

NPR Premis traveled to Hawera on Sat with 5 wins under their belt and quietly confident of getting all 3 points, although still in the back of our minds the draw we had there last season. We had another good training run on Thursday and a big thanks to Michael Somers for taking some of the sessions - the guys are loving it. We were still in a confident mood after our demolition of WPR the previous week and with 28 goals for and only 3 conceded in 5 games keeping the guys grounded is probably the biggest problem I have as a coach at the moment.

The game started off pretty well with, I think, Hawera wanting it more in the tackles and general commitment. Saying that, our guys got the ball on the deck from the start and the movement and passing were great to watch although we still need to work on the talking. Our first goal came from a nice ball played through for Finn Peters who scuffed his shot past the oncoming keeper and, before it dribbled over the line, Scotty Smith was there to make sure of it. A great start to a pretty even game. Hawera still pressed and to their credit a long ball through found their young striker, with loads of pace, one on one with Jeff Yates and the kid finished nicely lobbing over the top of Jeff - not much he could do. 1-1 and the good thing was the boys didn't drop their heads they carried on attacking. Hawera kept pressing as well and Liam Munro got a couple of vital tackles on to stop goal scoring opportunities. Our second goal came before half time with Matt Sigurdsson picking the ball up at half way and making a great run into the Hawera box and squaring for Finn Peters who slotted home nicely. 2-1 at half time and a good end-to-end game for the crowd but not for the coach. After letting the boys know that they hadn't played as well as they could have and despite being in front, it was now time to show the wonderful traveling support we had how we could play. Another 3 goals in the second half was a great step up from the boys and at times some of the football was great to watch. Scotty Smith added another 2 while Finn Peters added another 1. The boys came off feeling a little disappointed with the way they played but it just shows their own expectations and they should be proud of the result as Hawera are a tough team and will take some points off teams at home.

It was hard from a coach's point of view giving M.O.M after the team display. Matt Sigurdsson again looked a different class out there, Matt Goodey in the middle of the park was composed and played some nice football at times and hitting the crossbar with a great volley, Jeff Yates in goal again was composed and never looked troubled. But for me the M.O.M was a 2 player award this week and that went to Scotty Smith and Finn Peters who are just combining so well and are a handful for any defense. The boys have a tough game at home this week against Moturoa who pre-season were my pick to win the league. Lets get down and support the boys.