

Eltham lost on a count back

19 MEN COST 26 PTS!

Eltham lost a score of 26-4 goals 2 behinds in the first quarter on Saturday because they had 19 men afield and thereby hangs quite a story.

They say lightning never strikes twice, but it has with former Essendon star Hugh Mitchell who was involved in the count for the second time in his career.

Mitchell coaches Eltham, who lost to Diamond Creek after the sensational incident.

In 1958 Hugh was in the line-up at Windy Hill when Essendon complained that North had an extra man on the ground.

Both sides were lined-up and a count made but then the mysterious extra Kangaroo had disappeared.

On Saturday Keith Burns, former Collingwood rover, now captain-coach of Creek, asked for a count of the opposition.

Neville Withers, a former Magpie team-mate, had been in the reserve come on before Withers was outside the boundary line. The game was stopped and the umpire found an

extra Eltham man on the arena.

Eltham had 4-2-26 on the board but this was taken from them, as provided in the rules.

They never recovered from the setback and were beaten by seven goals.

Yesterday Mitchell said: "We were very unfortunate. Withers received a bad knee injury and the trainers called for a stretcher."

"While they were waiting for it Keith Joyce, our 19th man, had run on."

"As soon as I saw what was happening I told a trainer to get the 19th man back off, but it was too late."

"The count was made

and, as Withers was still waiting for the stretcher we had an extra player out there.

"The confidence fell out of my chaps when they saw their score being taken off the board and we never recovered from it."

However, Hugh could manage a laugh when he recalled this was the second time he'd been involved in a count.

His experience is a most unusual one because the rule is rarely enforced even although reserves often "beat the gun" in their eagerness and run on before an injured player comes off.

In a nutshell the rule states: "Teams shall consist of 20 named players, not more than 18 of whom shall take part in a match at any one time, of the 19th or 20th man shall not enter the playing arena until the man he is to replace is outside the boundary line."

BY REQUEST

"However, when a player has been or appears to have been so seriously injured as to prevent him being removed immediately from the playing arena, he may be replaced by the 19th or 20th man at the request of his captain and with the permission of the field umpire."

"The field umpire shall at the request of either captain stop the match and call the players into line for the purpose of counting them."

"If a team is detected playing more than the number arranged for, or if a player returns to the field after being replaced, all points scored by such team at that stage of the match shall be annulled."

It's obvious from the rule that had the Eltham captain asked for the field umpire's permission the 19th man could have come on while Withers was waiting for the stretcher.

But unfortunately for Eltham events happened too swiftly.

NORTH VERSUS THE TIGERS



"FURTHER, there's another offence . . . cruelty to dumb animals."

War talk - Tigers much too tame

By IAN McDONALD

Richmond coach Tom Hafey will call a "War Council" during the week to discuss the team's upset loss to North.

Secretary Alan Schwab said yesterday: "Hafey and his fellow selectors are not happy with the way some players performed."

The defeat has rocked Richmond, who are intent on making up for last year when they missed out on the finals after being premiers in 1967.

There was an air of gloom in the Tigers' lair after the siren.

While the players dressed amid almost silence the selectors decided to hold an on-the-spot post-mortem.

What they decided will be put into force during the week.

However, Richmond don't detract from North's performance, which was one of the best the Kangaroos have turned on for years.

Big Chief Tiger Ray Dunn, said: "We weren't good enough - we've no excuses."

It was obvious Tom Hafey was deeply concerned with the performances of his men.

"There'll be some pretty blunt talking when he calls them together for his 'war council.'"

● Boundary umpire says he was hit - See Page 4.



TOM HAFEY . . . he's cranky with some tame Tigers.

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ST. KILDA	2	1	-	309	238	129.8	8
Richmond	2	1	-	316	275	114.9	8
Hawthorn	2	1	-	291	284	75.8	8
Collingwood	2	1	-	301	272	110.7	8
Footscray	1	2	-	276	282	97.9	4
Fitzroy	1	2	-	294	389	75.6	4
Essendon	1	2	-	258	300	86.0	4
South Melb.	1	2	-	273	344	79.4	4
Melbourne	1	2	-	232	355	65.4	4

RESERVES

	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst.	P.C.	Pts.
CARLTON	2	-	-	265	202	131.2	12
RICHMOND	2	1	-	304	217	140.1	10
MILBOURNE	2	1	-	342	311	110.0	8
COLLINGWOOD	2	1	-	294	270	108.9	8
Fitzroy	2	1	-	266	256	103.9	8
South	2	1	-	255	247	103.2	8
Footscray	1	2	-	242	227	106.6	4
Geeelong	1	2	-	250	207	81.6	4
Hawthorn	1	2	-	270	313	89.1	4
St. Kilda	1	2	-	265	298	88.9	4
Essendon	1	2	-	275	280	95.2	4
North	1	2	-	251	391	64.2	4

UNDER 19s

	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst.	P.C.	Pts.
HAWTHORN	2	-	-	271	224	121.0	10
COLLINGWOOD	2	1	-	266	248	107.3	10
RICHMOND	2	1	-	347	237	125.0	8
FITZROY	2	1	-	314	235	133.8	8
Geeelong	2	1	-	314	278	113.3	8
Footscray	2	1	-	239	218	109.6	8
Carlton	2	1	-	241	226	106.6	8
Melbourne	1	2	-	297	286	103.8	4
South	1	2	-	274	315	87.9	4
Essendon	1	2	-	252	297	84.8	4
St. Kilda	1	2	-	215	276	77.9	4
North	1	2	-	231	401	57.6	4

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

	Firsts	Reserves	Thirds	Pts.
CARLTON	3	2	1	4
RICHMOND	3	2 1/2	2	3 1/2
GEELONG	3	1	2	3
NORTH	3	1	2	3
Hawthorn	2	1	2 1/2	2 1/2
St. Kilda	2	1	1	2 1/2
Collingwood	1	1	2 1/2	2 1/2
Fitzroy	1	2	1	2
Footscray	1	2	1	1 1/2
Melbourne	1	2	1	1 1/2
South	1	2	1	1 1/2
Essendon	1 1/2	1 1/2	1	1 1/2



HUGH MITCHELL . . . his team took the count!