A group of people on a track

Description automatically generated with low confidence

Round 6: April 3

2022 Pennants

Another Round another mix up from me! I’ve gone ahead and put in the wrong round for Grade 1 last week in a feat that has taught me, if nothing else, that I need to get a new pair of glasses. Apologies, but we move forward. If you’re ever confused on the draw or the results, the best place to look is either the Bowlslink Results Portal or the Bowls Now App (available on apple and android). Hit the appropriate link to find more through those portal.

Anyway, getting into it; We’ve made it to halfway in the season in what has been a jam packed start to things. Five rounds through and we’re really starting to see a couple of competitions open up as teams take their claims on a finals berth and on the top spots.

We’re really starting to settle into the season now and the results are starting to make some sort of sense, but there is always an outlier. Canberra’s Grade 6 side came into Round 5 undefeated, pouring on pain for everyone else, before Belconnen decided to give them a taste of their own medicine dishing out a loss for the Cobras to the tune of 42 shots. Goes to show that you never know what to expect, especially in the lower grades as COVID still runs rampant through society.

There were plenty of close matches through the round, but none closer than our first draw for the year as Weston Creek and Yass failed to separate in Grade 2. Weston Creek got the better of it on the rinks, but the big board couldn’t be pulled apart in a spectacle down at Stirling.

**Milestones**

Sometimes you get a reminder that there is more to sport than the week to week of playing bowls. There’s highs and there’s lows throughout the seasons, but somehow, something keeps on bringing you back to the greens. For some people that can last one season, or two, or ten, but for others it is a lifetime and that’s what we’re seeing here with some massive milestone matches across Bowls ACT.

*Terry McInnes – 400 Games – Weston Creek Bowling Club*

Terry McInnes, Weston Creek BC stalwart, notched up 400 games across the weekend in what is a huge achievement at the club. A longstanding member and servant of the Club I can appreciate that everyone at the club is immensely proud of the achievement. Well done Terry, congratulations on the achievement.

*Ron Tuckerman – 500 Games – Yowani CC Bowling Club*

This weekend, all things going well, Ron Tuckerman stands to notch up 500 matches at Yowani CC Bowling Club. Now, I mentioned that Terry’s 400 matches is an outstanding achievement, but if we calculate at 10 rounds in a season (not looking at finals) that gives us another 10 years of Bowls for Ron. An unbelievable achievement and one that Ron should be immensely proud of. A servant of the game of bowls and an outstanding character within the club, we’d like to take the chance to congratulate Ron.

Grade 1

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Canberra North Bowling Club | 14 | 14 | 11 | **39** |  | **74** | 24 | 23 | 27 | Queanbeyan Bowling Club |
| Vikings Bowls Club | 32 | 14 | 19 | **65** |  | **64** | 31 | 20 | 13 | Queanbeyan RSL Memorial Bowling Club |
| Weston Creek Bowling Club | 20 | 15 | 18 | **53** |  | **66** | 19 | 30 | 17 | Canberra Bowling Club |
| Belconnen Bowling Club |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | BYE |

Norths struggles continued this week as they faced a rampant Queanbeyan outfit. Queanbeyan finds themselves up at the top of the ladder for the end of the week thanks to a massive win here, but it was sad reading for Norths fans. 35 shots this week piles on further disappointment in the season to date, but they’ll retain the spirits with an eye to the future no doubt.

Vikings and QRSL played out a classic down in Tuggeranong, with Vikings taking the big board by a solitary shot. QRSL took two of the rinks, but a massive loss over on Rink 1 proved to be too big a hurdle for them to get over. Vikings took that rink by 19 shots, just enough to get them over the line in the end. QRSL will be steaming from that one, but for Vikings that will prove a crucial victory as they march on towards an ever more possible finals berth.

In the final matchup it was Canberra taking the points down at Stirling against the Creekers. They did it in solid fashion, taking two rinks and 13 shots overall on their way to a good boost for their season. The Creekers will be disappointed with the loss meaning they’re now in for a big fight through the back of the season to reach the finals.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos | Name | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | Points | Matches | Points AVG | Shots AVG |
| 1 | QBC | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 44 | 5 | 8.8 | 11.6 |
| 2 | VBC | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 35 | 4 | 8.8 | 6.8 |
| 3 | CBC | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 32 | 4 | 8.0 | 12.3 |
| 4 | BBC | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 25 | 4 | 6.3 | 11.5 |
| 5 | WCBC | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 25 | 5 | 5.0 | -4.0 |
| 6 | QRSLMBC | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 19 | 4 | 4.8 | -4.8 |
| 7 | CNBC | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0.0 | -35.3 |

QBC take the top spot, sharing points average across the season with Vikings through the halfway mark. Their average shots puts them out in front with Canberra falling in close behind the two looking to make a move to the double chance. Belco and Weston Creek look set to fight it out for the last finals spot at this point in time, but they’ve got QRSL sneaking around behind looking to snag it, all three are a chance here. For Norths though you’d have to say that its lights out on a finals berth. They’ll settle themselves in to finish the season with an eye towards development for 2023.

**Looking Ahead**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Home** | **Away** | **Venue** |
| BYE | Weston Creek Bowling Club |  |
| Queanbeyan Bowling Club | Belconnen Bowling Club | Queanbeyan Bowling Club |
| Queanbeyan RSL Memorial Bowling Club | Canberra North Bowling Club | Queanbeyan RSL Memorial Bowling Club |
| Canberra Bowling Club | Vikings Bowls Club | Canberra Bowling Club |

Apologies to all for the mix up last week! Seems I can’t see straight without my glasses! We’ll give you another recap of the matches with a bit of extra info to talk to.

Queanbeyan will host Belconnen out at Farrer Place this weekend in an important match for Belconnen as they look to find some momentum. Queanbeyan are happy up top of the ladder, but a loss will mean they’re right back fighting it out, while for Belconnen a loss means they could well drop out of a finals position by the end of the week. Weston Creek have the bye and a drop in average points from a bad loss for Belconnen will mean they could fall a place behind into fifth. The Creekers will have keen eyes on this one, as will Vikings and Canberra as they duke it out themselves.

QRSL will host Norths looking for a points boost. Norths haven’t been able to put any points on the board so far through the season, but they’ll be looking to change that this week. QRSL find themselves 0.2 off Weston Creek and 1.5 off the finals spot that Belconnen hold for the time being. A big win here will put a massive boost on their tally and a drop from Belconnen could push them up into that finals spot. Another club that’ll have a keen eye on what goes on just down the road this weekend.

Final match for the weekend in Grade 1 sees Vikings and Canberra going head to head over at Forrest. This will be a fantastic matchup if you’re free on Sunday with both clubs looking to sure up their spot in the top two and a double chance come finals time. They both come in 3 and 1, but Vikings have taken a few more rinks along the way to sit just ahead of the Cobras as we come into the round. I can’t pick a winner personally, this one is all set up to be a great match so lets just wait and see who can come out on top.

Grade 2

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Queanbeyan Bowls Club | 13 | 17 | 21 | **51** |  | **65** | 19 | 21 | 25 | Belconnen Bowls Club |
| Vikings Bowls Club | 17 | 10 | 10 | **37** |  | **96** | 41 | 32 | 23 | Canberra Bowling Club |
| Weston Creek Bowling Club | 23 | 17 | 19 | **59** |  | **59** | 17 | 22 | 20 | Yass Bowling Club |
| Goulburn Railway Bowls Club |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | BYE |

Belconnen took out an important clash against Queanbeyan in the midfield battle this week, picking up a handy 14 shots overall on the way. They move equal on wins with Queanbeyan with a bye still to come as they look to make a move for the top four. For Queanbeyan, it was a bad loss. They had the chance to be pushing upwards, but now they find themselves in a battle for the finals that they didn’t want to be a part of.

Canberra did their best to try to raise the bat here but fell just short as they put more than a few shots up against Vikings. They ended the match 59 shots ahead overall, just 4 shots short of putting up 100 for the day in what was a massive show of strength for the rest of the competition. For Vikings, that hurts. Might be best to put it behind them and move on, and that’s exactly what I’m going to do here for you.

First draw for the year here as Yass and Weston Creek couldn’t be separated on the big board down in Stirling. Weston Creek take the points with two rinks to 1 on the day, but the big board remains as it started with a draw. They always leave you thinking about whether you could have drawn one in a bit differently, or what you could have done to change the results, but in the end a draw is sometimes inevitable. Weston Creek may try to claim that one as a win just to make the ladder read a bit nicer, but for Yass the draw pulls them back into the dog fight for the top four spot.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos. | Club | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | Points | Matches | Points AVG | Scores AVG |
| 1 | CBC | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 38 | 4 | 9.5 | 21.8 |
| 2 | GRBC | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 26 | 3 | 8.7 | 15.3 |
| 3 | YBC | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 26 | 4 | 6.5 | 6.0 |
| 4 | QBC | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 26 | 4 | 6.5 | -3.3 |
| 5 | BBC | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 5 | 5.2 | 0.0 |
| 6 | VBC | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 18 | 4 | 4.5 | -17.5 |
| 7 | WCBC | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 2.0 | -18.5 |

CBC and the Railway find themselves sitting atop the ladder clear of the rest of the pack here with a big margin back to third place. They’ll be looking to secure those spots in the next week or two as we move further into the season but for the rest of the competition there is a big fight on for the other finals spots. We’ve got Yass, Queanbeyan, Belconnen all well and truly fighting it out to make the elimination final, whilst Vikings wouldn’t think they’re completely out of it. Based on last week though they’ll need to turn that ship around quickly otherwise they’ll fall out of line. For Weston Creek I’d suggest the time is up to turn it around as they find themselves well out of the hunt. So, there will be two interesting fights, the top two and then the next two spots will be hard fought between clubs for the remaining rounds.

**Looking Ahead**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Home** | **Away** | **Venue** |
| BYE | Weston Creek Bowling Club |  |
| Belconnen Bowls Club | Goulburn Railway Bowls Club | Belconnen Bowls Club |
| Canberra Bowling Club | Queanbeyan Bowls Club | Canberra Bowling Club |
| Yass Bowling Club | Vikings Bowls Club | Yass Bowling Club |

Belconnen find themselves up against a tough Goulburn opposition this week as they look to put on the fight for the top four. For Goulburn, they’ll need to keep putting on good points to take the fight to Canberra through the season, so there is plenty in it for both clubs here. I’d expect a Goulburn win, but the margins and the rinks will be important for both clubs here.

Canberra will host Queanbeyan as they look to put the same form back on the greens from last week’s match. Queanbeyan need a quick turnaround in form from last week, but with Belconnen getting a tough matchup as well they could get lucky and sneak a few more points into the gap. Hard to go past Canberra, again it’ll be a matter of margins and rinks, but for Queanbeyan, those margins will mean all the difference.

Yass and Vikings round it out for Grade 2 up the Barton at Yass Bowling Club. Yass have been somewhat inconsistent, but will be looking to bounce back from a draw with the bottom of the ladder Weston Creek last week. Vikings were thoroughly outplayed and need to put that behind them quickly as another loss here could put an end to their finals aspirations. I’m tipping Yass, but not by much.

The Creekers have the chance for some soul searching as they take the bye for the week alongside their Grade 1 side.

Grade 3

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Crookwell Services Bowling Club | 23 | 21 | 22 | **66** |  | **45** | 15 | 15 | 15 | Canberra Bowling Club |
| Weston Creek Bowling Club | 26 | 14 | 15 | **55** |  | **74** | 24 | 31 | 19 | Yowani Country Club Bowling Club |
| Vikings Bowls Club | 27 | 19 | 13 | **59** |  | **55** | 23 | 18 | 14 | Canberra North Bowling Club |

Crookwell took a very important win here against Canberra as they make a push towards the top on the season. They won by 19 shots overall to put themselves within distance of the top spot with a game in hand. Canberra were a picture of consistency across the rinks putting up 15 shots on all three, but the defence let them down as they were outscored across all of them.

Yowani took a massive win against Weston Creek to give a huge push to heir finals aspirations. The win sees them put some security into their third position across the halfway point and gives them a good un into the finals as they start to mount the charge. Weston Creek will be a bit disappointed as they let the opportunity slip and fall a bit behind.

Vikings managed to take out a close one against Norths to keep some hope alive for the finals. Both clubs sit with the chance to mount a comeback in the back end of the year, but with tougher opposition to come it’ll be a tall order.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos | Name | Played | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | For | Against | Score Diff. | Score % | Points |
| 1 | CBC | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 320 | 270 | 50 | 118.52 | 41 |
| 2 | CSBC | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 249 | 220 | 29 | 113.18 | 34 |
| 3 | YCCBC | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 288 | 299 | -11 | 96.32 | 34 |
| 4 | WCBC | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 331 | 294 | 37 | 112.59 | 28 |
| 5 | VBC | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 257 | 327 | -70 | 78.59 | 16 |
| 6 | CNBC | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 211 | 246 | -35 | 85.77 | 15 |

Canberra and Crookwell look to be the heavy hitters here as Crookwell have the chance to really put a gap back to third with a game in hand. Both clubs look finals bound, but third and fourth will be set to duke it out for the remainder of the season. Yowani and Weston Creek remain on the chase for the top two, but the finals could all just about be set up for Grade 3. Vikings and Norths would both need to turn form around to make the finals and with the first half completed it is hard to see things changing.

**Looking Ahead**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Home** | **Away** | **Venue** |
| Yowani Country Club Bowling Club | Canberra North Bowling Club | Yowani Country Club Bowling Club |
| Canberra Bowling Club | Vikings Bowls Club | Canberra Bowling Club |
| Crookwell Services Bowling Club | Weston Creek Bowling Club | CROOKWELL SERVICES BOWLING CLUB |

Yowani have a good chance to really stake their claim for the finals this week as they come up against a struggling Norths. Norths couldn’t quite get the job done against Vikings on the weekend and look set to be stuck in the bottom two come finals time. My tip is Yowani, and I’ll add that I reckon they’ll make it big as they look to pile up a few points to get them through the next couple rounds.

Canberra will play host to Vikings in what could end up being a big points splash for them. With Crookwell having an extra game to play they need all the points they can get and I’d suggest they’ll be looking to replicate the feats of Grade 2 last weekend here. Vikings need to steady the ship here as a big loss could send their chances of finals spiralling. Canberra should take it, but I think they’ll have a harder time than they’re anticipating.

Crookwell will host Weston Creek in what will be one of the tighter matches for the round in Grade 3. They’ll look to get through this one unscathed if they can, but the Creekers will be out for points. If Crookwell can take all three rinks that’ll be a massive boost to their ambitions, but I’d suggest they’ll walk away with just the two and a tight shots margin.

Grade 4

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Belconnen Bowling Club | 19 | 17 | 16 | **52** |  | **54** | 17 | 21 | 16 | Vikings Bowls Club |
| Yass Bowling Club | 23 | 22 | 29 | **74** |  | **54** | 14 | 20 | 20 | Yowani Country Club Bowling Club |
| Queanbeyan Bowls Club | 23 | 14 | 13 | **50** |  | **57** | 21 | 16 | 20 | Queanbeyan RSL Memorial Bowling Club |

A very tight match between Vikings and Belconnen sees Vikings come out on top by just the two shots overall. They needed the win badly and came up with it when it counted to keep their season well and truly alive. Belconnen will be sour, the loss means they’ve got Vikings hot on their heals for that last finals spot and puts the pressure back on them through the second half of the season.

Yass take a big win against Yowani to make their push for the top spot. Yowani have struggled and Yass took the points when they could here to make sure everyone is clear on what they’re trying to achieve. Another disappointing loss for Yowani makes the task all the more difficult for them, but for Yass that was exactly what they were after on Sunday.

QRSL came out with the win against cross town rivals to keep themselves out front on the ladder. A massive match in the lead up means they now have it all in front of them as they battle their way forward towards the finals and look to play them at home. For Queanbeyan it means that they’ll need to pick things back up if they want a double chance, another big loss and they gap may get a bit big on them.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos | Name | Played | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | For | Against | Score Diff. | Score % | Points |
| 1 | QRSLMBC | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 324 | 260 | 64 | 124.62 | 42 |
| 2 | YBC | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 323 | 290 | 33 | 111.38 | 40 |
| 3 | QBC | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 293 | 278 | 15 | 105.4 | 34 |
| 4 | BBC | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 300 | 288 | 12 | 104.17 | 25 |
| 5 | VBC | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 250 | 306 | -56 | 81.7 | 22 |
| 6 | YCCBC | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 263 | 331 | -68 | 79.46 | 17 |

QRSL lead us out front just the two points in front of a Yass outfit who will be searching for the top spot. Queanbeyan find themselves 6 points off the top two, but have a healthy lead back to the fourth placed Belconnen, 9 points adrift. Belconnen look set to fight it out for the last spot in the finals as Vikings start to make their move, just the three points back now, so they’ll need to start putting some points back on the board quickly. For Yowani though the battle is all ahead of them. They’ll look to have some more impact as they try to make the just of 8 points up into a finals position.

**Looking Ahead**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Home** | **Away** | **Venue** |
| Yowani Country Club Bowling Club | Queanbeyan RSL Memorial Bowling Club | Yowani Country Club Bowling Club |
| Vikings Bowls Club | Queanbeyan Bowls Club | Vikings Bowls Club Inc |
| Yass Bowling Club | Belconnen Bowling Club | Yass Bowling Club |

Top play bottom as Yowani host QRSL this weekend in what could be a vey one sided affair. Yowani will need to find all the form they can for this weekend as a big loss will see the points gap start to get really big in front of their eyes. QRSL will be out to take all three rinks if they can to make the most of the opportunity and put a bit more of a gap to the next best. I’m tipping a big QRSL win here, they’ve got it all to paly for and won’t let it slip.

Vikings will host Queanbeyan in an important match for their finals hopes. Queanbeyan come off a loss to the top spot, but they’ll look to move on quickly and start to bridge the gap back up to the top two. For Vikings a win here would do wonders for their campaign, but unfortunately I can’t see that happening this week. I’m tipping Queanbeyan to take out two rinks and a handy shots margin at the end of the day.

Yass an Belconnen will round it out as Belconnen make the trip up the Barton highway for the weekend. Yass have hit some good form whilst Belconnen have been struggling. The timing is no good here for Belconnen as they need a win to really get a bit of clean air to Vikings below, but I’d suggest an in form Yass will be too difficult for them. Yass will go for all three rinks at home here and they might get them in what could really start to creak open the top of the table.

Grade 5

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Crookwell Services Bowling Club | 32 | 24 | 23 | **79** |  | **42** | 17 | 14 | 11 | Canberra North Bowling Club |
| Vikings Bowls Club | 18 | 15 | 24 | **57** |  | **59** | 16 | 17 | 26 | Weston Creek Bowling Club |
| Queanbeyan Bowling Club | 14 | 15 | 16 | **45** |  | **68** | 21 | 22 | 25 | Goulburn Railway Bowling Club |

Crookwell took a big win against Norths as they start to make their move on the top four last weekend. A 37 shot win and all three rinks with a game in hand puts them well and truly in striking distance to the top two as they start to build a case for their finals campaign. For Norths it was more hurt on what has been a difficult season so far.

Vikings narrowly went down to Weston Creek at home in what was a good chance to make their move on the finals. For the Creekers it was a confidence boosting win as they start to show that they belong in the finals spot, putting them 9 points clear of Vikings. They only just manager to pull two rinks as a big win for Vikings on Rink 3 almost took it away on the big board, but they’ll take it and move on to bigger and better things.

Goulburn put some good points on the board as they took all three rinks in a 23 shot victory over Queanbeyan. This one is a real sliding doors moment, putting up a big win against your top two rival to give you 7 points over them on the ladder, with a game in hand as well. Queanbeyan will be disappointed with the effort as they start to see the home finals fading away in front.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos | Name | Played | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | For | Against | Score Diff. | Score % | Points |
| 1 | GRBC | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 260 | 189 | 71 | 137.57 | 41 |
| 2 | QBC | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 304 | 276 | 28 | 110.14 | 34 |
| 3 | WCBC | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 284 | 296 | -12 | 95.95 | 34 |
| 4 | CSBC | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 244 | 219 | 25 | 111.42 | 28 |
| 5 | VBC | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 290 | 275 | 15 | 105.45 | 25 |
| 6 | CNBC | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 214 | 341 | -127 | 62.76 | 6 |

Goulburn are tearing away out in font undefeated, 7 points ahead and with a game in hand. Next best is Queanbeyan, who they just put 23 shots on, and Weston Creek, equal on 34 points. Crookwell sit behind in fourth with a matchup against Goulburn to be played at another date still, but they’ve only got 3 points on the fifth placed Vikings who are looking to make a move. For Norths, it is another grade stuck at the bottom in what is a difficult year. They’ll just be hoping to snag a win somewhere in the fight at the end of the season now.

**Looking Ahead**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Home** | **Away** | **Venue** |
| Weston Creek Bowling Club | Goulburn Railway Bowling Club | Weston Creek Bowling Club |
| Canberra North Bowling Club | Queanbeyan Bowling Club | Canberra North Bowling Club |
| Crookwell Services Bowling Club | Vikings Bowls Club | CROOKWELL SERVICES BOWLING CLUB |

Weston Creek come up against the red hot Goulburn this week in a difficult matchup for them. They’ve seen what happened to Queanbeyan and will be hoping they can do a better job this weekend. They need the win to keep moving towards the top two, but the real ask might be can they hold a rink somewhere. Goulburn to win, how much to be determined.

Norths will come up against a seething Queanbeyan this week. Queanbeyan were thoroughly outplayed last week and need to really set the season straight this weekend. Norths haven’t stood in the way before, but with nothing left to play for they’ll be out to upset the apple cart here, which would spell disaster for Queanbeyan. I’d suggest a Queanbeyan win, but they really need to pile on the points here.

Crookwell will host Vikings in the final match for the round in what could start to shape the top four. A win for Crookwell and the final four rounds will be difficult for Vikings, but the other way round and suddenly that fourth spot becomes a real dogfight. Its always hard to go past Crookwell on a home deck, but with that added incentive for Vikings I could see this one swinging. One to watch here.

Grade 6

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yowani CC Bowling Club | 22 | 16 | 12 | **50** |  | **58** | 22 | 13 | 23 | Vikings Bowls Club |
| Canberra Bowling Club | 13 | 14 | 9 | **36** |  | **78** | 39 | 16 | 23 | Belconnen Bowling Club |
| Bungendore Bowling Club | 23 | 26 | 15 | **64** |  | **50** | 20 | 15 | 15 | Goulburn Railway Bowling Club |

Vikings got away with a win here against the bottom ranked Yowani, sharing a rink apiece for the day. They need a big win with the opportunity here but couldn’t get it done as Yowani showed they still have a bit to play for. Both clubs will be taking a message from this one. For Yowani, they can still match it, but for Vikings they’ll need to put their best foot forward each week.

Canberra’s unbeaten run came to an absolutely crashing end this week at the hands of Belconnen. Belconnen headed into Forrest thinking it would be a tough day but walk away with all the points and a huge margin. This will shake things up a bit as Canberra come back o the pack while Belconnen start to make a move on the finals. More to come.

Bungendore took an important win against Goulburn as they show they’ve still got what it takes for a top two spot. The ladder really tightened up this week as this match was another that pulled a few close together. Goulburn need a win in their catch up now to have a shake at the finals, but its all open to play for from here out.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos | Name | Played | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | For | Against | Score Diff. | Score % | Points |
| 1 | CBC | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 302 | 253 | 49 | 119.37 | 41 |
| 2 | VBC | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 260 | 263 | -3 | 98.86 | 36 |
| 3 | BuBC | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 318 | 260 | 58 | 122.31 | 35 |
| 4 | BBC | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 217 | 10 | 104.61 | 24 |
| 5 | GRBC | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 218 | 255 | -37 | 85.49 | 16 |
| 6 | YCCBC | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 248 | 325 | -77 | 76.31 | 16 |

The top three are split by just the 6 points now as losses to Vikings and Canberra bring them back into the fold. Canberra sit atop, followed by Vikings and then Bungendore in a tight top three. Belconnen find themselves just off the pace in foruth, a further 9 points behind, but will be looking to get back up towards the front runners. Goulburn have a match in hand against Belconnen which could prove to be a fight for fourth, but Yowani haven’t given up on the season yet. They are equal with Goulburn and still searching for the finals. Bit going on here.

**Looking Ahead**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Home** | **Away** | **Venue** |
| Belconnen Bowling Club | Bungendore Bowling Club | Belconnen Bowling Club |
| Goulburn Railway Bowling Club | Vikings Bowls Club | Goulburn Railway Bowling Club |
| Yowani CC Bowling Club | Canberra Bowling Club | Yowani Country Club Bowling Club |

Belconnen and Bungendore will play off in a crucial matchup for both. Bungendore found some form, but Belconnen trounced the front runners. Off the form guide both clubs look in good touch which could translate to a great matchup. With it all to play for I’m not putting up a tip for this one, except to say that it’ll be a great match.

Goulburn will host Vikings in another important matchup here. Both clubs need to turn around a loss from last week with the winner to take some handy points for the final run in. Goulburn are always tough on the home deck, but Vikings have travelled well so far, so anyone’s guess yet again. I’m tipping Goulburn to take advantage of the home turf and to really set the season alight for a tense final four rounds.

Yowani and Canberra round it out in what would have been an easy tip before last week, but with Canberra falling over last week they might be coming back to the pack. Yowani have shown that they can still match it with the front runners, but this is another ask all together. With it all on the line and a home turf advantage I’d suggest their a good chance, but I’m tipping Canberra to take two rinks and 10 shot win.

Grade 7

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Crookwell Services Bowling Club | 10 | 20 | 23 | **53** |  | **62** | 15 | 24 | 23 | Canberra North Bowling Club |
| Vikings Bowls Club | 22 | 26 | 18 | **66** |  | **57** | 16 | 13 | 28 | Weston Creek Bowling Club |
| Yass Bowling Club | 25 | 36 | 31 | **92** |  | **44** | 13 | 15 | 16 | Goulburn Railway Bowling Club |

Norths keep on keeping on in Grade 7. They’ve not had much success across the other grades, but their Grade 7 side has been a shining light on the season. This time they did it out at Crookwell be a handy 9 shots to stay atop of the ladder through the halfway mark. They’ve got plenty of points and a good margin through the season now while Crookwell find themselves stranded on the bottom of the table.

Vikings got the job done against Weston Creek to keep the gap nice and wide down to third place. For Weston Creek it means they’re left to fight for the finals spot, but for Vikings the win means they’ve all but secured the finals berth they were after. Creekers need to find some form, but its all sunny down in Tuggeranong here.

Yass put up massive shots against Goulburn looking to start bridging the gap up to the top. They took it out by 48 shots overall in a dominant display that has given them the shove they needed to start to make that jump. For Goulburn that was a heavy loss when they didn’t need it. They’re falling behind quickly now, with the finals starting to move past the horizon.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos | Name | Played | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | For | Against | Score Diff. | Score % | Points |
| 1 | CNBC | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 296 | 234 | 62 | 126.5 | 47 |
| 2 | VBC | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 312 | 266 | 46 | 117.29 | 43 |
| 3 | YBC | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 311 | 266 | 45 | 116.92 | 33 |
| 4 | WCBC | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 281 | 290 | -9 | 96.9 | 27 |
| 5 | GRBC | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 197 | 270 | -73 | 72.96 | 12 |
| 6 | CSBC | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 197 | 268 | -71 | 73.51 | 6 |

North and Vikings find themselves fighting it out for the top spot at the moment, with Norths holding advantage by 4 points through the halfway mark and with a few shots as well. Yass are the next best, 10 points behind Vikings sitting adrift in the middle of the table. Weston Creek are another 6 points behind from there as they look to settle the finals spots for the competition. Goulburn and Crookwell find themselves well adrift with Goulburn 15 points hort of the finals and Crookwell another 6 points further. I’d say that’s the finals done for Crookwell, but with a game in hand for Goulburn they could yet make the jump if they can find some form.

**Looking Ahead**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Home** | **Away** | **Venue** |
| Weston Creek Bowling Club | Goulburn Railway Bowling Club | Weston Creek Bowling Club |
| Canberra North Bowling Club | Yass Bowling Club | Canberra North Bowling Club |
| Crookwell Services Bowling Club | Vikings Bowls Club | CROOKWELL SERVICES BOWLING CLUB |

Weston Creek have the chance to really put a nail in the coffin for Goulburn this week. They’ve got 15 points in hand currently, though Goulburn have the match in hand, and a big win could really sow it all up. They got the home ground advantage, but are coming off a loss to Vikings. Goulburn will need to bounce back from a drubbing at the hands of Yass, but have the world in their hands this week. I’m tipping its lights out for Goulburn this weekend with the Creekers looking to take all three rinks.

Norths will take on Yass as they look to close out the top two for the season. Yass need a win to start to make up ground on the front runners and they’re coming in with some form after dismantling Goulburn last week. Norths will need to be at their best, but they’ve proved they can get the job done when they need to and I suspect they’ll do just that again with a narrow win.

Vikings travel out to Crookwell in an attempt to bolster their stocks for the top position. Crookwell have struggled this year and I expect the pain to continue as Vikings go in search of a home finals series. Vikings to pile on the pain, that’s my tip here. Crookwell won’t be able to match it across the greens, but would be hoping to pull a rink and keep it tight.