



BOWLS
ACT

PENNANT PREVIEW

ROUND 7, 2021

A quick snapshot of the week ahead.....



Match of the Round

Men's Grade 5

Canberra North Bowling Club v Queanbeyan Bowling Club @ CNBC

There would be some out there that are questioning this as the Match of the Round, but I'd urge you to take another look at what is on the line here.

Norths sit in fifth place, 3 points off the finals with 4 rounds left to go. This week they come up against the club they'll be fighting it out with for that finals berth. QBC sit 16 points off third place with no hope of bridging the gap, the only way they can move is downwards and out of the finals.

Last week QBC proved to the rest of the competition that while they sit outside 'the big three', they could well be a handful come April. They dismantled Vikings by 31 shots taking all three rinks. My sources tell me that Vikings were depleted last week, but take another look at that score; 31 shots and all three rinks.

This competition isn't down to the final three and Queanbeyan have proved that last weekend. Norths have an opportunity to bring themselves back into the fold and a win here would suggest that they have the players to make a mark through the backend of the season.

This match will give us a guide on how the rest of the season is set to unfold in Grade 5 and serves as a barometer for the formlines moving into the last couple of rounds. That is why I'd suggest to you that this is the match of the round. If you get the chance, head down and have a look at this one unfold.



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Women's Weekend Pennant

Pos.		Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	Score Diff.	Points
1	QRSLMBC Gold	5	5	0	0	0	226	125	101	38
2	WCBC	5	4	1	0	0	270	150	120	32
3	CNBC	5	3	2	0	0	222	182	40	26
4	GRWBC Green	5	2	3	0	0	161	228	-67	18
5	QRSLMBC Blue	5	2	3	0	0	194	203	-9	17
6	CBC/BBC	4	2	2	0	0	138	174	-36	12
7	YCCBC	3	1	2	0	0	106	125	-19	10
8	QBC	4	1	3	0	0	137	167	-30	9
9	GRWBC Gold	4	1	3	0	0	134	166	-32	8
10	VBC	4	1	3	0	0	123	191	-68	6

Men's Grade 1

Pos.		Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	Score Diff.	Points
1	CBC	6	6	0	0	0	407	265	142	63
2	QBC	6	5	1	0	0	389	293	96	60
3	QRSLMBC	6	5	1	0	0	380	312	68	53
4	TVLBC	6	3	3	0	0	322	397	-75	33
5	WCBC	6	2	4	0	0	358	318	40	29
6	CNBC	6	2	4	0	0	327	353	-26	28
7	YBC	6	1	5	0	0	248	399	-151	16
8	BBC	6	0	6	0	0	287	381	-94	6

Pos.	Northern Conference	Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	Score Diff.	Points
1	QRSLMBC	6	5	1	0	0	380	312	68	53
2	CNBC	6	2	4	0	0	327	353	-26	28
3	YBC	6	1	5	0	0	248	399	-151	16
4	BBC	6	0	6	0	0	287	381	-94	6

Pos.	Southern Conference	Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	Score Diff.	Points
1	CBC	6	6	0	0	0	407	265	142	63
2	QBC	6	5	1	0	0	389	293	96	60
3	TVLBC	6	3	3	0	0	322	397	-75	33
4	WCBC	6	2	4	0	0	358	318	40	29



Men's Grade 2

Pos.		Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	Score Diff.	Points
1	GRBC	5	5	0	0	0	321	255	66	50
2	CBC	6	4	2	0	0	362	320	42	45
3	WCBC	6	3	3	0	0	373	347	26	36
4	QBC	6	2	4	0	0	327	354	-27	30
5	BBC	6	2	4	0	0	329	360	-31	23
6	TVLBC	5	1	4	0	0	262	338	-76	20

Men's Grade 3

Pos.		Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	Score Diff.	Points
1	CSBC	6	4	1	1	0	411	321	90	49
2	QRSLMBC	6	4	2	0	0	358	330	28	46
3	YBC	6	3	2	1	0	342	362	-20	39
4	CNBC	6	3	3	0	0	359	332	27	36
5	TVLBC	6	2	4	0	0	311	373	-62	26
6	YCCBC	6	1	5	0	0	318	381	-63	20

Men's Grade 4

Pos.		Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	Score Diff.	Points
1	WCBC	6	5	1	0	0	391	321	70	52
2	QBC	6	5	1	0	0	380	307	73	50
3	GRBC	6	4	2	0	0	369	325	44	48
4	TVLBC	6	3	3	0	0	354	359	-5	35
5	YCCBC	6	1	5	0	0	321	357	-36	21
6	QRSLMBC	6	0	6	0	0	287	433	-146	10

Men's Grade 5

Pos.		Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	Score Diff.	Points
1	CSBC	6	5	1	0	0	393	333	60	56
2	CBC	6	4	2	0	0	395	311	84	46
3	TVLBC	6	4	2	0	0	330	352	-22	44
4	QBC	6	2	4	0	0	347	362	-15	28
5	CNBC	6	2	4	0	0	333	358	-25	25
6	BBC	6	1	5	0	0	301	383	-82	17

Men's Grade 6

Pos.		Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	Score Diff.	Points
1	GRBC	6	4	2	0	0	355	305	50	44
2	YBC	6	4	1	1	0	363	325	38	44
3	WCBC	6	3	2	1	0	347	334	13	41
4	BuBC	6	3	3	0	0	360	349	11	36
5	CSBC	6	3	3	0	0	319	335	-16	36
6	CNBC	6	0	6	0	0	291	387	-96	15



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Women's Grade 1/2

Vikings Bowls Club v Yowani CC Bowling Club @ Vikings

Yowani will make the trip down south looking to get their season back on track this week. They sit in 7th currently but still have the opportunity to put some pressure on the competition in the back end of the season. It has been a tough year for Vikings, but they'll be out to show they are still improving. A good win could see them make up some ground, so there is still plenty for them to play for in the final rounds to see if they can sneak into the finals.

Goulburn Railway Bowling Club – Gold v Queanbeyan RSLM Bowling Club – Gold @ GRWBC

QRSL Gold will look to continue their fine form and put another win on the books. So far undefeated they'll head down the road to Goulburn full of energy looking to put a bigger gap on the rest of the competition. Goulburn Gold have met a few hiccups through the season so far but this week represents one of their biggest challenges yet. They'll look to take any points on offer to get into that finals spot.

Goulburn Railway Bowling Club – Green v Canberra North Bowling Club @ GRWBC

Goulburn Green will join their Gold counterparts on the greens at the Railway as they take on Norths at home this week. This one looks set to shape the ladder as Goulburn look to bridge the gap to the third placed Norths. Norths have some good form going on and will be looking to give themselves some clean air in third before they start the back end of their campaign towards the finals.

Queanbeyan RSLM Bowling Club – Blue v Weston Creek Bowling Club @ QRSLMBC

QRSL Blue face a tough ask as Weston Creek come to town on Saturday morning. The Creekers will be looking for maximum points as they start to chase QRSL Gold, but the ladies from the blue side of the club will be looking to extend a helping hand to their fellow club members. Odds sit in Weston Creek's favour, but the match is there to be won still. They can't afford to be dropping points as they look towards the finals.

CBC/BBC v Queanbeyan Bowling Club @ CBC

The composite team will be looking to build on their form since Belconnen have taken the reigns of the second rink. They've shown a new strength and will be looking to build on their position on the ladder. Queanbeyan have struggled through the season but found some good form last week with a victory over Goulburn Green. If they can continue that form line then the season is up for grabs in the lower half of the ladder.



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Men's Grade 1

Weston Creek Bowling Club v Belconnen Bowling Club @ WCBC

Belconnen will head down the parkway and into the Creek as they come up against Weston Creek this weekend. Still winless for 2021 Belconnen will put it all on the line this weekend as they chase the W, but the Creekers won't be giving up any easy points. The Southern Conference is proving a tough egg to crack for those outside the top spots, but with the intra-conference matches coming up this seems the last chance to try to bridge the gap. I'd suggest it is pride that is really on the line in this one.

Canberra Bowling Club v Canberra North Bowling Club @ CBC

CBC look to be an unstoppable force in the Men's Grade 1 competition and this week they come up against the old enemy in Norths. The battle for Inner Canberra heats up as Norths look to hold on to their position in the finals. They've got 8 points on Yass below them as they sit in second place of the Northern Conference, but they need points to solidify that position. A big loss here, which looking at CBC's form is entirely on the table, and the remaining matches become that much more important.

Queanbeyan Bowling Club v Queanbeyan RSLM Bowling Club @ QBC

You'd say it is impossible for QRSL to drop out of the finals here sitting 25 points ahead of the next best in the North, and I'd have to agree. The mind might be elsewhere this weekend for them as a win by CBC would throw the rest of the competition too far out of touch. Queanbeyan have it all in front of them as a win would mean that the chasers have no chance of catching up, so my bet would be on QBC to take the honours in the local derby here. Home ground advantage and that extra incentive should be enough to get them across the line as QRSL keep an eye on what happens over at Forrest.

Tuggeranong Vikings LBC v Yass Bowling Club @ Vikings

Vikings play host to Yass here as both clubs look to keep a sense of hope alive for their finals chances. Vikings need to catch up 27 points on the second placed QBC to make the finals, a tall order even if the entire QBC squad had to go into lockdown, so you'd just about be calling curtains on the Southern Conference. The situation for Yass is a little bit nicer though. They sit just the 8 points off second placed Norths who come up against CBC. Norths might find points hard to come by so Yass will look to take advantage and post up some big margins if they can. Vikings won't let it all happen that easy though, I'd suggest that Yass will come up against fierce opposition in their efforts to hunt down a finals spot.



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Men's Grade 2

Canberra Bowling Club v Belconnen Bowling Club @ CBC

CBC play host to Belconnen and will look to put some pressure back on Goulburn for the top spot. It won't be easy as Belconnen look to put themselves back in the finals hunt chasing 7 points on QBC above them. A loss to QBC last week means that Belconnen have some work to do and things won't get any easier this week. CBC weren't at their best last week but scraped away with the overall win against bottom of the table Vikings. They'll look to build from here as the finals start to appear at the end of the road.

Queanbeyan Bowling Club v Goulburn Railway Bowling Club @ QBC

Queanbeyan will play host to the men from the Railway this week as they look to solidify their spot in the finals. Goulburn have been unstoppable so far though as they take 5 wins from 5 matches with no end to the streak in sight. Home ground advantage in their favour, Queanbeyan need these points. Belconnen are nipping at their heels and with just the 4 rounds to go a win would be massive in the context of the season. A win for QBC and a loss for BBC and I can see the top four being settled.

Weston Creek Bowling Club v Tuggeranong Vikings LBC @ WCBC

The Creekers will look to book their place in the finals this week. Where they end up would be dealt with a little later but chasing 9 points over four rounds to catch up to CBC seems a bit of a tall order for me. Dropping points at this time of the year, particularly to clubs below you on the ladder, could prove catastrophic to the cause though. Vikings will be looking to keep some hope alive this week. Seems a little too common down in the Valley this week, but a loss here and I'd suggest its lights out on the campaign. A big win and its full steam ahead trying to play catch up.



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Men's Grade 3

Tuggeranong Vikings LBC v Yowani CC Bowling Club @ Vikings

Yowani will head down South to take on Vikings in this round's match and they'll look to pick up some pride on their way home. 1 win for the year so far means Yowani sit 16 points outside the top four, squarely on the bottom of the ladder. A disappointing campaign they've still got points to play for. Vikings need these points if they are any chance to catch up on the rest of the competition. Tough match ups for the clubs they are chasing means this is the week where they can pull the points back. I said it just before, but a loss for the Vikings and it's just about lights out.

Crookwell Services Bowling Club v Yass Bowling Club @ Crookwell

Yass won't have to travel too far this week as they head over to Crookwell to play against the ladder leaders. A shorter journey doesn't make the match any easier as Crookwell have shown some great form recently. They sit out in front by 3 points coming into Round 7 and they'll look to push even further ahead to hang on to the top spot. Yass are still in the chase for the double chance, but a loss here means they might need to settle for a back seat running into the finals campaign. I'd suggest this is too much to ask for from Yass and Crookwell will continue their good home form with another win.

Queanbeyan RSLM Bowling Club v Canberra North Bowling Club @ QRSLMBC

QRSL will be looking to lock in a double chance in this week's match up with Norths. They've taken just the two losses so far in the season, both coming in the early rounds, but learned from them and built a strong campaign. They come into the match off the back of three straight wins and will have Norths concerned as they head across the border. Norths are in the front seat to take the last finals spot but Vikings are looking to come home with a wet sail. A big loss for Norths in this one will make life difficult as they face a tough road ahead of them. They'll need to pick up a few points at a minimum as they look to hang on to fourth.



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Men's Grade 4

Yowani CC Bowling Club v Weston Creek Bowling Club @ Yowani

Yowani's loss to Vikings last week was shattering to their chances of sneaking into the finals as they now sit 14 points outside the four, and life just gets harder here as they take on top of the table Weston Creek. The Creekers are hot at the moment coming off two massive wins by a combined 55 shots overall and they won't want the good times to end this week. They face a stiff race for top spot and will be looking at the incoming Yowani squad with keen eyes. Big points are vital to keep the top spot as points and score difference are both tight. I'd be looking at Weston Creek continuing with more of the same and putting on some massive points this week.

Queanbeyan RSLM Bowling Club v Goulburn Railway Bowling Club @ QRSLMBC

QRSL will be looking to bounce back after a tough to Stirling. Sour thoughts would be rolling through their head as they slowly rolled through the average speed camera on Hindmarsh but you'd hope they'd vanished by the time they got home. Still looking for the elusive win for 2021 they meet Goulburn at home this week. Goulburn have been travelling under the radar a little bit so far but they'll look to make their mark coming into the final rounds. They sit just 2 points of second and 4 points off first and will look to put some big shots on to bridge the gap this week. Unfortunate that the winless QRSL sit in the way, I'd suggest Goulburn could make some moves this weekend.

Queanbeyan Bowling Club v Tuggeranong Vikings LBC @ QBC

Queanbeyan find themselves sitting in second place coming into this round and they'll look to hold on to it. They play host to Vikings who will look to book their spot in the finals this week by grabbing some vital points. A win for Vikings and they're pencilled in for the finals in my books, but QBC won't want to drop any points in the fight for the double chance. Home ground advantage and everything to play for suggests that QBC will be red hot this weekend, but if Vikings keep their form from last week this could well turn into a great match.



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Men's Grade 5

Crookwell Services Bowling Club v Belconnen Bowling Club @ Crookwell

Top plays bottom here in what could be one of the more one sided affairs for the weekend. Unfortunately for Belconnen they stand in the way of a red hot Crookwell side booking the top spot on the table. Crookwell find themselves 10 points ahead of the next best competitor coming into Round 7 and would be looking at this as a chance to push that lead even further. If they can do just that Belconnen will be left stranded at the bottom of the table with no end in sight. I'd suggest the odds are in favour of Crookwell putting up big points here. They've shown they are hard to beat at home and Belconnen don't seem to have the team to get them across the line right now.

Canberra North Bowling Club v Queanbeyan Bowling Club @ CNBC

If there is such a thing as a finals match during the home and away season, this is it. QBC sit in the sought after fourth place with Norths just the 3 points behind them as they clash in Round 7. Both clubs have just the two wins so far through their campaign and need the points to establish themselves in the competition. Queanbeyan took the honours earlier in the year, but that was home their home turf so there is plenty still left in this story. I'm guessing it'll come down to the wire, but a big swing either way will make life difficult for the loser.

Tuggeranong Vikings LBC v Canberra Bowling Club @ Vikings

The other big match up for the round, perhaps bigger depending on how you look at it, will be happening down in the Valley. Vikings take on CBC in a battle for the double chance. Vikings currently sit 2 points behind CBC with both clubs securing 4 wins so far. Second place and a double chance is what both clubs are playing for in what should be another match played at a finals intensity. There will be millimetres in this one down in the Valley and the winner will feel the momentum start to build coming into the finals.



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Men's Grade 6

Canberra North Bowling Club v Goulburn Railway Bowling Club @ CNBC

Another top v bottom clash sets up some juicy fixtures for the rest of Grade 6, but you'd suggest that this one will be a bit run of the mill. Goulburn have been in strong form since a round 4 loss to the Weston Creek while Norths still can't get their hands on a win for 2021. Norths at home with pride to play for might make things difficult for the Railway, but it's hard to see them troubling the league leaders too much. My bets would be on Goulburn putting a few more points on the table to take the outright lead. Let's see if Norths can throw some chaos in there!

Crookwell Services Bowling Club v Yass Bowling Club @ Crookwell

Crookwell and Yass will fill the greens this week as another grade comes to the party at the Services Club. Yass sit in second place to Goulburn only behind on margin, but they have arguably the tougher match up here. Crookwell have had the two losses on the bounce and will be keen to pull their season back together as they chase the finals. I'd think Yass will be too good, but I've definitely learnt my lesson about trying to predict what could happen in Grade 6. Be very wary Yass.

Weston Creek Bowling Club v Bungendore Bowling Club @ WCBC

Bungendore will be heading to town to take on Weston Creek in what will prove to be a pivotal clash in their season's story. They currently hold a place in the finals over Crookwell, but only on margin, and they're chasing the next branch on the tree who happen to be the Creekers! They need to bridge 5 points over the next 4 rounds to catch up, but a big win here and I'd suggest they are in the hunt for a double chance as well. The Creekers sit just the three points off the top two. A win here will be crucial in their chase for the double chance, but a loss and they'll be scrapping it out to stay in a finals berth. Season sits on a knife edge for a couple clubs here as they try to piece the story together on the run.

Looking forward

Grades 5 and 6 face some big swing matches this round. Top plays bottom across both grades which leaves some tantalising mid-table clashes across the rest of the round. With four rounds to go we are looking at movers and shakers making their mark on the season here and I'd like to extend the best wishes to everyone in their endeavours to do so. These will be the matches you remember at the end of the season as the one's that will shape your story.

Good luck out there!

Ciaran O'Rourke

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