

Draw (2-2)

Match Stats		
MUWSC		Bayswater
2	Goals	2
1	Yellow Cards	1
---	Horrendous Ground	1
1 ⊗ Get Well Shev ⊗	Major Injuries	Irrelevant
0.5	Senseless Referee	0.5

“I said to myself, if we come away with a draw today I’d be a very happy man.”
(Big T, 3:52pm, 04.05.08)

MUWSC started playing catch up early, after Bayswater’s goal made it past defence and chipped the keeper. With the slanting ground conditions, peculiar referee, inconsistent wind and lack of parking already on the growing list of frustrations, it was time to lift. Working from the back, the ball was fed through the wings to the solid midfield with some quick through balls from Tory into attacking space. An early midfield substitution (thanks to the muscle formerly known as Shev’s hot and healthy hamstring) was another unexpected surprise to add to the list.

Eventually, MUWSC found its form but were unable to convert (of course the hard and sloping ground was also riddled with divots). Goal number two was also Bayswater’s; a converted penalty after a dubious handball in the box to which “the lady [Sim] doth protest too much, me[ref]thinks”... alas, a yellow card was issued (nicely matching her captain’s arm band).

2-0 down nearing the end of the first half and MUWSC could almost taste their first goal of the day (the aftertaste in Tali’s mouth was somewhat sour). The intensity was high and the match turned physical. Free kicks were being handed out to both teams, and rightly so in the case of BBB¹ vs. Flattened Nat. What MUWSC needed was a great cross from Leah’s crafty left foot to find its way to Cath, who would then put Melbourne on the score board by decisively finding the back of the net. And so they did!

Against the wind in the second half, Melbourne put in a solid effort finding their form and working the ball up(hill) with some sharp passes. Midway through the second, Cath’s diagonal ball into the crowded box met with Eva’s foot which dropped a cracking goal over the keeper to level the score. An exciting 20 minutes ensued. Both sides were attacking, with some rough play from the home team. Corners went begging at both ends – even Tory’s bullets. In what appeared to be a moment of panic in Melbourne’s defence, Cath was perfectly positioned in front of the far post with a brilliant clearance, denying Bayswater their third.

Undefeated with a bye next week, MUWSC are establishing themselves as a force in ’08.

¹ Big Bayswater Biatch