

# 2018 Sal's National Basketball League Round Two Review

2018 Sal's NBL Regular Season Standings									
Team	Р	W	L	Н	Α	For	Ag	Pts	
Taylor Hawks	3	3	0	1-0	2-0	271	245	6	
Mike Pero Nelson Giants	2	2	0	2-0	0-0	220	168	4	
SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks	4	2	2	0-0	2-2	405	398	4	
Augusta Taranaki Mountainairs	2	1	1	0-1	1-0	182	159	2	
Cigna Saints	2	1	1	0-1	1-0	216	204	2	
The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	2	1	1	1-1	0-0	195	203	2	
Go Media Jets	2	0	2	0-2	0-0	143	184	0	
2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	3	0	3	0-1	0-2	254	325	0	

## Results

## Thursday, May 5

At Ballroom Arena, Manawatu

Go Media Jets 74 (Daishon Knight 22, Kuran Iverson 18, Brandon Lucas 14)

Taylor Hawks 89 (Ethan Rusbatch 16, Mitchell Newton 15, Hyrum Harris 12)

## Friday, May 4, 2018

At Cowles Stadium, Christchurch

The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams 95 (Winston Sheppard III 26, Xavier Thames 23, Julian Williams-Washburn 19) SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks 108 (Orlando Coleman 24 Jarrad Weeks 17, Alex Pledger 14)

At TSB Stadium, New Plymouth

Augusta Mountainairs 87 (Javonte Douglas 30, Alonzo Burton 14, Xavier Smith 13)

Taylor Hawks 90 (Dion Prewster 25, Angus Brandt 23, Jarrod Kenny `14)

## Saturday, May 5

At Trafalgar Centre, Nelson

Mike Pero Nelson Giants 103 (Kyle Adnam 32, Finn Delany 25, Damon Heuir 24)

SIT Zerofees Sharks 100 (Conor Morgan 23, Jarrad Weeks 21, Alex Pledger 18)

## Sunday, May 6

At Trusts Arena, Waitakere

2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers 91 (Junior Ale 23, Lindsay Tait 17, Devon Scott 15)

Cigna Saints 108 (Shea IIi 26, LJ Peak 26, Leon Henry 20)

		Individual Highs
Points	32	Kyle Adnam (Mike Pero Nelson Giants) v SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks
Rebounds	14	Angus Brandt (Taylor Hawks) v Augusta Mountainairs
Assists	14	Kyle Adnam (Mike Pero Nelson Giants) v SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks
Steals	4	Five Tied
Blocks	3	Conor Morgan (SIT Zerofees Sharks) v The Wheeler Motor Car Rams

# Player of the Week (POW)

Round Two: Kyle Adnam (Mike Pero Nelson Giants)

**Mike Pero Nelson Giants** point guard, **Kyle Adnam**, is Round Two player of the week after tallying a massive double-double of 32 points and 14 assists in the 103-100 win over the **SIT Zerofees Sharks**. The Giants have made a terrific start to the season winning their first two home games. Giants forward, **Finn Delany**, added 25 points and nine rebounds.

The Sharks did secure a 108-95 win over the **Wheeler Motorcar Canterbury Rams**, forward **Orlando Coleman** collected 24 points, 13 rebounds and five assists. Other notable efforts from the Sharks were from **Alex Pledger** (14 points and 12 rebounds) and **Jarrad Weeks** (17 points and six assists)

The **Taylor Hawks** continue their hot start to the season with two road wins last week. Australian centre, **Angus Brandt**, had 23 points, 14 rebounds and five assists in the 90-87 win. **Dion Prewster** added 25 points and seven rebounds.

Last weeks player of the week, **Javonte Douglas**, scored 30 points on 12/16 shooting against the Hawks. The Taranaki forward is joint leaders in scoring with **Cigna Saints** point guard, **Shea IIi**, at 29 points per game. Douglas is also currently leading the league in rebounds at 12.5 per game.

After scoring 32 points the week before, Ili backed it up with 26 points in the 108-91 win over the **2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers**. Ili's back court partner, **LJ Peak** had 26 points on 11/11 shooting.

Rams forward, **Winston Sheppard III**, had 26 points and nine rebounds in the loss against the Sharks, Sheppard is third in the league in scoring (26.5), third in rebounds (10.0) and leads the league in steals at 3.5 per game

#### **Index of Success Scores Team Player Opposing Team** Score 1 Kyle Adam Mike Pero Nelson Giants SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks 48 2 Shea Ili Cigna Saints 2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers 42 3 Angus Brandt **Taylor Hawks** Augusta Taranaki Mountainairs 41 The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks Winston Shepard III 37 5 **Javonte Douglas** Augusta Taranaki Mountainairs Taylor Hawks 35 SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks Orlando Coleman The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams 35 **Dion Prewster Taylor Hawks** Augusta Taranaki Mountainairs 33 29 Jarrad Weeks SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks Mike Pero Nelson Giants SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks 8 Finn Delany Mike Pero Nelson Giants 29 10 Jarrad Weeks SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams 27

## **Round Three Preview**

## SIT Zerofees Sharks (2-2) Go Media Jets (0-2)

When: Thursday, May 10, 7pm (Live Streamed)

Where: ILT Stadium, Invercargill

Referees: Melony Wealleans, Yalla Edwards, Marty Davison

#### **Notes**

The Sharks play their first home game of the season after going 2-2 on the road. This will be the Jets first game away, and will have a day break before travelling to the other end of the country to play the Rangers. Offensively the Jets have struggled in their first two games, averaging 71.5 points per game, shooting 33% from the field. Southland have dominated the match ups between the two, winning nine of 11 meetings. The only time the Jets have beaten the Sharks in Invercargill was in 2012, 111-68. Last season the Sharks only lost once at home, and in the last three seasons are 22-5. Match up of the game will be between the point guards Jarrad Weeks and Daishon Knight, both players lead the team in scoring, each averaging nearly 21 points per game.

# Cigna Saints (1-1) v Taylor Hawks (3-0)

When: Friday, May 11, 7pm (Live Stream)
Where: TSB Bank Arena, Wellington

Referees: Matt Bathurst, Hayden Pipe, Tayla Ammunson

#### **Notes**

The Saints got their first win of the season last week, but will have the stern challenge of hosting the currently unbeaten Taylor Hawks. The Hawks will be playing their third straight game on the road, they edged out the Airs by three last week. Former Saint, Dion Prewster, has had an impressive start to the season, leading the Hawks in scoring at 18.3 points per game on 76.3% shooting. Prewster will go head to head with Saints import LJ Peak, who is averaging 21.5 points, despite being plagued with foul trouble, he fouled out on debut and had four last week against the Rangers. The Saints are averaging 108 points per game, but are also allowing their opponents to score 102 points, shooting 56% from the field. The Hawks have been much better defensively, allowing opponents to score 82 points at 43% overall, and 27% from three. Wellington has won the last seven games between the two teams. The last time the Hawks have won at TSB Bank Arena was in 2011, 100-99, Jarrod Kenny was the lone member in that side. Kenny will have to try an contain his Tall Black teammate, Shea Ili, who is averaging 29 points and 8.5 assists per game.

# Augusta Mountainairs (1-1) v Mike Pero Nelson Giants (2-0)

When: Friday, May 11, 7pm

Where: TSB Stadium, New Plymouth

Referees: Sean Cronin, Gavin Zimmerman, Sam Pan

#### **Notes**

The Airs had a tight loss against the unbeaten Hawks, now they will face another unbeaten team in the Giants, who play their first game on the road. The teams are polar opposite in styles of play, the Airs more of a slower tempo with their games averaging 171 points, compared to the Giants games which are averaging 194 points per game. The Giants lead the league in scoring at 110 points. Match up of the game will be between athletic forwards Finn Delany and Javonte Douglas. Douglas leads the league in scoring (29 ppg) and rebounds (12.5), he is also grabbing 7.5 offensive rebounds per game, so the Giants will need to keep him off the glass. Delany is averaging 20 points and eight rebounds per game. Nelson have won 11 of the past 13 meetings between the two teams. Since 2012, Taranaki, has only defeated the Giants once at home which was on the 27th March 2016, 75-74.

## **Round Three Preview**

# 2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers (0-3) v Go Media Jets (0-2)

When: Saturday, May 12, 5pm (Live Streamed)

Where: Trusts Arena, Auckland

Referees: Ryan Jones, Gavin Zimmerman, Tayla Ammunson

#### **Notes**

Both teams will be desperate for a win, but the Rangers will have the advantage of a Jets side on the second game in three days, and travelling from Invercargill. In the last six meetings between the two teams, Manawatu have won four. The Jets are relying heavily on point guard, Daishon Scott, who is averaging 20.5 points, the next best is fellow import, Kuran Iverson who is the only other Jet to average over double-digits at 13.5 per game. Iverson has struggled from the field, in particular the three pointer, converting only 1/11 attempts. Iverson has also struggled to get consistent minutes, averaging only 17.7, which is probably due to foul trouble. After averaging nearly 20 points per game in his first two outings, Rangers shooting guard Clay Wilson was quiet in the loss against the Saints with only 10 points on 4/9 shooting.

## Taylor Hawks (3-0) v Mike Pero Nelson Giants (2-0)

When: Saturday, May 12, 7pm (Live Streamed)

Where: Pettigrew Green Arena, Napier

Referees: Dallas Pickering, Matt Bathurst, Duran Whiu

#### **Notes**

The two most improved teams of the season will be facing each other in what could be who remains unbeaten if they each win the games before. Last season both teams finished with a 4-14 record which potentially one team could already tie at the end of three rounds. The Hawks beat the Giants two out of three times last season, but the Giants had previously won the last five. Hawks leading scorer Dion Prewster will face his former team of last year for the first time. Prewster's average points per game is currently at 18.3 which five points more per game than what he averaged with the Giants. Prewster will face Damon Heuir who currently fourth in the league ins scoring at 24.5 per game. Another former Giant, Jarrod Kenny, will go head to head with last week's player of the week Kyle Adam, who had a career best 32 points. Adnam currently leads the league in assists at 8.5 per game, Kenny last season won the assist title at 7.5 per game.

# Augusta Mountainairs (1-1) v 2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers (0-3)

When: Sunday, May 13, 3pm (Live Streamed)

Where: TSB Stadium, New Plymouth

Referees: Melony Wealleans, Ryan Jones, Yalla Edwards

#### **Notes**

Taranaki will be playing their third straight game at home, and will play the following week at home before embarking on a tough schedule which sees them play six of their next seven on the road. The Rangers are on a second day of a back to back, having played at home to the Jets the late afternoon before. The Rangers won all three games against the Airs last season, two of which was at TSB Stadium. In the last meeting the Rangers blew out the Airs 106-83, but in that contest they got a combined 53 points from Mitch McCarron and Earnest Ross who are no longer on their roster. The Rangers will be at a size disadvantage against the Airs who have an all import front court Javonte Douglas, Xavier Smith and Roger Woods who averaged a combined 29.5 rebounds per game. The Rangers will have to play at a more faster tempo with the three guard line-up of Lindsay Tait, Clay Wilson and Junior Ale.