



NBL
New Zealand

Round Five Media Guide

The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams forward Winston Shepard III is Round Four Player of the Week

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2018 Sal's National Basketball League Round Four Review

2018 Sal's NBL Regular Season Standings

Team	P	W	L	H	A	For	Ag	Pts
The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	5	4	1	1-1	3-0		0	
SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks	6	4	2	2-0	2-2		2	
Taylor Hawks	6	4	2	2-0	2-2		2	
Mike Pero Nelson Giants	6	4	2	2-1	2-1		1	
Cigna Saints	4	3	1	2-1	1-0		0	
Augusta Taranaki Mountainairs	5	2	3	1-3	1-0		0	
Go Media Jets	6	1	5	0-3	1-2		2	
2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	6	0	6	0-3	0-3		3	

Results

Thursday, May 17

At TSB Stadium, New Plymouth

Augusta Mountainairs 75 (Alonzo Burton 19, Xavier Smith 17, Javonte Douglas 16)

Go Media Jets 70 (Kuran Iverson 16, Daishon Knight 14, Brandon Lucas 12)

Friday, May 18

At TSB Bank Arena, Wellington

Cigna Saints 98 (Shea Ili 23, LJ Peak 22, Jordan Ngatai 18)

2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers 93 (Marcel Jones 26, Lindsay Tait 21, Devon Scott 13)

Saturday, May 19

At ILT Stadium, Invercargill

SIT Zerofees Sharks 104 (Alex Pledger 17, James Hunter 16, Luke Aston 15)

Taylor Hawks 74 (Jarrod Kenny 18, Angus Brandt 15, Everard Bartlett 11)

At Trafalgar Centre, Nelson

Mike Pero Nelson Giants 90 (Jerry Evans 21, Kyle Adnam 20, Finn Delany 16)

The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams 104 (Xavier Thames 24, Tony Tolovae 21, Winston Sheppard III 19)

Sunday, May 20

At Trusts Arena, Auckland

2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers 83 (Marcel Jones 29, Lindsay Tait 14, Devon Scott 13)

The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams 98 (Julian Williams-Washburn 25, Winston Shepard III 20, Xavier Thames 17)

At Ballroom Arena, Manawatu

Go Media Jets 85 (Kuran Iverson 38, Daishon Knight 24)

Mike Pero Nelson Giants 87 (Kyle Adnam 21, Damon Heuir 21, Jerry Evans 20)

Individual Highs

Points	38	Kuran Iverson (Go Media Jets) v Mike Pero Nelson Giants
Rebounds	17	Kuran Iverson (Go Media Jets) v Augusta Mountainairs
Assists	10	Richard Rodger (Augusta Mountainairs) v Go Media Jets
Steals	6	Daishon Knight (Go Media Jets) v Mike Pero Nelson Giants
Blocks	2	Four tied

Player of the Week (POW)

Round Four: Winston Shepard III (The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams)

Winston Shepard III is Round Five player of the week after propelling the Rams to the top of the table with two road wins. Shepard tallied 20 points, 13 rebounds, and eight assists in the 98-83 win over the **2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers**. The former San Diego State player had 19 points, 10 rebounds and six assists in the 104-90 win over **Mike Pero Nelson Giants**.

Shepard's team mate **Julian Williams-Washburn** chipped in with a season high 25 points in the win over the Rangers. Washburn has been consistent for the Rams this season, averaging 19.0 points, 7.6 rebounds and shooting 53.2% from the field.

Last week's player of the week, **Kuran Iverson**, backed it up with 38 points (14-for-22 FG) and eight rebounds in the two point loss to the Giants. The **Go Media Jets** forward is in the top five of the league in points (23.3 ppg), rebounds (8.8 rpg), and steals (2.0 spg).

The **Cigna Saints** grabbed their third win of the season defeating the Rangers 98-93. Point guard, **Shea Ili**, had 23 points and seven assists. Ili continues to lead the league in scoring at 27.3 points per game, and second in assists (8.0).

Other notable performances from Round Four are from Giants forward, **Jerry Evans** (20 points and 13 rebounds vs Jets), Jets point guard, **Daishon Knight** (24 points, six steals vs Giants), **Lindsay Tait** (21 points, seven assists, four steals vs Saints) and **Marcel Jones** (29 points, 10 rebounds vs Rams & 28 points vs Saints).

Index of Success Scores

Player	Team	Opposing Team	Score
1 Kuran Iverson*	Go Media Jets	Mike Pero Nelson Giants	42
2 Winston Shepard III	The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	35
3 Julian Williams-Washburn	The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	34
4 Winston Shepard III	The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	Mike Pero Nelson Giants	30
4 Marcel Jones	2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	30
4 Shea Ili	Cigna Saints	2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	30
7 Daishon Knight	Go Media Jets	Mike Pero Nelson Giants	28
7 Lindsay Tait	2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	Cigna Saints	28
9 Jerry Evans Jr	Mike Pero Nelson Giants	Go Media Jets	27
9 Marcel Jones	2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	Cigna Saints	27

*Kuran Iverson was on a losing team

Round Five Preview

SIT Zerofees Sharks (4-2) v 2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers (0-6)

When: Thursday, May 24, 7pm (Live Streamed)
Where: ILT Stadium, Invercargill
Referees: Matt Bathurst, Melony Wealleans, Hayden Pipe

Notes

The Sharks have been dominant in their first two home games this season with back to back 30 point wins. The Rangers meanwhile have struggled defensively, allowing a league high 108 points per game. The difficulty for the Rangers will be trying to contain a Sharks side with a multitude of scoring options, currently six players are averaging over 11 points per game. In their loss to the Rams last Sunday, shooting guard, Clay Wilson missed the contest with an ankle injury. In five games Wilson has been averaging 19.8 points, shooting 54.1% from three. Wilson will have to go up against the bigger wingmen, Reuben Te Rangi and Orlando Coleman. Lindsay Tait continues to lead the league in assists at 8.5 per game. Tait will go head to head with Jarrad Weeks who is the Sharks leading scorer at 19.5 per game. After this the Sharks will play four in a row at home before four straight on the road

Cigna Saints (3-1) v Go Media Jets (1-5)

When: Friday, May 25, 7pm
Where: TSB Bank Arena, Wellington
Referees: Dallas Pickering, Rhys Hamilton, Duran Whiu

Notes

The Wellington Saints will play two games at home in three days, beginning with the Jets who although have lost two straight, both games were close. So far this season the Jets have hoisted a fair amount of three pointers, leading the league in attempts with 194, which is 32.3 per game, shooting at 26%. The Saints average just under 20 three point attempts, despite still averaging over 101 points per game. It will be the match up of the two highest scoring duos in the competition, the Saints back court of Shea Ili and LJ Peak who average a combined 48.3 points, going up against the Jets import duo of Daishon Knight and Kuran Iverson who average a combined 46.1 points per game, which is 55% of the Jets offense. Match up of the game will be between the points guards Ili and Knight. Ili continues to lead the league in scoring at 27.1 points per game, and is second in assists (8.0). Knight is fifth in points (22.8), and fifth in assists (6.3)

Mike Pero Nelson Giants (4-2) v Augusta Mountainairs (2-3)

When: Friday, May 25, 7pm
Where: Trafalgar Centre, Nelson
Referees: Hayden Pipe, Marty Davison, Sherhon Martin

Notes

The Giants suffered their first defeat at home last week losing to the Rams 104-90, but managed to bounce back with a close road win over the Jets. The Airs have struggled with injuries, with starting point guard Houston O'Riley missing their last two games, and import Roger Woods missing their win over the Jets. The two teams last met in Round Three, the Giants winning 93-90. Tohi Smith-Milner scored a season high 27 points in the win, and will hopefully be back in the line-up after missing the game versus the Jets. This will be a difficult stretch for the Airs who play six of their next seven on the road. Nelson have won 12 of the last 14 meetings between the two teams.

Round Five Preview

The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams (4-1) v Augusta Mountainairs (2-3)

When: Saturday, May 26, 7pm (Live Streamed)
Where: Cowles Stadium, Christchurch
Referees: Sean Cronin, Gavin Zimmerman, Duran Whiu

Notes

The Rams are on a three game winning streak and have leap frogged the rest of the competition to be top of the table. Arguably the Rams are the surprise team of the NBL, as they have a completely new starting five from last year's semi final roster. Key contributor from last year's roster, Mike Karena, re-joins the side after a season in Spain. Karena will give the Rams much needed size at the centre position which has been covered by Maxwell Darling who is third in the league in blocks (1.4), and is averaging 11.4 points and 6.8 rebounds per game. The two teams met in Round Three, the Rams winning 104-97 in overtime. Winston Shepard III tallied 23 points, 15 rebounds and seven assists. Shepard is arguably an early contender for MVP, currently averaging 23 points, and leads the league in rebounds (11.6). Hopefully the Rams will have forward Roger Woods return to their line-up. Woods scored 30 points and grabbed five steals against the Rams. Shepard will go up against Javonte Douglas who is second in the league in rebounds at 10.6 per game, and is averaging 22.8 points per game. The two players are currently the only two to average a double-double in points and rebounds

Cigna Saints (3-1) v Taylor Hawks (4-2)

When: Sunday, May 27, 3pm (Live Streamed)
Where: TSB Bank Arena, Wellington
Referees: Melony Wealleans, Matt Bathurst, Yalla Edwards

Notes

The Saints will host the Hawks for the second time this season, the Saints winning 93-85 in Round Three. The Saints had to outscore the Hawks 28-15 in the fourth quarter. Wellington struggled to contain Hawks forward, Jamie Skeen, who scored 29 points. The Hawks suffered their worst loss of the season by 30 to the Sharks, and have lost two of their last three. Wellington have now won the last eight games against the Hawks, and have not lost at TSB Bank Arena since 2011. Hawks point guard, Jarrod Kenny, is coming off a season high 18 points against the Sharks. Kenny scored 17 against Wellington, but his main priority will be try to contain the league leading scorer, Shea Ili. Ili had 26 points and eight assists against the Hawks. Expect more from guards Dion Prewster and Ethan Rusbatch, who were very quiet in the loss to the Sharks combining for three points.

2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers (0-6) v Mike Pero Nelson Giants (4-2)

When: Sunday, May 27, 3pm (Live Streamed)
Where: ASB Stadium, Te Awamutu
Referees: Dallas Pickering, Sam Pan, Tayla Ammunson

Notes

The Rangers will face the Giants for the second time, losing to them 117-68 back in Round One, Damon Heuir scored 25 in the win. Heuir leads his team in scoring, averaging 20.8 points per game. Heuir will go head to head with Clay Wilson who is averaging similar numbers at 19.8 per game. The Rangers will be playing their first game of the season at Te Awamutu, last season they played two games there, going 1-1. After this game the Giants will have a key stretch where they play four of their next five at home. In his last two games Rangers forward, Marcel Jones, is averaging 28.5 points per game. Jones will probably match up against Finn Delany who played only 17 minutes in his last game due to fouling out. Nelson have already equalled their win tally from last season when they finished with a 4-14 record. It is the opposite circumstance for the Rangers who are one loss away from tying last seasons regular season record.