte and M Jeanes 1.

Tigers—M Thornton, G McDonald, C Johns and J Smith 2.

**EAGLES: - 0 1 5 2 2—10**

**SAINTS: - 1 0 5 1 1—8**

**SAFE HITS:** - Eagles—J Austin 3; J Parmenter, M Pay and C Murray 2; B Gathercole, C Cooksley, T Bell and K Roberts 1.

Saints—A McBain 2; A Gourlay, G Kelly, M Adair, D Prevedello, A Jeffrey, K Oats and K Grasso 1.

