A group of people on a track

Description automatically generated with low confidence

Round 5: March 27

2022 Pennants – Wrap

Another Round done for the season as we hit the midpoint this weekend and we’re really starting to get a grip of the season, with ladders starting to take shape. We’ve got three undefeated sides, two of them from CBC in Grades 3 and 6, but due to a washout the undefeated Goulburn Grade 5 side find themselves sitting in second for the time being.

A massive congratulations needs to go out to the rink of Andrea Brighenti, Richard Vadocz, Paul McAlister, and skip Bruce Williams in Queanbeyan’s Grade 5 who have picked up an 8 shot end. Not only that, they’ve done in two weeks on the bounce. They’ve decided that they want to stretch BACT pin budget thin for the year and go after the hattrick this weekend against Goulburn in what would be an unbelievable streak. Congratulations, a truly remarkable effort.

Competitions don’t really get much tighter than Grade 2 at the moment with 5 out of 7 sides sitting on 2 wins and a loss through the first 3 rounds due to byes and washouts. Goulburn find themselves atop the pile in the scrap for the time being with a game in hand against the winless Weston Creek, but the next four are getting hard to split. It’ll be hard to get a read on the competition until we see the full cycle play out, but I suspect that we won’t really know who will take the Pennant in Grade 2 until May 22nd.

A tantalising affair will play itself out this weekend in Grade 4 as Queanbeyan’s crosstown rivals go head to head in a top two clash. Both clubs come in 3 and 1 for the season so far and equal on match points. Score difference is all that separates them so far so there is more to play for this weekend than the usual pride between these two. You really couldn’t write the story any better sometimes as we come into this clash and look eagerly ahead at Round 10 when they go at it again.

Grade 1

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Queanbeyan RSL Memorial Bowling Club | 20 | 14 | 19 | **53** |  | **58** | 19 | 22 | 17 | Weston Creek Bowling Club |
| BYE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Canberra Bowling Club |
| Belconnen Bowling Club | 28 | 20 | 25 | **73** |  | **38** | 14 | 15 | 9 | Canberra North Bowling Club |
| Queanbeyan Bowling Club | 31 | 13 | 15 | **59** |  | **52** | 21 | 27 | 4 | Vikings Bowls Club |

An interesting mix of results across the weekend bringing the competition even closer together than before. QRSL couldn’t hold the home turf against Weston Creek as they went down narrowly by just the 5 shots in a hotly contested match. There was a draw and a rink each across the match, but the big win on rink two was enough to get the job done for the Creekers on the day.

Queanbeyan were able to hold off Vikings in a close match over at Farrer Place, taking the win by just the 7 shots with huge swings across the rinks. Vikings took 14 and 6 shots across rinks 2 and 3 respectively, but the damage was done on Rink 1 where they went down by 27 shots. The rink points will help, but ultimately they wanted the overall board to swing their way for the day. Vikings will take a closer look to see if they can get a bit of consistency across the rinks moving forward.

Belconnen Bowling Club put the shots down against Norths in the final matchup. They took it out by 35 shots overall in what was a one sided affair across the green, with Norths not able to match it for the day. The loss adds to the problems over at Norths, but for Belconnen they’ll see this as a building point for their season.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos | Name | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | Points | Matches | Points AVG | Shots AVG |
| 1 | VBC | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 27 | 3 | 9.0 | 8.7 |
| 2 | QBC | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 32 | 4 | 8.0 | 5.8 |
| 3 | CBC | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 22 | 3 | 7.3 | 12.0 |
| 4 | BBC | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 4 | 6.3 | 11.5 |
| 5 | WCBC | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 23 | 4 | 5.8 | -1.8 |
| 6 | QRSLMBC | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 15 | 3 | 5.0 | -6.0 |
| 7 | CNBC | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0.0 | -35.3 |

Vikings hold on to that top spot for the week, but they’ve got Queanbeyan clipping at the heals waiting for a slip up. The bye is starting to move the ladder around a bit, and with Queanbeyan having not had a bye yet they’ll be looking to pounce on any drop in form.

CBC will be holding out dreams of cracking the top two over the coming weeks and should get a chance to do so and Belconnen rounds out our top four at the end of the round. Belconnen would be looking back towards a building Weston Creek though, with the Creekers just .5 behind on average match points. QRSL finds themselves starting to slip behind in the race for the finals, with the loss to Weston Creek compounding their issues. Norths look stuck to the bottom of the ladder for the time being, yet to register a rink win for the season, but will look to develop theirs squads through the backend of the season.

**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 |

Weston Creek will take the chance to observe this weekend as they have the bye, with a couple of interesting matches to watch out for. Queanbeyan plays host to Belconnen in our first match up in an important match for both clubs. Queanbeyan have been strong without being outstanding, holding the smallest shots average out of the top four. Last weekend would suggest that Belconnen are back to their best and will be looking to make the jump up the ladder. Results here could really shake up the competition across the top end of the ladder.

QRSL hosts Norths in a battle at the bottom of the ladder this week in an opportunity for both clubs to show some improvement. Norths will be out for their first points for the year, but QRSL need to put in some big wins to get themselves back into a finals position. A great opportunity for both if the other decides to not show up for the day. QRSL will go for all the rinks, but I think Norths have the opportunity to put some runs on the board here in this matchup.

Another massive matchup to finish off the round here with 1st playing 3rd as Vikings travel up to Forrest to play against CBC. Coming straight off the bye CBC will be looking to build a platform for their tilt at the top, while Vikings have it all in front of them thanks to a great start to the season. CBC can put some big scores up, but they’ll face some tough opposition in Vikings who’ll try to prove that round 4 was the anomaly. This will be the match of the round if you’re asking me.

Grade 2

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Canberra Bowling Club | 30 | 20 | 26 | **76** |  | **52** | 9 | 20 | 23 | Weston Creek Bowling Club |
| BYE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Yass Bowling Club |
| Goulburn Railway Bowls Club | 18 | 27 | 36 | **81** |  | **42** | 13 | 19 | 10 | Queanbeyan Bowls Club |
| Belconnen Bowls Club | 11 | 21 | 27 | **59** |  | **60** | 16 | 15 | 29 | Vikings Bowls Club |

Couple of big wins, but we’ll start with the close one and it was Vikings coming out on top against Belconnen by a solitary shot over at Hawker! Belconnen took big wins across rinks 2 and 3 but a huge deficit over on rink 1 meant they couldn’t get the big board to swing their way. Vikings took out rink 1 by 18 shots, giving them the advantage at the end. Belconnen will be shattered with the result, with the loss dropping them further behind. Vikings will take the win and move on, needing a few more results to go their way over the coming weeks to get back into things.

Canberra took a massive win over Weston Creek, 24 shots overall to solidify their push towards the front of the table. Weston Creek find themselves well and truly stuck on the bottom of the ladder after that loss, now seeing a big gap open up to the next best. The win wasn’t quite big enough for Canberra, but it does show they’ve got the goods to mix at the top end of town, and might be a sign of things to come.

Goulburn really flexed their muscles in this one, taking it out by 39 shots overall against a disappointing Queanbeyan. It was a results not too many would have seen coming with Queanbeyan entering the round at the top of the perch, but Goulburn showed that if you’re heading up the highway you’ll need to be at your best. Massive warning shot this one that sees a massive clash coming in round 7.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos. | Club | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | Points | Matches | Points AVG | Scores AVG |
| 1 | GRBC | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 3 | 8.67 | 15.33 |
| 2 | CBC | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 26 | 3 | 8.67 | 9.33 |
| 3 | QBC | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 24 | 3 | 8.00 | 0.33 |
| 4 | YBC | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 3 | 7.00 | 8.00 |
| 5 | VBC | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 18 | 3 | 6.00 | -3.67 |
| 6 | BBC | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 4 | 4.00 | -3.50 |
| 7 | WCBC | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0.33 | -24.67 |

Very tight ladder this one with Goulburn and Canberra sharing top spot on average points, but Goulburn sitting slightly ahead on average shots with that massive win. Queanbeyan were pulled off the top thanks to the loss whist Yass are sitting and waiting for their opportunity to make a challenge. Vikings sit well and truly in reach of a finals berth, but will need to improve to get there. Belconnen would need a massive change of form to make their challenge, but I’ve seen stranger things happen, funnily enough by Belconnen. Weston Creek would need a massive change in form from not only themselves, but everyone else to make it back into contention.

**Looking Ahead**

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

Queanbeyan will play host to Belconnen and look to rebuild their form after being demolished. Belconnen will come in seething from the one point loss and could provide a challenge to QBC as they look to put their season back on track. It won’t be easy though and I’d suggest that they may find themselves falling further behind here as Queanbeyan bounce back to re-emerge.

Vikings will play host to Canberra in what will be a much tougher test for them. Canberra need to really keep the foot down to stay up with Goulburn and they’ll look to take advantage of a side that most would argue aren’t on the same pace. Vikings will look to put themselves back in the top four this week, but for me it’ll be Canberra coming out on top.

Weston Creek have another opportunity to find that elusive win as Yass head into town this weekend for their matchup. Yass have been a bit of a sleeping beast through the season so far, but coming off the bye might be the chance they need to start making their mark. A couple of big wins, starting this weekend against Weston Creek, and they’ll be contenders. So watch out Creekers.

Grade 3

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yowani Country Club Bowling Club | 19 | 14 | 14 | **47** |  | **73** | 26 | 33 | 14 | Crookwell Services Bowling Club |
| Canberra North Bowling Club | 8 | 18 | 20 | **46** |  | **79** | 20 | 25 | 34 | Canberra Bowling Club |
| Weston Creek Bowling Club | 25 | 27 | 36 | **88** |  | **39** | 9 | 17 | 13 | Vikings Bowls Club |

Crookwell put on a big score this weekend to send Yowani sliding a little further down the ladder as their season hits a few speedhumps. They took it out by 26 shots overall, taking two of the rinks with them on the way, as they start to stake their claim on the competition. For Yowani, the loss compounds a couple of poor weeks and leaves them sitting in the wind a bit as the rest of the competition moves around them.

Norths took another heavy loss here going down to Canberra by 33 shots overall, with the Cobras happy to walk away with yet another win. They took two rinks with them, sharing the third in a convincing win that reminds the competition that they are the club to beat at this stage. For Norths, they’ll need to reassess moving further into the season to see how they can pick up a few more wins to hit the top four.

Weston Creek took a massive win over Vikings to try to make their jump at the top of the table. Vikings are still looking for the elusive win, but this week wasn’t the one to find it as the Creekers took their opportunity to build a shot difference. The Creekers will be happy to walk away with all of the rinks, and 49 shots overall gives the shots difference column a handy boost.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos | Name | Played | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | For | Against | Score Diff. | Score % | Points |
| 1 | CBC | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 275 | 204 | 71 | 134.8 | 41 |
| 2 | WCBC | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 276 | 220 | 56 | 125.45 | 26 |
| 3 | YCCBC | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 214 | 244 | -30 | 87.7 | 24 |
| 4 | CSBC | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 183 | 175 | 8 | 104.57 | 22 |
| 5 | CNBC | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 156 | 187 | -31 | 83.42 | 13 |
| 6 | VBC | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 198 | 272 | -74 | 72.79 | 6 |

CBC hold their place out front, yet to lose a match, as a couple of clubs start to make moves in what is becoming a packed midfield for the competition. Weston Creek, Yowani and Crookwell all sit within four points of each other, though Crookwell have a game in hand against Norths. Norths still have a good shot at the finals if hey can turn it around, but Vikings are starting to look a bit lost at sea. It’ll be tough to turn it around from here for them.

**Looking Ahead**

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

Crookwell will play host to Canberra in what could be a big match in the context of the season. Sometimes you look back at a season and see where it was won or lost and this fixture has those kinds of tones for Crookwell. CBC have built a good platform, but Crookwell need to keep putting wins on the board after early loses. I’m predicting Crookwell will bring the perfect season to an end for Canberra this weekend with a bit of an upset.

Weston Creek will battle Yowani down in Stirling in a massive matchup for Grade 3. Yowani have lost their way a little bit, but still find themselves in third due to a strong start to the year. A win this weekend puts them in a good position for the remainder of the season, but Weston Creek will be looking to press on and define their role in the top two. A real sliding doors moment in the season here, this match could have some big ramifications for the remainder of the season.

Vikings and North will go head to head down in Tuggeranong in an important matchup for both clubs. Norths have just the one win while Vikings haven’t put one in the win tally yet, so both clubs will be looking to take advantage. Form would suggest Norths should take this one, but I’d say that Vikings have a bit more skin in the game and will take the choccies for their first win.

Grade 4

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yowani Country Club Bowling Club | 19 | 20 | 9 | **48** |  | **68** | 32 | 17 | 19 | Belconnen Bowling Club |
| Queanbeyan RSL Memorial Bowling Club | 16 | 25 | 23 | **64** |  | **47** | 16 | 14 | 17 | Vikings Bowls Club |
| Yass Bowling Club | 11 | 16 | 27 | **54** |  | **68** | 14 | 19 | 35 | Queanbeyan Bowls Club |

Belconnen take a massive win thanks to the efforts of rink 1 here, with Yowani picking up some points but missing the big board. Home turf couldn’t get them across the line as they came undone across the green to go down by 20 shots overall. A tough loss for Yowani, but an important win for Belconnen. The loss sees Yowani fall a bit behind, but a bit more consistency across the green and they’ll be back.

QRSL keep on keeping on with their winning ways, this time getting the job done in convincing fashion against a struggling Vikings. Vikings salvaged a rink, but were undone to the tune of 17 shots overall on the day. It is another hard loss for Vikings who are starting to lost pace quickly on the competition. For QRSL though it was another good win that sees them hold out in first place via a good shot difference.

Queanbeyan took out the final match of the round after traveling up the Barton to Yass for the day. They had a solid win, 14 shots overall, that will keep them moving in the right direction. For Yass though the loss means they slip to 2 and 2 falling just behind the two front runners. The damage was done on Rink 1 where QBC took 24 shots and you’d suggest the match. For Yass they’ll need to find the right matchups, but for Queanbeyan it is another tick on the road to the finals.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos | Name | Played | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | For | Against | Score Diff. | Score % | Points |
| 1 | QRSLMBC | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 267 | 210 | 57 | 127.14 | 32 |
| 2 | QBC | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 243 | 221 | 22 | 109.95 | 32 |
| 3 | YBC | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 249 | 236 | 13 | 105.51 | 28 |
| 4 | BBC | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 248 | 234 | 14 | 105.98 | 23 |
| 5 | YCCBC | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 209 | 257 | -48 | 81.32 | 17 |
| 6 | VBC | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 196 | 254 | -58 | 77.17 | 12 |

QRSL hold out in front by shots difference to cross town rival QBC, with a healthy difference of 35 shots. Following in tight behind is Yass who really could have done with a win on the weekend as Belconnen start to see them on the road ahead, sitting 5 points behind in 4th. Yowani and Vikings are starting to see the season slipping away though, falling 5 and11 shots behind Belconnen respectively.

**Looking Ahead**

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

Vikings will head up the Parkway looking to get their season back on track this weekend as they take on Belconnen. They desperately need a win to get things back on track, but Belconnen won’t want to let the gap up to the top get too much bigger. Given form I’d say this will be a tall order for Vikings, but with make or break moments they might get enough to pull them back into finals contention.

Yass will play host to Yowani in what they’ll see as a great opportunity to play a bit of catchup. Who knows, results going the right way and they might somehow reach the top soon. Yowani will need to find some form this weekend to put the season back on the rails though. The gap to the top four is starting to open up and some heavy losses will see the bridge disappearing right in front of their eyes. Yass will need to be wary, but should get the job done.

Top of the table clash with cross town rivals, you really couldn’t ask for much more. Both clubs come into this one on 32 points for the season, with just shot difference separating the two as we roll into a match that is sure to have a bit of venom in it. Both clubs come in off big wins and will be looking to make it count this weekend over at Farrer place. Not quite season defining, but its as close as you’ll get in Round 5 of the season. I’m not going to even try to pick a winner here.

Grade 5

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Weston Creek Bowling Club | 15 | 23 | 20 | **58** |  | **49** | 17 | 11 | 21 | Crookwell Services Bowling Club |
| Canberra North Bowling Club | 19 | 10 | 13 | **42** |  | **60** | 19 | 23 | 18 | Goulburn Railway Bowling Club |
| Vikings Bowls Club | 12 | 17 | 21 | **50** |  | **65** | 15 | 19 | 31 | Queanbeyan Bowling Club |

Weston Creek took out another good win proving that they seemed to not enjoy the long weekend. They got the win against Crookwell who are yet to pick up a match win for the season, though they’ve picked up plenty of rinks along the way, including another one here. 9 shots overall for Weston Creek was a handy advantage as they make their play on the ladder.

Goulburn were able to get the job done in fine fashion against Norths this week as they keep letting the competition know that they’re coming. Another disappointing loss for North’s though they may be buoyed by the effort against a powerful Goulburn Squad. The gap to the bottom is really starting to open up now though, so Norths will need to find their form quick.

Queanbeyan close out the matches with a win over Vikings down in Tuggeranong in what was a good display. They ended up taking it out by 15 shots overall, leaving Vikings hanging on to their finals berth for the time being. It was always a tall order for Vikings, but they’ll be happy to walk away with a rink against the ladder leaders.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos | Name | Played | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | For | Against | Score Diff. | Score % | Points |
| 1 | QBC | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 259 | 208 | 51 | 124.52 | 34 |
| 2 | GRBC | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 192 | 144 | 48 | 133.33 | 29 |
| 3 | WCBC | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 225 | 239 | -14 | 94.14 | 24 |
| 4 | VBC | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 233 | 216 | 17 | 107.87 | 23 |
| 5 | CSBC | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 165 | 177 | -12 | 93.22 | 16 |
| 6 | CNBC | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 172 | 262 | -90 | 65.65 | 6 |

Goulburn remains undefeated so far, but thanks to a rainy day we’ve got Queanbeyan sitting in front through the 4th round. Weston Creek fall in behind at third, though the gap to the top two is really starting to open itself up. Vikings sit fourth, but with plenty of rink wins still have a good shot at bridging the gap to the Creekers above. Crookwell finds themselves sitting outside the top four for now, but Norths are yet to register a win. Crookwell have good chances to strike back up the ladder, but for Norths the picture is quickly becoming bleak and they’ll need a massive turnaround to influence the top four.

**Looking Ahead**

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

Crookwell and Norths go head to head at the bottom of the ladder in what will be an important matchup for both clubs. Crookwell need to put W’s on the board soon if they want to claw their way back into the top four, but standing in their way this week will be a desperate Norths. Another loss here and we’re seeing the season get away from them. I know its only halfway through the season, but another loss here means the collapse is almost complete. I’m thinking Norths might see the writing on the wall and get it done here.

Vikings will host Weston Creek in a massive clash for both of these clubs. The Creekers need the win to stay in touch with the top two, but perhaps more importantly it would give them some breathing room to the rest of the competition. A win for Vikings here and they’ll be putting themselves a slot up the ladder and in a position to fight for the top two. This match will have some ramifications for the ladder in both directions, and a blowout will give it a major shakeup.

Last but certainly not least we’ve got another top of the table clash as QBC host the Railway in a huuuuge match. Both clubs come in undefeated with the winner set to stake their claim on the competition. Goulburn hold a match in hand against a struggling Crookwell whilst sitting 9 points off Queanbeyan. A win here and you’ll be seeing them look to make the jump to the top. A heavy loss here for either club and your staring at the Creek and Vikings below you looking to make a move. A very interesting matchup for this one and yet again I’m reluctant to try to pick a winner. Save your money folks.

Grade 6

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Belconnen Bowling Club | 20 | 17 | 9 | **46** |  | **60** | 27 | 19 | 14 | Yowani CC Bowling Club |
| Bungendore Bowling Club | 22 | 15 | 15 | **52** |  | **57** | 20 | 23 | 14 | Vikings Bowls Club |
| Canberra Bowling Club | 24 | 21 | 26 | **71** |  | **52** | 10 | 23 | 19 | Goulburn Railway Bowling Club |

Yowani took out a clash at the bottom of the table against Belconnen to put them back in contention for the finals. A tough loss to take for Belconnen, but they’ve still got a good chance to make the finals if they can pull it back together. The win was Yowani’s first for the season and it could, hopefully, be a sign of things to come for the club. They’re now in good contention to make the finals if they can hold some form.

Vikings took an important win out at Bungendore which sees them move into the top two. They did it by just the 5 shots overall, but with two rinks they’ve made the jump to the top two, leaving Bungendore sitting behind. Bungendore would be upset with the loss, but they’ve got their destiny in their own hands now, with a good gap to fourth.

Canberra keep doing the same each week, this time putting up 19 shots against Goulburn at home to extend their lead at the top of the table. Goulburn need to find a bit of form as we see the ladder start to split in half at the midway of the season. They were outplayed on the day, but they’ll see the opportunity to improve and look to take it a match at a time from here out.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos | Name | Played | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | For | Against | Score Diff. | Score % | Points |
| 1 | CBC | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 266 | 175 | 91 | 152 | 41 |
| 2 | VBC | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 202 | 213 | -11 | 94.84 | 26 |
| 3 | BuBC | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 254 | 210 | 44 | 120.95 | 25 |
| 4 | GRBC | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 168 | 191 | -23 | 87.96 | 14 |
| 5 | YCCBC | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 198 | 267 | -69 | 74.16 | 14 |
| 6 | BBC | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 149 | 181 | -32 | 82.32 | 12 |

CBC extend their lead at the top of the table, out to 15 points now, with Vikings and Bungendore looking to closest challengers, separated by just the 1 point after Round 4. Goulburn could make the jump with a game in hand against bottom of the ladder Belconnen, but a swing the other way opens up fourth place for Yowani and Belconnen as well. It’ll be an interesting couple of rounds, and once you throw in the makeup match the ladder could really go anywhere from here.

**Looking Ahead**

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

Vikings will make the trip up to Yowani this weekend in a match that they should, in all reality, be winning on form. They’ve got through 2 and 2 so far, but need to tip the ledger into the positive to have an impact come finals. Yowani come off the back of their first win and have the opportunity to really double down and bridge the gap up to the rest of the field. A win here for Yowani and it is absolutely game on for the rest of the year. I’d suggest a win for Vikings, but if they can’t get the job done then we’re in for a blockbuster finish second half of the season.

CBC take on Belconnen in what should be a dolly for the Cobras. On paper it is an easy win for Canberra as they take on last place Belconnen, but we all know the match isn’t played on paper. Belconnen find themselves within striking distance of the top four, but this week could put a solid dent in those ambitions. As much as I’d like to say differently, this should be another big win for Canberra.

Bungendore play host to Goulburn as they make their way past Lake George and into town for what could be a season defining match. Goulburn are well and truly in reach of the top two with their game in hand, but a loss here and that gap starts to open up. Bungendore need to find their rhythm this week as they start to work their way towards finals, but it won’t be easy. I’m suggesting a very close match as both clubs try to right the wrongs of previous weeks. Bungendore by a pinch.

Grade 7

**Results**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Weston Creek Bowling Club | 25 | 30 | 17 | **72** |  | **59** | 29 | 15 | 15 | Crookwell Services Bowling Club |
| Canberra North Bowling Club | 16 | 20 | 27 | **63** |  | **44** | 9 | 16 | 19 | Goulburn Railway Bowling Club |
| Vikings Bowls Club | 21 | 28 | 17 | **66** |  | **52** | 17 | 17 | 18 | Yass Bowling Club |

The Creekers take a win against Crookwell in a wildly swinging matchup at home. They take two rinks along the way with big differences between the rinks across the green. Crookwell took out Rink 3 by 12 shots, but ultimately went down by 13 shots, showing the disparity across the greens. Not a shock win for Weston Creek, but Crookwell will be sad to see this one slip away.

Norths keep the good times rolling in Grade 7 with another victory, this time against Goulburn at home. They did it in style too taking two rinks and a shot difference of 19 overall in what will be another boost to their hopes of taking top spot on the ladder. Goulburn were no match on the day for Norths and head home looking for a way to strike some form.

Vikings took an important win at home against Yass on the weekend to secure their spot in the top two for now. Yass would like to have seen the results the other way round, pushing their claims for the top two, but were bested on the day. For Vikings though, the win is a massive boost to their efforts and now sees them hot on the heels of Norths, fighting their way towards top spot.

**Ladder**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pos | Name | Played | Won | Loss | Draw | Bye | For | Against | Score Diff. | Score % | Points |
| 1 | CNBC | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 234 | 181 | 53 | 129.28 | 37 |
| 2 | VBC | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 246 | 209 | 37 | 117.7 | 33 |
| 3 | WCBC | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 224 | 224 | 0 | 100 | 25 |
| 4 | YBC | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 219 | 222 | -3 | 98.65 | 21 |
| 5 | GRBC | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 153 | 178 | -25 | 85.96 | 12 |
| 6 | CSBC | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 144 | 206 | -62 | 69.9 | 4 |

Norths find themselves sitting atop after Round 4, but they’ve got some close company with Vikings equal on wins below just the 4 points adrift. The gap widens out to third with Weston Creek searching for an avenue to the top two closely followed by Yass who haven’t quite struck the right balance yet for the season. Goulburn and Crookwell follow in behind in 5th and 6th respectively, though they have a makeup match to be played between each other. Crookwell are quickly seeing the season slip away with a massive gap to the top four building, but Goulburn could well make a late strike for the finals berth.

**Looking Ahead**

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

The job only gets harder for Crookwell this week as they play host to ladder leaders Norths. Norths have been playing well but really need a big win to drive home their advantage, and the timing is impeccable as they face a winless Crookwell. For Crookwell, a win will be a turning point in the season as they attempt to rebuild it from the ground up. I can’t see it happening though and I think Norths will take the win and send Crookwell just about out of touch of the finals.

Vikings will host Weston Creek in what is a critical match for both as they try to define their roles in the competition. For Vikings, a loss pulls them down a peg and makes the chase to first that much harder. While for Weston Creek a loss really opens up the gap between the top two and the rest of the competition. On the flip side though a Weston Creek win means it is game on for the rest of the top four, so everyone will be keenly interested in how this one goes.

Goulburn will head across to Yass in a match that could really settle the top four this weekend. Goulburn find themselves starting to fall adrift of the top four, with 9 points separating them from Yass in fourth currently and a loss will only compound the issue. For Yass a win is critical. Win and they are fighting with the rest for the top spots in the finals, but a loss means they’ll be on the other side, fighting it out to even get there. Big swings from the result of this match.