



The Pennant

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Final Round Review

The weather tried very hard to prevent the conclusion of the 2023 home & away rounds, but fortunately we were able to complete all 10 rounds and we are now down to the finals with **EVERY** club still in the hunt to win a flag!

Congratulations to all who have competed this year. I'm sure whether or not your team is in the finals that you will be supporting your club and your mates around the capital region this weekend! A full finals preview will be out later this week, stay tuned for more details!

Nick Hind – Bowls ACT Executive Officer

[Grade 1](#)

Belconnen round out the season as minor premiers and have had a very strong second half of the season showcasing determination to defend the 2022 Grade 1 title, claiming a good victory over their 2022 Grand Final opponents, relegating Vikings from the finals. Canberra will have the top sides looking over their shoulder, scraping into fourth with a win over Weston Creek which not only saw the Cobras into the finals, but pushed Weston Creek from top spot. Queanbeyan finished their season with a win to ensure a finals berth for the Stingers while also keeping crosstown rivals Queanbeyan RSL Memorial out of the finals with Shaun Robertson doing the bulk of the damage in the final round.

[Grade 2](#)

Another strong season from Goulburn Railway has secured the club their third consecutive minor premiership with a game in hand, not requiring to play against Belconnen to complete the season. Yass have powered into second overall with a win over Weston Creek and look very competitive with a powerful +102 margin across the season. Canberra North will be rueing some missed opportunities with two one shot losses in the season including the final round game against Crookwell seeing the club miss finals in a very competitive Grade 2. Crookwell were the beneficiaries, claiming the last finals berth in a great season for the 2022 Grade 3 Champions. Canberra finished their season on a high with a narrow win over Queanbeyan to claim third spot and stay in the hunt for back to back Grade 2 titles.



Chifley Health &
Wellbeing Hub
Maclaurin Cres, Chifley



www.bowlsact.org.au



0472 865 197



exec@bowlsact.org.au

  @bowlsact



Grade 3

Yowani were my dark horse at the start of the season and their third place finish might have the club flying under the radar ahead of the finals. Norths have snuck into the finals despite losses in rounds 9 and 10. The club were leading after eight rounds, but the closeness of the competition was such that they have slipped to fourth. Vikings are the hottest side in the grade, winning their final two games by big margins and taking out the minor premiership on margin from Queanbeyan, the Stingers finishing strongly to claim second and will be looking to keep the momentum into the finals.

Grade 4

Weston Creek are the minor premiers after a dominant season, closing it out with a win over Vikings, who were very competitive and will give themselves every chance in the finals, hanging onto fourth spot after Yowani fell on all rinks to Belconnen. That was the first win of the season for the Beetaloo St club and in impressive fashion which will give heart to the club and players that they can make some noise in the future in Grade 4. Yass closed out their season with another good win over Crookwell and are looking strong, while Crookwell have finished in third and will be looking for consistency, six wins from ten games but a -16 shot differential is a concern.

Grade 5

A dominant season from Bungendore has the little club in prime position to add on to their 2022 Grade 6 title finishing ahead of Goulburn Railway who look to be the next best. Bungendore and Railway not requiring to play the final game with the top two spots locked away. Close games saw Belco miss out with a one shot loss to Goulburn Railway in Round 9 and a draw with Canberra in Round 10, they will be back! Queanbeyan were in the hunt until the end, but a final round defeat of Vikings wasn't quite enough. Vikings on the other hand had a big win in Round 9 over Canberra which gave them the margin to take the final spot over Queanbeyan, finishing just behind the third placed Canberra side.

Grade 6

In the last issue I said that Weston Creek could be Kings or Kingmakers, sadly for the club it was the latter, falling in a close Round 9 contest to Vikings to end their season. Norths season also ended up just short despite a big win over the Creek in Round 10, Queanbeyan RSL were able to claim one rink and the final semi final spot in their game against minor premiers Queanbeyan. Vikings and Yass went head-to-head in the final round for second overall with the NSW club claiming 2.5 rinks and the board to finish in second.





Grade 7

With Yowani and Bungendore both out of finals contention it was agreed not to play the final round game. I'm sure members of both these sides will be out in force to support their clubmates in the finals.

Goulburn Railway played Yass in a classic tussle with Yass emerging one shot victors while the other game saw Crookwell take on Vikings for finals position. Crookwell comfortable winners and claiming third and Vikings fourth.

If you have any photos or stories to share from the weekends games send them through to exec@bowlsact.org.au and I'll be sure to give you a shoutout!!

Best wishes and great bowls!!



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