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Norwood Football Club

2017 *Lady Legs* Yearbook

The First Women's Premiership



Compiled by Chris Brown, 2023



Dedication

This publication is dedicated to inaugural season premiership player Ellen Maple, a determined midfielder who had a promising football future. Ellen kicked the first ever league goal for the Lady Legs and put herself into the Norwood Football Club's history pages alongside the great George Giffen who kicked the first goal for the men's team in 1878. Her goal was also the first ever goal in the Women's League competition.

Ellen sadly passed away on Sunday April 8, 2018, aged 22 years.

The introduction of the Ellen Maple Medal in 2019 was an initiative of the Norwood and Sturt Football Clubs, to honour the memory of Ellen.

It is awarded to the most courageous and determined player each time the two clubs face off in the Statewide Super Women's League.

Norwood's Najwa Allen was been awarded the inaugural Ellen Maple Medal, with 32 disposals, five marks, three tackles and five clearances in Norwood's 35-point victory over Sturt in April 2019. Players from both teams wore yellow armbands – Ellen's favourite colour.



Ellen Maple



Najwa Allen



Ellen Maple Medal

Guernsey Number: 8

Player number: 9

Career: 2017

NFC Games: 6

NFC Goals: 1

Debut: v North Adelaide

(Norwood) 17th February 2017

Finale: v North Adelaide (Unley)
1st April 2017

Premierships: 2017



Norwood Football Club - History Committee members 2021/22

Graeme Adams	Rob Crompton	Phil Robins
Chris Brown	Wynton Heading (Chair)	Bryan Ridge
Reonaldo Cialini	Stephen Jones	John Townsend
Michael Coligan	Chris Lane	Marie Walsh
Dee Cox	Trevor Mather	Robert Walsh
Lindsay Cox (<i>Vale</i>)	Rick Neagle (Board representative)	Roger Woodcock

Consultant: Wally Miller OAM

Website: www.redlegsmuseum.com.au

Website Designer and Curator: Anthony Harvey

Acknowledgements

Peter Argent - reporting

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Paula Brinkworth – SANFL Media and Communications Manager

Deb Curtis - photographs

John Emery - photographs

Phil Herden - SANFLW statistics and results

Rebekah McMahon – 2017 Captain, Norwood Football Club Women's Team

Steve Symonds – 2017 Coach, Norwood Football Club Women's Team

Sarah Thompson (Player identification in photos)



Inaugural Norwood SANFLW Squad



- Back Row:** Nicola Burns, Monique Hollick, Stana Zecevic, Jane Fitzgerald, Jo Hill, Matilda Van Riel, Georgia Taylor, Alison Ferrall, Rhianna Peate, Chloe Samuels
- Middle:** Sarah Thompson, Darren Love, Michelle O'Brien, Rebekah Wanganeen, Michele Reid, Nicole Campbell, Alannah Rochow, Ashlee Gould, Lindsay Bigg, Alex Bigg, Elisha Gallagher, Lisa-Jane Millard, Ebony O'Dea, Kate Fenton, Tania Franklin, Anthony Howie (runner), Guy Ridgeway
- Front:** Adele Gibson, Alana Browne, Rhiannon Busch, Cassie Tsoumbris, Whitney Benson, Tess Baxter, Rebekka McMahon, Steve Symonds, Leah Cutting, Matilda Zander, Aajiah Jericho, Kayley Pearson, Tim McMahon

Photographer: Deb Curtis

(Names provided by Sarah Thompson)



Inaugural Norwood SANFLW Team

SANFLW Competition, Round 1, Season 1 (2017).

Norwood vs North Adelaide, 17 February, 2017.



Back Row: Shane Ruxton (Midfield Coach), Michelle O'Brien (Forward Line Coach), Tess Baxter (Defence and Fitness Coach), Demi Soneman, Lucy Northcott, Kristi Harvey, Tess Maple, Whitney Benson, Leah Cutting, Marijana Rajcic, Nicola Burns, Nicole Collie, Georgia Taylor, Steve Symonds (Head Coach), Sarah Thompson (Team Manager).

Front Row: Cherie Bamford, Stacey Huddleston, Tara Robertson, Ellen Maple, Rebekka McMahon (Captain), Cassandra Tsoumbri, Sophie Li, Nikki Gore, Michele Reid, Ruth Wallace.

Photographer: John Emery

(Names provided by Sarah Thompson)



First Coach

Steve Symonds



First Captain

Rebekka McMahon



First Vice-Captains

Whitney Benson



Leah Cutting





Steve Symonds



Coaching Background:

1998 – 2008 – Head Coach – Roxby Districts FC, Plympton FC, Lobethal FC
2008 – 2015 – League Senior Assistant & Reserves Head Coach – West Adelaide, Glenelg FC, Sturt FC
2010 – 2011 – AFLNT Regional Development Manager
2011 – East Timor Mens Head Coach
2016 – 2017 – Rostrevor College 1st 18 – Head Coach
2017 – 2019 – Norwood FC – Womens Head coach
2019 – Current – Collingwood FC Head Coach



Photographer: John Emery



Coin Toss (first game)



Left to right: Payne Sowter (Field Umpire), Paul Di Iulio (President), Wayne Scarman (Boundary Umpire), Jessica Edwards (North Adelaide Captain), Sandy McCulloch (General Manager, Marketing at MegaCourts), Rebekka McMahon (Norwood Captain), Tony Symons (Field Umpire), Tom Keatley (Boundary Umpire).

Photographer: Deb Curtis



First Goal kicker

Ellen Maple



Final Scoreboard – Inaugural Game

Friday 17 February, 2017

Norwood Oval



Photographer: John Emery



2017 Season Results

Round 1

Norwood vs North Adelaide

Friday 17 February, 2017, 6.00pm

Norwood Oval

Scores:

Norwood	1.0	4.2	6.3	9.5.59
North Adelaide:	0.1	1.5	2.6	2.7.19

Goals

Norwood: S Li 2, R Wallace 2, K Harvey 1, R McMahon 1, N Collie 1, M Rajcic 1, E Maple 1.

North Adelaide: J Maloney 1, J Sonneman 1.

Best Players

Norwood: M Rajcic, E. Maple, R Wallace, G Taylor, L Northcott, S Li.

North Adelaide: B Perry, J Edwards, L Tynan, S Ellis, P Allan, K Reynolds.



Elite Standards – Team 1st – Get Job Done

GAME REPORT

Round 1 v North Adelaide

It was great to see the girls win the first ever Women's game at SANFL State League level. The past 6 weeks have been a whirlwind, cramming so much in over so such a short period. To see the girls pull it all together on such a big occasion, was very pleasing.

The build up to the game felt very much like a grand final week & the first quarter emphasised the girl's nerves, as our ball handling wasn't as clean & as sharp as we would have liked. After quarter time the girls started to settle into the game & we started to play like we had planned.

Our performance was very even across the board with all girls contributing well. North showed plenty of pace & tenacity during the night so we certainly had to work for our win. Our back line set up & rebounded the ball well all night. Our rucks gave our midfield first look at the ball around stoppages & Our midfield all won plenty of the ball & provided great drive. Our Forwards did a great job all night trapping the ball in our front half & took their chances on goal with a couple of great snap shots that would make any highlight reel.

Based on the first round it appears our style of play will be slightly different to the other teams. A style in which we can embrace & make our own. We walked away with many learnings from the first game & hope to continually build each week going forward.

The only disappointment from the night was the unfortunate knee injury to Demi Sonneman in the early minutes of the game. We wish Demi all the best with her recovery & we all will support her towards getting back & being part of our team in 2018.

Thank you to the great crowd & support we received on Friday night, I know the girls loved it & the crowd support certainly provided them that extra boost at the contest. We look forward to having the continued great support this week against Westies on their home deck. It will be a great challenge, one I know our girls can't wait for.

Steve Symonds
(Norwood FC – Womens State League Head Coach)



Round 1 – Ellen Maple kicks Norwood’s, and the SANFLW’s, first ever goal.

Photographer – John Emery





Round 2

Norwood vs West Adelaide

Saturday 25 February, 2017, 8.10pm

Richmond Oval

Scores:

Norwood	2.2	6.2	6.4	9.7.61
West Adelaide:	0.1	0.2	1.4	1.4.10

Goals

Norwood: R Wallace 3, N Collie 2, L Northcott 2, S Li, K Pearson.

West Adelaide: K Hilton.

Best Players

Norwood: R Wallace, M Reid, S Li, C Bamford, L Northcott, N Burns.

West Adelaide: T Gordon, K Degabriele, J Power, C Fraser, A Evans, C Swanson.



Elite Standards – Team 1st – Get Job Done

GAME REPORT

Round 2 v West Adelaide

Our Senior Women's team continued their good start to the season making it 2 wins from 2 starts, with a strong 51 point win over West Adelaide, on their home ground.

The large sized oval provided another challenge for our girls who enjoyed the opportunity of trying to run & carry the ball more, something that is still very much a work in progress but is steadily improving. The girls started well this week & put themselves in a strong position at half time with a lead of 35 points.

After half time the girls run was taken away with West Adelaide closing up the contest & making the game in tight. The 3rd quarter was a scrappy & low scoring affair but it was great to see the girls thrown another challenge in style & having to adjust. Our girls are slowly learning to adapt to different circumstances & once adjusted were able to get the game back on their terms & finished with a strong last quarter playing an attractive style of football.

Defensively we are improving each week & to keep the opposition scoring opportunities to a minimum was pleasing. We are also making steady progress with our attacking play & our ball movement is steadily improving as we learn how to retain more of the ball & use it more effectively. It was again pleasing to be able to kick a good score & see reward for effort.

It was great to be able to provide Kayley Pearson, Nicole (Truck) Tucker & Tallara Power with their first game for the club. A memory I'm sure that will stick with them forever.

The challenges continue to present for our girls with this week facing a strong Glenelg outfit in front of a potentially good sized crowd with the Crows Women's team playing after us. We look forward to the continued support we have been receiving thus far & as a team we look forward to continually improving & putting on a display that we can be all proud of.

Steve Symonds
(Norwood FC – Womens State League Head Coach)



Round 2 – Norwood vs West Adelaide

Photographer – John Emery





Round 3

Norwood vs Glenelg

Saturday 4 March, 2017, 3.40pm

Norwood Oval

Scores:

Norwood	0.3	0.4	1.7	2.10.22
Glenelg:	0.3	3.5	4.7	5.10.40

Goals

Norwood: N Burns, S Li

Glenelg: E Jones 2, A Moritz, L Edwards, L Bellinger.

Best Players

Norwood: T Robertson, N Burns, M Reid, L Cutting, W Benson, K Harvey.

Glenelg: C Williams.



Elite Standards – Team 1st – Get Job Done

GAME REPORT

Round 3 v Glenelg

The newly formed Women's State League competition has provided a great opportunity for Senior Women to further learn & develop themselves as both players & as people. Whilst the 3 goal loss to Glenelg on the weekend was disappointing & not ideal from a results point of view, the learnings the group have taken away from the game will be invaluable as we seek to further develop & expand our Game & Culture.

It appeared Glenelg came with a focus to restrict our ball movement & they were successful in doing that. The Game was kept in very close & with both teams committed to the contest it provided a very physical, high stoppage & scrappy game. Our inability to adjust & adapt was the end difference in the game. The way & how we adapt to different situations during games will be the biggest learning our group will take away.

On the positives - Congratulations to AAJiah Jericho who got the opportunity to play her first game for the club & it was great to see such a great crowd across the afternoon & night. It made for a great atmosphere & the concept of the 3 games in a row looks to be a good one. I'm sure most walked away with positive thoughts towards the direction of the Women's Game. We are all just a little disappointed that the large crowd & our loyal supporters never saw our best capabilities on the field. This is a small bump in the long journey & the girls are already very keen for the opportunity to fix a few areas in a big clash v North Adelaide this week.

Steve Symonds
(Norwood FC – Womens State League Head Coach)



Round 3 – Norwood vs Glenelg

Photographer – John Emery





Round 4

Norwood vs North Adelaide

Saturday 11 March, 2017, 8.10pm

Richmond Oval

Scores:

Norwood	0.1	1.3	2.4	2.4.16
North Adelaide:	1.3	1.4	4.7	6.9.45

Goals

Norwood: L Cutting, C Teague.

North Adelaide: C Scheer 3, B Perry 2, A Woodland.

Best Players

Norwood: M Reid, K Harvey, M Rajcic, E Maple, W Benson, L Cutting

North Adelaide: K Reynolds, C Scheer, B Perry, M Morgan, J Edwards, N Mark.



Elite Standards – Team 1st – Get Job Done

GAME REPORT

Round 4 v North

Our round 4 clash with North Adelaide was a tough one for our girls. Going into the game we knew North had improved a lot since our first meeting & would be very keen to reverse the result from our first encounter.

The game was a very even contest all the way through with the final scores not really reflecting the closeness of the game. The game was very physical throughout & appeared to be played more open than recent weeks. Both teams looked to move the ball more quickly which resulted in seeing a more free flowing game up & down the field.

As a group over the past 2 weeks we have been trying to introduce some new things into the way we play as part of our continued development pathway. We are starting to see some regular patterns in the way we are trying to play which is a positive going forward.

Currently our skill execution is not yet up to the level to consistently execute our game plan fully, which currently results in us making a few mistakes along the way. This is our biggest area for improvement & as our skills continue to develop, so will our ability to fully execute our game plan.

North were able to capitalise on our mistakes during the game & their ability to use the ball more efficiently around the ground was the end difference, with North running out eventual winners by 29 points.

This week Caitlan Teague, Phoebe Rowberry, Karris Searle & Matilda Van Riels were provided the opportunity to play their first game for the club. The opportunity for more of our younger squad members to experience playing at the state league level is going to be a long term positive result for us.

Our game style & cohesiveness as a team is still very much in the initial stages & we are not backing away from the course we have set. We look forward to our encounter this week against West as we get the opportunity to again try & further progress.

Steve Symonds
(Norwood FC – Womens State League Head Coach)



Round 5

Norwood vs West Adelaide

Friday 17 March, 2017, 6.00pm

Norwood Oval

Scores:

Norwood	2.5	7.6	10.8	13.13.91
West Adelaide:	0.1	0.2	2.3	2.4.16

Goals

Norwood: R Wallace 4, L Northcott 2, K Harvey 2, L Cutting, J Fitzgerald, M Rajcic, N Burns, C Bamford.

West Adelaide: L McCarthy, C Swanson.

Best Players

Norwood: S Li, R Wallace, M Reid, M Rajcic, E O'Dea, M Van Riel.

West Adelaide: K Degabriele, C Swanson, T Gordon, T McDermott, K Hilton, L McCarthy.



Elite Standards – Team 1st – Get Job Done

GAME REPORT

Round 5 v West

Our round 5 clash with West Adelaide saw our girls return back to the form that they showcased in the first weeks of the competition. Knowing that we had to win to keep our Grand final aspirations alive, the girls produced some of their best football for the competition to run out winners by a large 75 point margin.

The high defensive pressure that we have built our game upon returned & our girls were terrific in this area all night. Over the past few weeks we have tried to implement a few tweaks to our game, with the aim to take our game to another level. Whilst the past 2 weeks has been a little frustrating as we have made mistakes trying to execute these adjustments, it was pleasing in this game that the girls could execute consistently well, resulting in a record score for the competition.

Our ability to work as a team unit & win both the inside & outside ball was the difference between the 2 teams. West certainly didn't allow us to have things all our own way & repeatedly cut off a number of our entries going inside our Fwd 50. This will be an area we will need to work on within our training this week.

It was pleasing again to be able to provide an opportunity to 3 more members of our squad to play their first club game. Jane Fitzgerald (Ex Thunderbird Netballer / Contax captain), Ebony O'Dea & Kayla Edwards all showed promising signs within their debut game.

This week's game v Glenelg sets up a preliminary final situation for us. The challenge for our girls now is to consistently execute our tweaks. The confidence the group have gained from the weekends result will be invaluable & the girls are ready to put everything into making the inaugural Women's grand final. We would love as many of our loyal supporters as possible to get there to cheer our girls on.

Steve Symonds
(Norwood FC – Womens State League Head Coach)



Round 5 – Norwood vs West Adelaide

Photographer – John Emery





Round 6

Norwood vs Glenelg

Saturday 25 March, 2017, 6.00pm

Richmond Oval

Scores:

Norwood	2.3	3.5	6.6	7.7.49
Glenelg:	2.0	3.4	4.5	4.5.29

Goals

Norwood: M Rajcic 3, L Northcott 2, L Cutting, S Li.

Glenelg: T Mackrill, B Bosley, C Williams, E Woods.

Best Players

Norwood: M Reid, M Rajcic, W Benson, L Northcott, J Fitzgerald, M Van Riel.

Glenelg: J Allan, C Williams, E Kellock, B Walling, B Bosley, C Hartley.



Elite Standards – Team 1st – Get Job Done

GAME REPORT

Round 6 v Glenelg

Our round 6 clash v Glenelg found ourselves in a preliminary final situation with the winner of the game advancing through to the grand final to play North Adelaide. In our previous encounter against Glenelg we were disappointed with our performance. We were not composed enough & were too hesitant to win that game last time around. This time the girls were excited at the opportunity to challenge themselves & to put in place what we learnt from our first encounter. We went into the game with a settled line up & confidence after a strong display the previous week against West Adelaide.

As expected the game was very similar to the first encounter. Very physical & ball kept in tight all game. Glenelg were again keen to play to their strengths by keeping the ball in close & then use their foot skills to set up their play. This time around our girls matched them in this area. Our ability to be both physical at the contest & then have composure with ball in hand was much improved.

Up to half way through the 3rd quarter there was nothing between the teams as each team had strong periods of dominance but were unable to take advantage on the scoreboard. In the 2nd stages of the 3rd quarter we were finally able to break the game open with a couple of quick successive goals. When given the opportunity to run & move the ball quickly we can be a very exciting & damaging team.

The final quarter was a real fight. We were able to score a goal quickly in the last quarter, then with stand a determined Glenelg as they through everything at us in their endeavour to score. Full credit to our girls who have shown how much they have developed & grown each week along the way. Our girls commitment & thirst for the contest was terrific & our composure under pressure & with ball in hand has certainly improved. Whilst we still have a lot of improvement to go, our girls are understanding their strengths & weaknesses & are playing to both.

To win the game in the end by 20 points & advance to the grand final is great reward for the girls. They have taken on everything thrown at them since our first session together & I'm sure in this weekend's big game they again won't back away from the challenge. It's going to be an exciting week & we know we must play well to win. We look forward to the continued support we have received thus far from all. "Team Spirit" has been an important part of establishing our

culture foundations & I have no doubt the girls will bring everything they have this weekend & put in a performance we will all be proud of.

Steve Symonds
(Norwood FC – Womens State League Head Coach)



Round 6 – Norwood vs Glenelg

Photographer – John Emery





2017 Minor Round – Final Ladder

Club	Played	Won	Lost	Draw	For	Against	Percentage
North Adelaide	6	5	1	0	285	177	61.69
Norwood	6	4	2	0	298	159	65.21
Glenelg	6	3	3	0	218	206	51.42
West Adelaide	6	0	6	0	134	393	25.43

First Grand Final



From left to right: Rebekka McMahon, Leah Cutting, Whitney Benson, Cherie Bamford, Lucy Northcott, Tara Robertson, Jane Fitzgerald, Kristi Harvey, Tess Maple, Ellen Maple, Nicola Burns, Stacey Huddleston, Michele Reid, Ruth Wallace, Ebony O'Dea, Kayla Edwards, Georgia Taylor, Sophie Li, Tilly van Reil, Marijana Rajcic

(Names provided by Sarah Thompson)



Elite Standards – Team 1st – Get Job Done

TEAM SELECTION

Grand Final v North

Where: Peter Motley Oval

When: 1/4/2017

Report: 3:00pm

Game Principles

1. Win & Maintain Possession
2. Defensive Pressure
3. Ball Speed
4. Controlling Space
5. Player Number Dominance

Game Plan

1. Strong Attack & Pressure at Contest
2. Smart D Defence & Defend the Def 50
3. Fast Ball Movement Between Arcs (F1)
4. Defend (Close field) Attack (Stretch Field)
5. Open Fwd 50. Trap Ball in Until We Score.

F:	LUCY	(#3) TESS	LEP
H/F:	RUTH	(#6) REIDY	MJ
C:		DANGER	
H/B:	STACEY	TILLY	TARA
B:	BEC ©	WHITNEY	GT

1st Ruck:

(R) LEAH
(M1) SOPHIE
(M2) ELLEN

2nd Ruck:

(R) JANE

Interchange:

(F) CHERIE
(M) EBONY
(B) KAYLA
(U) JANE

EMERGENCIES:

CAITLEN

AAJ

PHOEBE

INS:

KAYLA

OUTS:

CASSIE



Photographer – John Emery











Grand Final Result

Norwood vs North Adelaide

Saturday 1 April, 2017

Unley Oval

Scores:

Norwood 3.1 5.5 6.8 9.11.65

North Adelaide: 3.1 4.2 6.2 6.2.38

Goals

Norwood: K Harvey 2, M Rajcic 2, R Wallace 2, S Li 2, L Northcott 1.

North Adelaide: L Burrows 2, C Scheer 2, K Reynolds 1, P Allan 1.

Best Players

Norwood: S Li, R Wallace, M Rajcic, W Benson, N Burns, M Reid.

North Adelaide: C Scheer, K Rosenzweif, J Edwards, M Morgan.



Photographer: John Emery



Photographer: John Emery





2017 SANFLW Grand Final Match Reports

The Advertiser

Late blast gives Redlegs victory in inaugural SANFL women's grand final

A LAST-quarter blitz saw Norwood claim the inaugural SANFL women's league premiership by beating North Adelaide in the grand final on Saturday.

Reece Homfray

April 1, 2017 - 7:39PM

A LAST-quarter blitz saw Norwood claim the inaugural SANFL women's league premiership by beating North Adelaide in the grand final on Saturday.

The Redlegs led by one goal at three-quarter-time, then made all the play with the breeze in the final term at Unley Oval to run out 27-point winners, 9.11 (65) to 6.2 (38).

Sophie Li led the way for Norwood with 23 disposals and two goals, including one early in the final term to get the ball rolling, and was awarded the best-on-ground medal.

She had good support from Marijana Rajcic who was also busy collecting 19 disposals and Ruth Wallace who had 18 and both also kicked two goals each.



Best on ground Sophie Li tackles North Adelaide's Jessica Schulz. Picture: Roger Wyman



Jessica Edwards and Leah Tynan were the leading ball winners for the Roosters with 14 disposals while Lesley Burrows and Chloe Scheer both kicked two goals in the losing side.

Post-match Norwood captain Rebekka McMahon paid tribute to the SANFL for organising the competition and the “NFC family”.

“The members, supporters, you guys jumped on board for us straight away, there is no men’s team or women’s team it’s one big family,” McMahon said.

“There are boys in the stands who supported us and thanks for making us a part of the family.



Norwood’s Ruth Wallace on the break during the grand final. Picture: Roger Wyman

“We came to do a job, ladies, and we got the job done.”

Redlegs coach Steve Symonds said his team had been on a journey and deserved to win the title.

“I still remember our first training session where we did a simple drill kicking around the corners of the square and we couldn’t hit a target and I thought ‘gee we’ve got a bit of work ahead of us’,” he said.

“The way you’ve grown, embraced everything and taken steps forward — you thoroughly deserve the awards, it’s a memory you’ll have forever.

“The club has been fantastic in its support all the way through, from administration to sponsors, players, staff, trainers, it’s been absolutely outstanding.”

SCOREBOARD

Norwood 3.1 5.5 7.2 9.11 (65)

North Adelaide 3.1 4.2 5.8 6.2 (38)



The Flinders News

Redlegs claim inaugural SANFL Women's Premiership

By Peter Argent

Updated April 3 2017 - 5:03pm, first published 4:20pm

Kicking the open goal of the game, and rebounding after a third quarter charge from North Adelaide, with three unanswered majors in the final term, Norwood (won) the final South Australian National Football League Women's Grand Final title, held at Peter Motley Oval, Unley.

The scores were locked away at the 12th minute of that premiership (third) term, (but) Norwood charged home to win the match by 27 points, 9.11 (65) to 6.2 (38).

"There were a number of momentum swing due to the wind," Redlegs premiership coach Steve Symonds said.

"The team with the wind had it predominately, and we had to be smart when using the ball.

"(Team captain McMahon) Rebekka won the toss kicked against the breeze in the opening term, and it proved to be the correct choice.

"We knew if we played at our best we could win the game.

"Settling the team down for the final couple of games was important

"Setting up the correct culture was important to our club this year.

"We have great support from the entire club all through the program."

This contest had many ebbs and flows, with Norwood kicking the opening goal towards the Bowling Club end of the ground, but the Roosters regained the ascendancy, kicking the next three including two to Lesley Burrows.

Then Norwood kicked the final two goals of the quarter to have the scores level at quarter time, 3.1 each.

Defensive and physical, the second quarter saw two late goals to the 'Legs which gave them a handy nine point advantage going into the long interval.

Norwood's lead eked out to 12 points, before teenage sensation Chloe Scheer stamped her imprint on the game, kicking two consecutive goals to tie the scores.

Against the run of play, Redleg Ruth Wallace kicked a clever goal which saw Norwood six points up at lemons. Her second for the half deep in the last term, gave Norwood an unassailable 21 point lead.

Marijana Rajcic kicked her second to seal the result, with the final siren sparking emotional and spontaneous celebrations.

Sophie Li also wrote some personal history, winning best on ground honours in the first SANFL W Grand Final.



Along with Li, Wallace, and the robust and strong making Rajcic, other strong performers for the victors included rucks Leah Cutting and Jane Fitzgerald, along with the quartet of Georgia Taylor, Nicola Burns, skipper Rebekka McMahon and Whitney Benson in defence.

Along with Wallace and Rajcic, Li and Kristi Harvey also kicked a brace of goals.

For North both Leah Tynan and Kathryn Reynolds worked tirelessly around the ball, while Katelyn Rosenzweig took a number of strong marks. Marinet Morgan was solid all game in defence.

Roosters captain Jessica Edwards won her share of the ball, and half forward Paige Allan had her moments.

2017 Norwood SANFLW Premiership Team

(# = Guernsey Number)

#6 Cherie Bamford	#7 Ebony O'Dea	#8 Ellen Maple
#9 Rebekka McMahon (c)	#10 Nicola Burns	#12 Sophie Li
#13 Tara Robertson	#14 Michele Reid	#15 Ruth Wallace
#16 Stacey Huddleston	#20 Kayla Edwards	#21 Leah Cutting
#22 Lucy Northcott	#23 Matilda Van Riel	#27 Georgia Taylor
#28 Tess Maple	#29 Jane Fitzgerald	#30 Whitney Benson
#31 Kristi Harvey	#32 Marijana Rajcic	Coach: Stephen Symonds



Norwood Coach Steve Symonds and Captain Rebekka McMahon

Photographer: John Emery



Back: Whitney Benson, Tilly van Reil, Steve Symonds, Rebekka McMahon, Marijana Rajcic, Kayla Edwards, Sarah Watherston, Cassie Tsboumbri, Sophie Li, Ellen Maple

Middle: Ruth Wallace, Stacey Huddleston, Tess Maple, Georgia Taylor, Cherie Bamford, Jane Fitzgerald, Ebony O'Dea, Nicola Burns

Front: Lucy Northcott, Leah Cutting, Tara Robertson, Kristi Harvey, Michele Reid

(Names provided by Sarah Thompson)



Grand Final – Most Valuable Player/Best on Ground

Sophie Li

Photographer: Deb Curtis



Norwood President Paul Di Iulio and Captain Rebekka McMahon

Photographer: John Emery



2017 Profiles

Coach: Stephen Symonds



2017 Games coached: 7
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 2017 wins coached: 5
 2017 losses coached: 2
 Premiership: 2017

Rebekka McMahon (c)



Guernsey Number: 9
 Player Number: 1
 2017 Games: 7
 2017 Goals: 1
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Norwood Captain: 2017
 Premiership: 2017

Cherie Bamford



Guernsey Number: 6
 Player Number: 7
 2017 Games: 7
 2017 Goals: 1
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017

Whitney Benson



Guernsey Number: 30
 Player Number: 28
 2017 Games: 7
 2017 Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Premiership: 2017



Nicola Burns



Guernsey Number: 10
 Player Number: 10
 2017 Games: 6
 2017 Goals: 2
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Premiership: 2017

Nicole Collie



Guernsey Number: 11
 Player Number: 11
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 4
 NFC Goals: 3
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Finale: Rd 4 vs North Adelaide, 11th March 2017

Leah Cutting



Guernsey Number: 21
 Player Number: 2
 2017 Games: 7
 2017 Goals: 3
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Premiership: 2017

Kayla Edwards



Guernsey Number: 20
 Player Number: 20
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 2
 NFC Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 5 vs West Adelaide, 17th March 2017
 Finale: Grand Final vs North Adelaide, 1st April 2017
 Premiership: 2017



Jane Fitzgerald



Guernsey Number: 29
 Player Number: 27
 2017 Games: 3
 2017 Goals: 1
 Debut: Rd 5 vs West Adelaide, 17th March 2017
 Premiership: 2017

Nikki Gore



Guernsey Number: 2
 Player Number: 3
 Career: 2017
 2017 Games: 1
 2017 Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Finale: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017

Kristi Harvey



Guernsey Number: 31
 Player Number: 29
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 7
 NFC Goals: 5
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Finale: Grand Final vs North Adelaide, 1st April 2017
 Premiership: 2017

Stacey Huddleston



Guernsey Number: 16
 Player Number: 16
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 7
 NFC Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Finale: Grand Final vs North Adelaide, 1st April 2017
 Premiership: 2017



Aajiah Jericho



Guernsey Number: 4
 Player Number: 5
 2017 Games: 1
 2017 Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 3 vs Glenelg, 4th March 2017
 Finale: Rd 3 vs Glenelg, 4th March 2017

Sophie Li



Guernsey Number: 12
 Player Number: 12
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 7
 NFC Goals: 6
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Finale: Grand Final vs North Adelaide, 1st April 2017
 Premiership: 2017
 Grand Final Best on Ground: 2017

Ellen Maple



Guernsey Number: 8
 Player Number: 9
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 6
 NFC Goals: 1
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th February 2017
 Finale: Grand Final vs North Adelaide, 1st April 2017
 Premiership: 2017

Tess Maple



Guernsey Number: 28
 Player Number: 26
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 7
 NFC Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Finale: Grand Final vs North Adelaide, 1st April 2017
 Premiership: 2017



Lucy Northcott



Guernsey Number: 22
 Player Number: 21
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 7
 NFC Goals: 7
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Finale: Grand Final vs North Adelaide, 1st April 2017
 Premiership: 2017

Ebony O'Dea



Guernsey Number: 7
 Player Number: 8
 2017 Games: 3
 2017 Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 5 vs West Adelaide, 17th March 2017
 Premiership: 2017

Kayley Pearson



Guernsey Number: 25
 Player Number: 24
 2017 Games: 2
 2017 Goals: 1
 Debut: Rd 2 vs West Adelaide, 25th Feb 2017

Tallara Power



Guernsey Number: 17
 Player Number: 17
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 1
 NFC Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 2 vs West Adelaide, 25 Feb 2017
 Finale: Rd 2 vs West Adelaide, 25 Feb 2017



Marijana Rajcic



Guernsey Number: 32
 Player Number: 30
 NFC Games: 6
 NFC Goals: 7
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Premiership: 2017:

Michele Reid



Guernsey Number: 14
 Player Number: 14
 2017 Games: 7
 2017 Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Premiership: 2017
 Best & Fairest: 2017

Tara Robertson



Guernsey Number: 13
 Player Number: 13
 2017 Games: 6
 2017 Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Premiership: 2017

Phoebe Rowberry



Guernsey Number: 3
 Player Number: 4
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 1
 NFC Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 4 vs North Adelaide, 11th March 2017
 Finale: Rd 4 vs North Adelaide, 11th March 2017



Karissa Searle



Guernsey Number: 24
 Player Number: 23
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 1
 NFC Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 4 vs North Adelaide, 11th March 2017
 Finale: Rd 4 vs North Adelaide, 11th March 2017

Demi Sonneman



Guernsey Number: 19
 Player Number: 19
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 1
 NFC Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Finale: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017

Georgia Taylor



Guernsey Number: 27
 Player Number: 25
 2017 Games: 7
 2017 Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Premiership: 2017

Caitlin Teague



Guernsey Number: 18
 Player Number: 18
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 1
 NFC Goals: 1
 Debut: Rd 4 vs North Adelaide, 11th March 2017
 Finale: Rd 4 vs North Adelaide, 11th March 2017



Cassandra Tsoumbris



Guernsey Number: 5
 Player Number: 6
 2017 Games: 6
 2017 Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017

Nicole Tucker



Guernsey Number: 33
 Player Number: 31
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 2
 NFC Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 2 vs West Adelaide, 25th Feb 2017
 Finale: Rd 3 vs Glenelg, 4th March 2017

Matilda Van Riel



Guernsey Number: 23
 Player Number: 22
 2017 Games: 4
 2017 Goals: 0
 Debut: Rd 4 vs North Adelaide, 11th March 2017
 Premiership: 2017

Ruth Wallace



Guernsey Number: 15
 Player Number: 15
 Career: 2017
 NFC Games: 6
 NFC Goals: 11
 Debut: Rd 1 vs North Adelaide, 17th Feb 2017
 Finale: Grand Final vs North Adelaide, 1st April 2017
 Premiership: 2017
 Leading Goalkicker: 2017



Norwood – 2017 Season Awards

Best and Fairest
Michele Reid



Runner Up Best and Fairest
Marijana Rajcic



Best Team Woman
Whitney Benson



Leading Goalkicker
Ruth Wallace (11 goals)





2017 AFLW National Draft

Norwood Players Drafted

Pick number 28

Sophie Li (Carlton)



Pick number 32

Marijana Rajcic (Adelaide)



Pick number 38

Ruth Wallace (Adelaide)



2017 AFLW Rookie Draft

Nil.

2017 League Awards

Best and Fairest Leaderboard

Courtney Gum (Glenelg) – 13 votes

Sophie Li (Norwood) – 7 votes

Chloe Scheer (North Adelaide) – 7 votes

Ruth Wallace (Norwood) – 5 votes

Jessica Edwards (North Adelaide) – 4 votes

Caitlin Williams (Glenelg) – 4 votes

Coaches Award

Courtney Gum (Glenelg)



ISC Leading Goalkickers

(Totals shown for the end of the minor round)

Chloe Scheer (North Adelaide) – 13 goals

Ruth Wallace (Norwood) – 9 goals

Eloise Jones (Glenelg) – 6 goals

Ashleigh Woodland (North Adelaide) – 6 goals

Lucy Northcott (Norwood) – 6 goals.

Powerade Breakthrough Player

Winner – Chloe Scheer (North Adelaide)

Round 1 – Nikki Gore (Norwood)

Round 2 – Chloe Scheer (North Adelaide)

Round 3 – Ashleigh Woodland (North Adelaide)

Round 4 – Brianna Walling (Glenelg)

Round 5 – Paige Allan (North Adelaide)

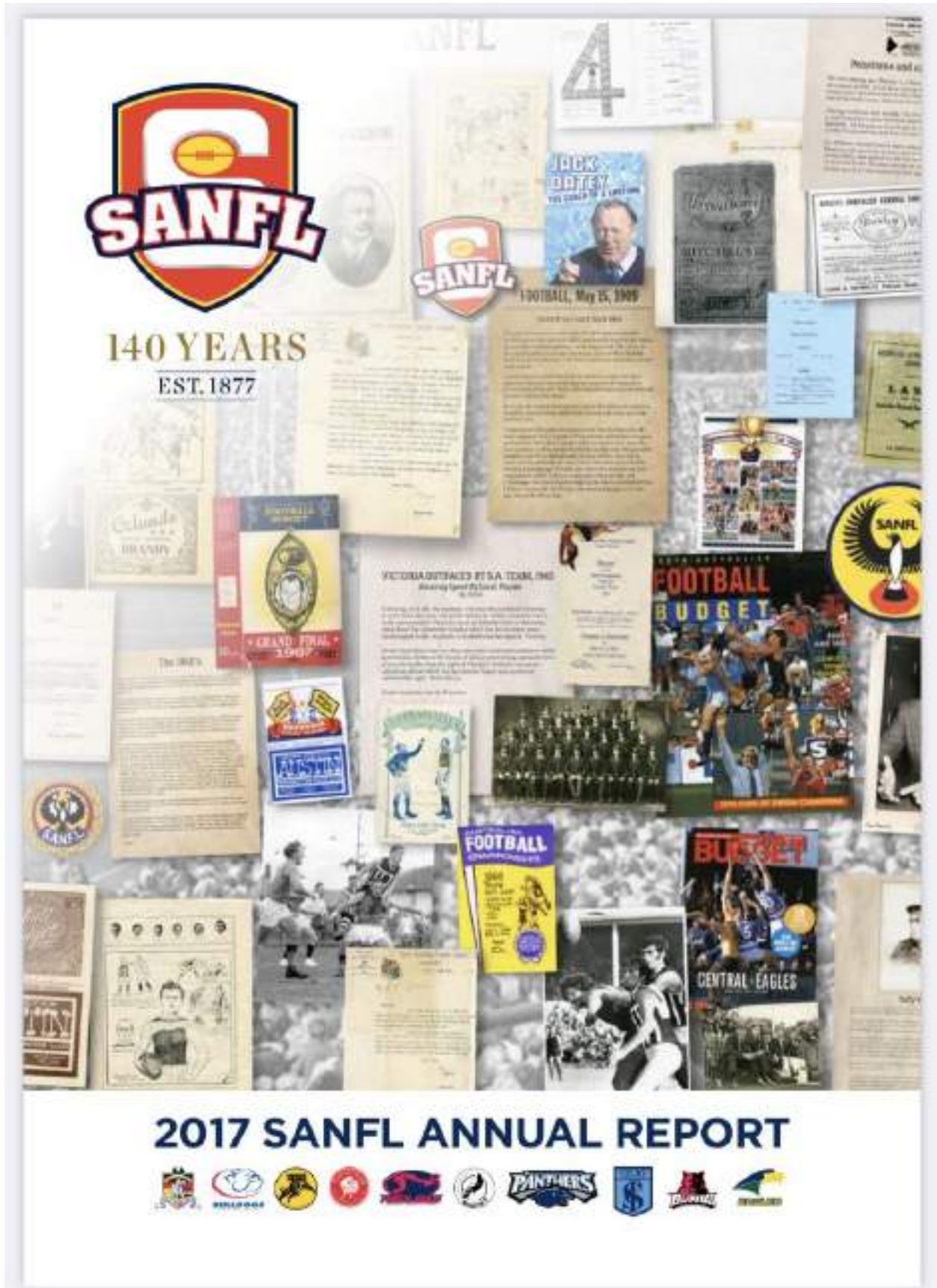
Round 6 - Lucy Northcott (Norwood)

Grand Final - Most Valuable Player

Sophie Li (Norwood)



2017 SANFL Annual Report





2017 marked a major milestone for SANFL, with the League cementing its position as the oldest surviving football league of any code in Australia by celebrating its 140th anniversary in style.

Importantly, we continued to blend tradition with innovation, promoting and growing the game of football across all levels throughout the State.

Key highlights of the year included:

- Participation increased to more than 174,000, an overall increase of more than 15% on the previous year;
- The number of females playing the game at club level increased by 53% with a 22% increase in girls involved in Auskick;
- Norwood won the inaugural SANFL Women's Premiership, with two new clubs - Sturt and South Adelaide - added to the competition for 2018 with increased prizemoney on offer; and
- Sturt claimed back-to-back League Premierships with a pulsating one-point win against Port Adelaide at Adelaide Oval in front of the biggest crowd in almost 20 years.

Three home finals for South Australia's two AFL teams plus strong attendances for the SANFL major round helped push football attendance at Adelaide Oval for the year past 115 million, making football again the dominant contributor to the ongoing success of our joint venture with SACA at Adelaide Oval.

SANFL performed strongly off the field in 2017, with a statutory net profit of \$3.87 million - and this enabled the payment of game development grants totalling \$4.38 million to SANFL clubs - while secured debt was reduced by another \$3.5 million.

Much of this was underpinned by the redevelopment of Football Park, which continues to deliver for South Australian football and clubs.



PREMIERS



SANFL STATEWIDE SUPER WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Norwood won the 2017 SANFL Statewide Super Women's League premiership, outlasting North Adelaide by 27 points at Unley Oval. Despite only holding a six-point lead going into the last change, the Redlegs finished much stronger in the first term to boot three goals while keeping the Roosters scoreless to win the inaugural crown.

Led by Best on Ground Medalist Sophie Li - who finished with a game-high 23 disposals - Steve Symons' side had far too many weapons for North to counter, with soccer converts Ruth Wallace and Marijana Rapic also having major influences on the contest.

North coach Matt Slade's Roosters were best served by the game-breaking Chloe Scheer, who threatened to change the course of the contest while fearless captain Jess Edwards continued to lead from the front.

NORWOOD 3.1 5.3 8.8 9.11 (65)
NORTH 3.1 4.2 6.2 6.3 (38)

BEST:

Norwood: Li, Wallace, Rapic, Cutting, Burns, Reid, Northcott, Harvey.
North: Scheer, Edwards, Tynan, Allan, Morgan.

GOALS:

Norwood: Li, Wallace, Rapic, Harvey 2, Northcott.
North: Burnes, Scheer 2, Reynolds, Allan.

BEST ON GROUND MEDAL

Sophie Li (Norwood)

UNPRES - Tony Symons, Payne Souther

CROWD - 1827 at Unley Oval



STATEWIDE SUPER WOMEN'S LEAGUE BEST AND FAIREST

Glenelg's Courtney Gum capped off her brilliant individual season, winning the inaugural SANFL Statewide Super Women's League Best and Fairest Award.

One of the most experienced midfielders in the competition, Gum also received the first Coaches Award, voted on by the four coaches in the SANFL Statewide Super Women's League.

The older sister of Tristan Gum - who played 134 SANFL games for Sturt and North Adelaide - the prolific on-baller was a revelation for the Tigers while dominating the centre square in 2017.

The 35-year-old - who hails from powerful SANFL club Morphettville Park - averaged a stunning 24.3 disposals during the minor round, whilst displaying her skills on left and right foot. The Boys' No.23 polled a total of 13 votes to finish ahead of Norwood's Sophie Li and North's Chloe Scheer, who were equal runners-up with seven votes each.

Courtney Gum (Glenelg) 13 votes
Sophie Li (Norwood) 7 votes
Chloe Scheer (North) 7 votes
Ruth Wallace (Norwood) 5 votes
Jessica Edwards (North) 4 votes
Caitlin Williams (Glenelg) 4 votes



STATEWIDE SUPER

SANFL welcomed Statewide Super as naming rights partner of the inaugural Women's League in 2017.

Female participation in football has experienced unprecedented growth in 2017, the investment and support of Statewide Super has been paramount in supporting this growth.

Statewide Super has been instrumental in helping SANFL to grow the competition from 4 to 6 SANFL league teams in 2018.



AFL WOMEN'S UNDER-18 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

The Allies went undefeated through the AFL Under-18 Women's National Championships held on the Gold Coast.

Coached by Adelaide AFLW mentor Bec Goddard, assisted by SA U18 coach Bill Economou, the Allies won all three of their contests against NSW/ACT, Western Australia and Queensland.

Made up of players from South Australia, Northern Territory and Tasmania, the Allies had half of their players come from SA with the likes of Jess Allan, Jaimi Tabb and Eloise Jones having an impact on the scoreboard.

Monday July 10
Allies v NSW/ACT (Bond University)
Allies 4.2 (26) d NSW/ACT 3.4 (22)
GOALS - Allies: Jaimi Tabb (SA) 2, Madison Bennett (SA), Olivia Fuller (SA).

Wednesday July 12
Allies v Western Australia (Broadbeach)
Allies 3.7 (25) d WA 3.2 (20)
GOALS - Allies: Jess Allan (SA) 2, Eloise Jones (SA).

Friday July 14
Allies v Queensland (Broadbeach)
Allies 5.3 (33) d Queensland 4.2 (26)
GOALS - Allies: Brianna Walling (SA), Jaimi Tabb (SA), Calista Boyd (NT), Danielle Ponter (NT), Daria Bannister (TAS).

2017 AFL WOMEN'S DRAFT

8 - Jess Allan, Glenelg, Adelaide
24 - Eloise Jones, Glenelg, Adelaide
25 - Courtney Gurn, Glenelg, GWS
26 - Sophie Li, Norwood, Carlton
32 - Marijana Rajcic, Norwood, Adelaide
38 - Ruth Wallace, Norwood, Adelaide

2017 AFL WOMEN'S ROOKIE DRAFT

9 - Tait Mackrill, Glenelg, GWS
15 - Brianna Walling, Glenelg, Adelaide



2019 – Norwood vs Sturt

Inaugural Ellen Maple Medal Match in Memory of Ellen, who played for Sturt in 2018.

Photographer – John Emery



Ellen Grace Maple. Tragically taken on Sunday April 8, 2018. Aged 22 years. Our precious, beautiful and unconditionally loved daughter of Brett and Jane. Sister to Lucy, Sean and twin sister of Tess. Jeremiah 29:11 – ‘A special person, a special face, a special someone we cannot replace.’