

2018 Sal's National Basketball League Round 12 Review

2018 Sal's NBL Regular Season Standings								
Team	Р	W	L	For	Ag	Н	Α	Pts
Cigna Saints	16	14	2	1518	1376	7-1	7-1	28
Mike Pero Nelson Giants	15	12	3	1444	1277	6-2	6-1	24
SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks	15	11	4	1533	1373	6-1	5-3	22
Taylor Hawks	14	8	6	1216	1208	4-2	4-4	16
The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	16	8	8	1497	1466	4-4	4-4	16
Augusta Taranaki Mountainairs	15	3	12	1238	1362	1-6	2-6	6
Go Media Jets	16	3	13	1387	1590	2-6	1-7	6
2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	15	2	13	1354	1535	1-8	1-5	4

Results

Thursday, July 7

At Pettigrew Green Arena, Napier

Taylor Hawks 84 (Dion Prewster 22, Angus Brandt 16, Jarrod Kenny 15, Ethan Rusbatch 15)

The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams 78 (Julian Williams-Washburn 28, Michael Karena 15, Ray Cowels 13)

At TSB Stadium, New Plymouth

Augusta Mountainairs 105 (Alonzo Burton 26, Houston O'Riley 22, Dane Brooks 18, Xavier Smith 18)

SIT Zerofees Sharks 112 (Orlando Coleman 27, Reuben Te Rangi 17, Conor Morgan 17)

Friday, July 13

At Cowles Stadium Christchurch

The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams 106 (Michael Karena 27, Winston Shepard III 18) 20T Go Media Jets 103 (Daishon Knight 47, Kuran Iverson 23, Brandon Lucas 13)

Saturday, July 14

At TSB Bank Arena, Wellington

Cigna Saints 106 (LJ Peak 20, Leon Henry 14, Majok Majok 14)

Augusta Mountainairs 65 (Alonzo Burton 20, Roger Woods 17, Xavier Smith 16)

Sunday, July 15

At Ballroom Arena, Manawatu

Go Media Jets 94 (Daishon Knight 45, Kuran Iverson 16)

SIT Zerofees Sharks 91 (Conor Morgan 17, Orlandon Coleman 16, James Hunter 13)

At Trusts Arena, Auckland

2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers 82 (Marcel Jones 23, Clay Wilson 19, Lindsay Tait 12)

Mike Pero Nelson Giants 97 (Damon Heuir 30, Kyle Adnam 24, Jerry Evans Jr 17)

Individual Highs						
Points	47	Daishon Knight (Go Media Jets) v The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams				
Rebounds	21	Kuran Iverson (Go Media Jets) v The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams				
Assists	13	Winston Shepard III (The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams) v Go Media Jets				
Steals	4	Jarrad Weeks (SIT Zerofees Sharks) & Brandon Lucas (Go Media Jets)				
Blocks	3	Kuran Iverson (Go Media Jets) v SIT Zerofees Sharks				

Player of the Week (POW)

Round 12: Daishon Knight (Go Media Jets)

No surprise that Round 12 Player of the Week goes to **Go Media Jets** point guard, **Daishon Knight**, for two unbelievable individual performances. Knight scored a season league high of 47 points in the double-overtime loss to the Rams. Knight played the full 50 minutes, shooting 6-10 from three and 13-16 from the free throw line. Knight then would back it up two days later in the Jets 94-91 upset over the Sharks. Knight tallied 45 points, 13 rebounds and seven assists, and is currently leading the league in points per game averaging 29.1 per game.

Knight's team mate, **Kuran Iverson**, was a monster on the boards last week, grabbing 21 against the Rams and 18 versus the Sharks. Iverson sits atop of the rebound leaders at 11.3 per game.

Earlier in the week the Sharks grabbed a road win over the Airs thanks to the play of **Orlando Coleman** who had 27 points and 11 rebounds. Coleman has grabbed six double-doubles this season and is averaging 16.4 points and 9.3 rebounds per game.

The **Mike Pero Nelson Giants** continued their run towards the playoffs with a 97-82 win over the Rangers. Veteran forward, **Mika Vukona**, tallied 12 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists, and Australian guard, **Damon Heuir**, scored a season high 30 points.

The **Taylor Hawks** solidified their fourth spot with a 84-78 over the Rams. After a successful stint with the Tall Blacks, guard, **Dion Prewster**, continued his good form with 22 points and six rebounds.

Live Streamed games available at <u>nznbl.basketball website</u>, <u>maoritelevision.com</u>, <u>tab.co.nz</u> or at <u>@NZNBL</u> <u>facebook page</u>.

Index of Success Scores							
Pla	yer	Team	Opposing Team	Score			
1	Daishon Knight	Go Media Jets	SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks	58			
2	Daishon Knight	Go Media Jets	The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	44			
3	Orlando Coleman	SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks	Augusta Taranaki Mountainairs	43			
4	Winston Shepard III	The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	Go Media Jets	34			
5	Kuran Iverson	Go Media Jets	The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	32			
6	Julian Williams- Washburn	The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	Taylor Hawks	31			
6	Damon Heuir	Mike Pero Nelson Giants	2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	31			
8	Mika Vukona	Mike Pero Nelson Giants	2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	30			
9	Dion Prewster	Taylor Hawks	The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	29			
10	Marcel Jones	2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	Mike Pero Nelson Giants	27			

Top 10 Overall Index of Success Leaders

Player		leam	Games	lotai	Avg
1	Shea Ili	Cigna Saints	15	432	28.8
2	Daishon Knight	Go Media Jets	16	426	26.6
3	Winston Shepard III	The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	16	413	25.8
4	Finn Delany	Mike Pero Nelson Giants	12	308	25.7
5	Kuran Iverson	Go Media Jets	16	410	25.6
6	Javonte Douglas	Augusta Taranaki Mountainairs	13	322	24.8
7	Kyle Adnam	Mike Pero Nelson Giants	14	344	24.6
8	Majok Majok	Cigna Saints	16	379	23.7
9	Jarrad Weeks	SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks	15	339	22.6
10	Marcel Jones	2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	12	266	22.2

Round 13 Preview

Taylor Hawks (8-6) v 2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers (2-13)

When: Thursday, 19 July, 7pm (Live Streamed)

Where: Pettigrew Green Arena, Napier

Referees: Yalla Edwards, Hayden Pipe, Rhys Hamilton

Notes

Hawks will host the Rangers for the second time at home, the Hawks winning 93-84 in the first game. The Hawks are two games away from clinching a playoff spot, but if Rams lose then they will only need one. The Rangers will want to avoid their worst record since re-joining the league of 2013 when they went 2-14. Lindsay Tait is currently leading in assists at 8.1 per game. Tait is in a race with Rams forward Winston Shepard III who is averaging 7.8 per game. Last week, rebounding was an issue for the Rangers, and they will need to contain centre, Angus Brandt, who in the meeting at Pettigrew Green Arena grabbed 17 rebounds. Hawks guard, Dion Prewster, is averaging 22 points per game in his last three games. Prewster matches up against Rangers import, Clay Wilson, who is averaging 19.6 points, and is shooting the three at 41.6%. Hawks have won both meetings this season, which included a 27 point rout two weeks ago.

SIT Zerofees Sharks (11-4) v The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams (8-8)

When: Friday, 20 July, 7pm (Live Streamed)

Where: ILT Stadium, Invercargill

Referees: Matt Bathurst, Gavin Zimmerman, Sam Pan

Notes

The Sharks return home after suffering a shock loss to the Jets. Southland can still finish top of the table but for that to happen they would need to win their remaining games, and the Saints lose the Giants twice. This season the Sharks are 6-1 at home, the only loss was to the Rams 89-77 in Round Eight. The 77 points that Sharks scored was their lowest of the season, they currently lead the league in scoring at 102.2 per game. Match up will be between centres, Michael Karena and Alex Pledger. Karena is coming off a season high 27 points, and his last three games is averaging 19.6 points per game. In his last two games, Pledger, has been limited in his minutes averaging under 19 in both, before that he had grabbed three straight double-doubles, averaging 16 points and 10 rebounds. Winston Shepard III currently leads the league in steals at 2.5 per game, Sharks point guard, Jarrad Weeks, is fourth at 1.9.

Augusta Mountainairs (3-12) v 2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers (2-13)

When: Friday, 20 July, 7pm

Where: TSB Stadium, New Plymouth

Referees: Sean Cronin, Tayla Ammunson, Rhys Hamilton

Notes

The Airs currently hold a four game losing streak while the Rangers are at three. Both times this season the Rangers have beaten the Airs, 93-86 in New Plymouth and 103-84 in Auckland. Taranaki have struggled at home with a 1-6 record. The Airs leading scorer, Javonte Douglas, has missed the last two games with concussion like symptoms. Last week the Airs suffered there worst loss of 41 points, but were also missing their point guard Houston O'Riley. Hopefully they will have Douglas back to match up against Marcel Jones, who is fourth in the league in scoring at 22.8 per game, and fourth in rebounds at 9.8 per game. In the last meeting, Jones tallied 30 points and 14 rebounds.

Round 13 Preview

Mike Pero Nelson Giants (12-3) v Cigna Saints (14-2)

When: Saturday, 21 July, 7pm (Live Streamed)

Where: Trafalgar Centre, Nelson

Referees: Dallas Pickering, Sam Pan, Tayla Ammunson

Notes

The second placed Giants will host the Cigna Saints and meet each other for the first time this season. The two will play each other in consecutive weeks and potentially a third week if they meet in the playoffs. If the Saints win then they will clinch the regular season title. If the Giants win then it will come down to the final round in which either the Saints, Giants, or Sharks could finish top. If Wellington do win then it will be their ninth regular season title. Since 2014, the Saints have dominated the matchups, winning 11 of the last 12. The one Giants win was 98-89 on 28 March, 2016. Match up of the contest will be between the point guards Shea Ili and Kyle Adnam. Ili leads his team in points (23.1) and assists (6.3), Adnam is averaging 20.2 points and 6.5 assists. Last week the Giants were without Finn Delany, who is the joint leader with Adnam in scoring at 20.2 per game. Delany leads the league in 2 point field goal percentage at 69% from the field, second is Saints import LJ Peak at 64.4%.

Taylor Hawks (8-6) v Go Media Jets (3-13)

When: Sunday, 22 July, 3pm (Live Streamed)

Where: Pettigrew Green Arena, Napier

Referees: Melony Wealleans, Duran Whiu, Sherhon Martin

Notes

If the Hawks go 2-0 this week they will clinch a playoff spot no matter the result of the Rams game. But the Jets have proved they are no easy beat in the last few rounds having won two of their last four. The Hawks are 4-2 at home, while the Jets are 1-7 on the road. The two teams have not met since May 3rd when the Hawks won 89-74. The Hawks will try to contain, Jets point guard, Daishon Knight, who is coming of back to back 40 plus point games and is leading the league in scoring at 29.1 points. Knight will go up against arguably one of the best defensive point guards in Jarrod Kenny. The Hawks will need to prevent Knight from getting to the free throw line where he leads the league in most free throw attempts at 140 (8.8 attempts per game) in which he has converted on 82%. Current rebounder leader, Kuran Iverson, may have trouble against the bigger Hawks side of Angus Brandt and Jamie Skeen.