

Beaten-up Bulldogs still in it, says Elliott

Bendigo FL | Paddy Higgs

IT will take some effort, but Gisborne coach Ty Elliott says his side can climb off the canvas and avoid a straight-sets finals exit.

The Bulldogs were thumped by 107 points in Sunday's Bendigo Football League qualifying final against Golden Square, continuing their patchy end-of-season form.

Usually a pillar of consistency, Gisborne has lost four

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TY ELLIOTT

of its past seven games – hardly the type of form it wants to carry into finals.

But Elliott is confident that, with the right mindset,

his side is capable of bouncing back.

“(The goal) is just to remain positive and have belief in ourselves that we can win a final,” he said.

“That’s our main goal at the moment, to win a final and stay involved in the season and stay alive.

“If we do that, we might turn things around.”

The Bulldogs were never in the hunt against Golden Square. They managed only one goal in the first three

quarters, and three for the match.

Ryan Webster, a shining light for Gisborne during the tail end of the season, impressed once again, alongside Josh Bain and Rod Sharp.

But Gisborne paid the price for a host of turnovers which Golden Square converted into goals.

“I don’t think it was necessarily the pressure Golden Square applied to us, but we’re just not quite at the

level that they were at,” Elliott said.

“Golden Square are just a really good side.”

Gisborne now looks to Sunday and a first semi-final clash with Kangaroo Flat at the Queen Elizabeth Oval.

The reserves will play in the earlier second-semi final against South Bendigo

The Bulldogs’ A Grade netball side will also be in action, playing Saturday against Golden Square in the first semi-final.

FINALS FIXTURE

Saturday

Seniors: South Bendigo v Golden Square (6.30pm)
Reserves: Sandhurst v Kangaroo Flat (4.15pm)

Sunday

Seniors: Kangaroo Flat v Gisborne (2.15pm)
Reserves: South Bendigo v Gisborne (11.55am)