



## MEDIA RELEASE



### **BENDIGO BANK WESTVIC HOCKEY SENIOR MEN – STATE LEAGUE 3**

#### **MATCH REPORT – ROUND 18**

*Date:* **Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> 2011**

*Venue:* **Footscray**

*Opposition:* **RMIT**

*Final Score:* **WestVic 4 def. RMIT 1**

*Goalscorers:* Cale Rout (2), Chris Mitchell, Will Jackson

*Best:* Chris Vaughan, Cale Rout, Ben Smith, Nathan Hargreaves, Chris Mitchell

The *Bendigo Bank* WestVic Hockey Men ended their season on a bright note with a commanding victory over RMIT in Round 18 of Hockey Victoria's State League 3 competition.

With the victor likely to secure their position in State League 3 for the 2012 season, WestVic went into the match expecting a tough battle. RMIT, however, began the match slowly, allowing WestVic plenty of space to control the ball through their midfield and set up attacking play.

Chris Vaughan was supreme in the midfield, forcing numerous turnovers and supplying his forwards with dangerous scoring opportunities.

WestVic strikers, Cale Rout and Nic Don were using their leg-speed to great effect, continually cutting through RMIT's defensive lines.

WestVic's early dominance, however, went unrewarded, with several golden scoring opportunities going begging.

WestVic looked to have scored the opening goal of the match in the 19<sup>th</sup> minute, when Rout executed a stunning deflection into the back of the net. The goal was disallowed however, when the umpires determined that the ball had been hit directly into the attacking circle from a free hit.

This only delayed the inevitable, with Rout converting a penalty corner opportunity just one minute later to finally put WestVic on the scoreboard.

The first goal saw WestVic launch an attacking blitz, with RMIT unable to clear the ball from their defensive half of the field for the remainder of the first half.

Goals to Chris Mitchell and Will Jackson, in the 24<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> minutes respectively, saw WestVic take a commanding 3 goal lead into the break.

The first 15 minutes of the second half was played out much like the first, with neither team taking control of the general play.

RMIT made the most of a break-away play in the 51<sup>st</sup> minute to open their account and remind WestVic that the game had not yet been won.

Once again, it was Rout who did the damage for WestVic, as he converted another penalty corner drag-flick goal in the 59<sup>th</sup> minute, to see WestVic once again open up a 3 goal lead and snuff out any hopes of a late RMIT comeback with only 11 minutes left in the match.

The last minutes of the game saw WestVic once again seize the ascendancy in the match, as they generated a handful of dangerous attacking moves heading to the full time whistle.

Despite WestVic's final flurry, they were not able to add to their goal tally, running out the match with a 4-1 victory.

WestVic's last round win saw them jump to eighth spot on the ladder and out of the relegation zone.

WestVic will be hoping for a better run with injuries in 2012 in order to string together a more consistent season and challenge for the finals.

**For further information contact:**

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