

St Joseph's First XVIII has comfortably defeated St. Bede's at Elderslie Reserve on Wednesday, claiming a runaway victory 21.13 (139) to St. Bede's 6.1 (37).

With coaches Jono Holt and Chris Lynch putting a strong focus on playing on at every opportunity, it was going to be a tough day at the office for the boys with the sun glaring down on them.

The first quarter went to script for St. Joseph's as the plans put in place by the coaches came to fruition with Joeys kicking five goals in the first term, two of which came through Paddy Dowling. The defensive unit also went without fault in the period, holding St. Bede's scoreless.

In the second term, Nick Connors slotted a goal within the first thirty seconds before St Bede's managed two goals soon after to give the visitors some hope. Darby Schilder ensured Joeys would go into the break with a solid lead, kicking two goals in the quarter and setting up another to give his team a 50-point advantage at the main break.

The third quarter was well contested by the visitors as they managed four majors from a solid display of accuracy in front of goal. Despite their spirited efforts, Joeys still managed five goals with Schilder kicking two more and small forward Jackson McLachlan bagging two himself.



Following a terrible case of the yips, Jack Buckley finally managed to put the ball through the big sticks early in the final term, after missing his first three attempts on goal. Buckley's goal was one of seven kicked by St Joseph's in the final term as the likes of David McNeel and Jack Blood were instrumental in propelling the home side forward.

Joel Hogan's ankle injury was the only negative to come out of the game as St. Joseph's ran out 102-point victors.

Darby Schilder was judged best afield for the home side kicking six goals in the win but was quick to heap praise on his team mates after the match.

"I thought I did alright, boys were feeding it to me all day, so thanks to the boys.

"It was a really good overall performance from the team, I thought that we really did well, skip led well, we all did a really good job." Schilder said.

Jackson McLachlan was dominant for St Joseph's, kicking three goals and setting up numerous more. McLachlan played like a tall forward despite his height, taking contested marks with ease against bigger opponents all day and then burning them with his leg speed.

The midfielders were given first use all day as Darcy Bennett and Guy Hardiman barely lost a contest in the ruck.

The coaches were pleased with the team's performance after such a big win to start the year.

"We were really professional today with how we went about it. That's a fantastic way for us to start the year." Holt said.

"It's been a long time since we've had a score line against St. Bede's like that. So that's a brilliant start and we will just build on that from now."

St Joseph's play away next Wednesday against rivals Whitefriars.

### **SJC 21.13 (139) def. St. Bede's 6.1 (37)**

**GOALS:** Darby Schilder 6, Jackson McLachlan 3, Raven Marika 2, Patrick Dowling 2, Nicholas Connors 2, Jonathan Arcoraci 1, Darcy Bennett 1, Jack Buckley 1, Ned Harris 1, Jack Henry 1, David McNeel 1

**BEST:** Darby Schilder, Jackson McLachlan, Nicholas Connors, David McNeel, Jack Blood, Jack Quinn, Guy Hardiman

**INJURIES:** Hogan (ankle)

**REPORTS:** Nil @ Elderslie Reserve

