



Collingwood 66 def Pakenham 62: The All Stars have capped a memorable season and cemented an opportunity to move up a division with a 2-0 GF series victory over Pakenham.

After taking game one on the road, Collingwood returned home in front of a huge crowd to take a barnstorming victory courtesy of a 24-13 last quarter. Earlier in the night, Collingwood had grabbed a slight lead after a 19-14 opening quarter, but from that point the game belonged to the Warriors as they went on a 35-23 run during the middle quarters.

Up by 7pts heading into the last period you wouldn't be forgiven thinking a Sunday decider was on the cards, however in front of their vocal supporters the All Stars grabbed the ascendancy, finally hitting the front with just 3min remaining in the contest.

While everyone looked to Manny Hendrix for some more last quarter heroics, this time around it was Wally Elnour who stepped up and got under Pakenham's guard with 10pts in the final 10min.

Unfortunately for the Warriors they missed their final five shots of the game, a telling blotch that simply came at the worst possible time as the pressure rose.

For the champions, Hendrix finished with 20pts, Manny Lueth (11pts, 18rbs) was unstoppable off the offensive glass (11 offensive rebounds), Dylan Webb added 12pts and Wally Elnour finished with 12pts (10 in the last qtr).

For the Warriors, Josh Bjelan top scored with 15pts in just 22min of action, Nick Ross netted 13pts and James Topp chipped in with 12pts, while Ben Gaze was well held (7pts).

Bringing an exciting end to a big season, the All Stars have been crowned the 2017 champions - congratulations!

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Collingwood wins the GF Series 2-0

