

1966

Perth: 6.7 8.10 9.22 11.25 (91)

Def. East Perth: 2.1 8.10 8.11 10.15 (75)

Sat 1-Oct-1966 2:20 PM Att: 46 779 Venue: Subiaco Oval

Captain: Mal Atwell

Coach: Mal Atwell

Simpson Medal: Barry Cable (Perth)

Goals:

Peth: 6-Cable, 2-Jenzen, 1-Ramshaw, Astone, Pyke

East Perth: 2-Brown, Tierney, Jackson, 1-Bandy, Doncon, Haughan, Jennings

Full Backs	Bill Leuzzi	Mal Winsor	Graham Edwards
Half Backs	Ray Lawrence	Bob Shields	Mal Atwell
Centres	Greg Brehaut	Pat Dalton	Peter Krepp
Half Forwards	Frank Pyke	Max Jancey	Ray Mills
Full Forwards	Pat Astone	Graham Ramshaw	Graham Jenzen
Followers	Barry Chittleborough	Bob Page	Barry Cable
Reserves	Tom Davis	John Morley	

Match report by Geoff Christian

The West Australian, Monay, Oct 3, 1966

Perth turned back the clock 11 years when it produced 30 mins of sustained, unyielding football against the wind in the last quarter to snatch a 16-point triumph over East Perth in the league grand final at Subiaco Oval Saturday.

Perth revealed the same never-say-die spirt as its 1955 premiership side as it fought back when it appeared that a strong easterly wind would give East Perth sufficient momentum to sweep to victory.

The match will not go down as one of the great grand finals, but Perth's fighting last quarter ranks with the efforts of Claremont in 1964 and East Fremantle last year. Both of these sides came from the brink of defeat to snatch thrilling victories.

Goal front inaccuracy which robbed Perth of the chance of playing in the 1963 grand final looked like costing it the 1966 pennant when it scored only 1.12 with the wind in the third quarter. This left Perth an unimpressive 17-point lead and, at the start of the last quarter, the near-record crowd of 46,779 sensed an East Perth victory.

But East Perth failed to mount a match-winning offensive. It was Perth, revealing greater stamina and superb fighting spirit which took charge and provided the counter blow to what should have been East Perth's knockout punch. East Perth needed a quick goal in the last quarter for inspiration. It did not come, and it was Perth's Pat Astone who kicked the first goal of the last quarter after 18 min. of fluctuating play.

This was the turning point of the match. Perth made three well-timed moves in the last quarter that had an important bearing on the result. Half-forward flanker Ray Mills replaced wingman Greg Brehaut as Garry Gillespie's rival; Frank Pyke was given a run on the ball and big ruckman Tom Davis was brought on to the ground for the final 17 min. of play. The pace and height of Mills helped nullify the influence that Gillespie had had on the game since the start; Pyke's loose-man tactics were valuable in defence and Davis added experience and enthusiasm to the ruck.

Perth rover Barry Cable could not have chosen a better day to produce his best game in final-round football. In previous seasons Cable's final-round form has been disappointing, but on Saturday his scintillating play, backed up by six goals made him the most effective player on the ground.

If Cable's performance was on record for its brilliance, that of his stop rival Keith Doncon was stamped with courage. Badly shaken in a collision with Bill Leuzzi at the end of the third quarter he earned unstinted praise for his ability to carry on in an effort to match Cable and Graham Jenzen around the packs.

Perth revealed greater depth in strength than East Perth and this was most noticeable in the performance of the flank players. Wingman Peter Krepp opposed to Derek Chadwick gave his best performance of the season; Pyke and Mills were able to consistently penetrate the East Perth defence and half-back flankers Mal Atwell and Ray Lawrence were solid throughout.