



**DONCASTER
HOCKEY CLUB**

1989 Premiership



Doncaster defied the odds to come from behind to defeat hot favourite Camberwell 5-3 and win back-to-back Melbourne League One women's premierships.

Three times Doncaster had to come from behind before finally overpowering Camberwell in the final minutes to record another stirring win over its old rival.

Strengthened by the return of Australian representative Kim Raynor, fresh from the Champions trophy in Munich, Doncaster dominated the opening 15 minutes of the Melbourne League One final, but the tough, experienced Camberwell combination would not be denied and exploited two defensive blunders to score against the run of play.

Stung into action Doncaster immediately replied with a classic Doncaster move inspired by skipper Helen Padget from right inside to winger Marie "Pommy" Dawes whose powerful cross was met by livewire left winger Robyn McGrath's diving deflection at the feet of Camberwell goalkeeper for a morale boosting goal.

Five minutes later Camberwell forced a penalty corner and made the most of the opportunity by crashing the ball inside the far post just out of the reach of Doncaster goalkeeper Michelle Flouch's diving attempt to save.



With less than a minute remaining of the first half Doncaster drew level again when from a superbly taken penalty corner set play Kim Raynor fired a bullet like shot into the net.

With the game deadlocked at 2-2 Doncaster came out after the break full of fire and with first year left half 16 year old Samantha Todero completely nullifying Camberwell ace Sue Howard, it look like only a matter of time before Doncaster would go into the lead.

However, it was once again Camberwell which scored after 20 minutes with a brilliant chip over Flouch and Doncaster was down 3-2.

The next 10 minutes was fought in the mid-field where right half Julie Henry, Raynor, Todero and full back Megan Ballment aided by inside forwards Helen Padget and Sally Bell looked rock solid, but time was running out on the Doncaster dream.

Then with less than seven minutes to play Raynor converted anther penalty corner with a shot that the Camberwell defence could not have seen, let alone stopped.

Two minutes later the rampaging Doncaster led for the first time when Padget and Dawes combined brilliantly down the right wing where Dawes found McGrath whose shot on goal was illegally stopped.

Sally Bell stepped up to convert and for one heart stopping moment it seemed that Camberwell 'keeper might have saved but Bell's shot was powerful enough to overcome the lunge and cannoned into the net.

Trailing 4-3 the desperate Camberwell bench substituted its goalkeeper for an extra forward and with three minutes remaining paid the ultimate price when Sally Bell weaved through the defence and fired into an empty net for goal number 5.

Best players for Doncaster were Todero in a very mature display for her first season in top grade, inside right Padget in a fine captain's game, centre half Raynor who certainly made the difference with her excellent tackling and distribution skills, tough tackling right half Julie Henry and inside left Bell whose powerful passing and superb trapping was invaluable both up forward and in defence.

1989 State league One Grand Final

Doncaster 5 defeated Camberwell 3

Goal scorers: Bell 2, Raynor 2, McGrath 1

Player of the match as voted by MWA officials: Kim Raynor



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Media Articles

Successive flags for underdogs Doncaster

By ANNA ODLUM

Doncaster scored back-to-back premierships yesterday when it came from behind to upset Camberwell 5-3 in the Melbourne Women's Hockey Association League 1 grand final.

Camberwell was hot favourite going into the final, having defeated Doncaster 2-1 in the semi-final two weeks ago, and appeared to have the upper hand when Hilary Hodggets beat Doncaster goalkeeper Shirlene Clark to score first for Camberwell.

Soon after, a cross to Robyn McGrath enabled her to level the score at 1-1.

Camberwell answered by forcing a penalty short corner. Captain Karen Russ sent the ball to the back of the net to put Camberwell back in front.

But the lead was short-lived with Australian representative Kim Rayner equalling the scores just before half-time.

Camberwell again grabbed the



Australian representative Kim Rayner (right) slams the ball into the back of the net as Doncaster marches on to its second successive premiership win.
Picture: Myles Byrne

lead early in the second half, but a penalty corner to Doncaster saw the scores levelled again. A goal mouth skirmish in Doncaster territory resulted in another penalty and deputy vice-captain Sally Bell made no mistake to put Doncaster in front for the first time.

With only minutes remaining, Camberwell coach John Toner

substituted goalkeeper Clark to give himself an extra field player.

But the tactic backfired when Bell intercepted a pass near the top of Doncaster's attacking circle and slammed the ball into the back of the net for a 5-3 win.

The ML 2 grand final between Essendon and TEMC proved to

be a titanic struggle when the scores were locked at 2-2 at the end of time. After 15 minutes of extra time failed to give either side the edge, the game went to penalty strokes and finally sudden death strokes.

Essendon put away two strokes to TEMC's one to be the 1989 grand final winners with a final score of 7-6.