



NBL
New Zealand

Round Eight Media Guide

Saints guard Shea Ili is Round Seven Player of the Week

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2018 Sal's National Basketball League Round Seven Review

2018 Sal's NBL Regular Season Standings

Team	P	W	L	H	A	For	Ag	Pts
Cigna Saints	9	8	1	4-1	4-0	865	795	16
Mike Pero Nelson Giants	10	8	2	5-1	3-1	964	838	16
SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks	9	7	2	5-0	2-2	936	800	14
The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	8	5	3	2-3	3-0	737	727	10
Taylor Hawks	10	5	5	2-1	3-4	842	870	10
Augusta Taranaki Mountainairs	9	2	7	1-4	1-3	731	782	4
Go Media Jets	9	1	8	0-3	1-5	773	899	2
2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	10	1	9	0-5	1-4	895	1032	2

Results

Thursday, June 6

At TSB Stadium, New Plymouth

Augusta Mountainairs 86 (Roger Woods 29, Javonte Douglas 20, Houston O'Riley 12)

2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers 93 (Dominique Kelman-Poto 26, Marcel Jones 25, Clay Wilson 22)

Friday, June 8

At Horncastle Arena, Christchurch

The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams 80 (Xavier Thames 31, Julian Williams-Washburn 18, Winston Shepard III 12)

Cigna Saints 91 (LJ Peak 26, Jordan Ngatai 19, Majok Majok 16)

At Trafalgar Centre, Nelson

Mike Pero Nelson Giants 96 (Finn Delany 21, Tohi Smith-Milner 21, Damon Heuir 14)

Go Media Jets 80 (Daishon Knight 33, Kuran Iverson 26, Brandon Lucas 13)

Saturday, June 9

At ILT Stadium, Invercargill

SIT Zerofees Sharks 118 (Jarrad Weeks 26, Orlando Coleman 18, Conor Morgan 15)

Go Media Jets 91 (Daishon Knight 35, Kuran Iverson 24, Theo Johnson 14)

Sunday, June 10

At Pettigrew Green Arena, Napier

Taylor Hawks 77 (Jarrod Kenny 16, Hyrum Harris 15, Mitchell Newton 15)

Cigna Saints 86 (Shea Ili 28, Majok Majok 19, LJ Peak 14)

Individual Highs

Points	35	Daishon Knight (Go Media Jets) v SIT Zerofees Sharks
Rebounds	15	Dominique Kelman-Poto (Rangers) & Orlando Coleman (Sharks)
Assists	11	Derone Raukawa (Sharks) & Jarrod Kenny (Hawks)
Steals	5	Xavier Thames (Rams) & LJ Peak (Saints)
Blocks	4	Maxwell Darling (The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams)

Player of the Week (POW)

Round Seven: Shea Ili (Cigna Saints)

Cigna Saints point guard, **Shea Ili**, is player of the week for Round Seven which is the second time he has earned the award in the last three weeks. Ili tallied 28 points and seven assists in the Saints 86-77 win over the **Taylor Hawks**.

Saints guard, **LJ Peak**, had 26 points in the 91-80 win over the **Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams**. Centre, **Majok Majok**, grabbed two doubles-doubles of 16 points, 10 rebounds versus the Rams and 19 points & 14 rebounds against the Hawks.

The **2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers** got their first win of the season thanks to a double-double of 26 points and 15 rebounds from rookie forward, **Dominique Kelman Poto**, in the 93-86 win over the **Augusta Mountainairs**.

The **SIT Zerofees Sharks** claimed their fifth straight win to maintain their unbeaten run at home, defeating the **Go Media Jets** 118-91. **Jarrad Weeks** had 26 points and **Orlando Coleman** added 18 points and 15 rebounds.

The **Mike Pero Nelson Giants** continued their hot run with a 96-80 win over the Jets. Tall Blacks forwards, **Finn Delany** (21 points & 12 rebounds) and **Tohi Smith–Milner** (21 points & 13 rebounds) each grabbed double-doubles to seal their eighth win.

Jets point guard, **Daishon Knight**, is the current league leader in scoring at 25.2 points per game after scoring 33 against the Giants and 35 against Sharks.

Live Streamed games available at nznbl.basketball website, maoritelevision.com or the [@NZNBL facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/NZNBL).

Index of Success Scores

Player	Team	Opposing Team	Score
Shea Ili	Cigna Saints	Taylor Hawks	36
Dominique Kelman-Poto	2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	Augusta Taranaki Mountainairs	35
Xavier Thames	The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	Cigna Saints	35
Daishon Knight	Go Media Jets	SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks	34
Jarrad Weeks	SIT Zerofees Sharks	Go Media Jets	33
Kuran Iverson	Go Media Jets	Mike Pero Nelson Giants	32
Majok Majok	Cigna Saints	Taylor Hawks	32
Finn Delany	Mike Pero Nelson Giants	Go Media Jets	29
Orlando Coleman	SIT Zerofees Sharks	Go Media Jets	29

Top 10 Overall Index of Success Leaders

Player	Team	Games	Total	Avg
1 Ili, Shea	Cigna Saints	9	284	31.6
2 Shepard III, Winston	The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams	8	240	30.0
3 Iverson, Kuran	Go Media Jets	9	233	25.9
4 Adnam, Kyle	Mike Pero Nelson Giants	10	246	24.6
5 Douglas, Javonte	Augusta Taranaki Mountainairs	9	221	24.6
6 Delany, Finn	Mike Pero Nelson Giants	8	196	24.5
7 Weeks, Jarrad	SIT Zerofees Southland Sharks	9	220	24.4
8 Majok, Majok	Cigna Saints	9	203	22.6
9 Knight, Daishon	Go Media Jets	9	199	22.1
10 Tait, Lindsay	2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers	10	208	20.8

Round Eight Preview

Mike Pero Nelson Giants (8-2) v The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams (5-3)

When: Thursday, June 14, 7pm (Live Streamed)
Where: Trafalgar Centre, Nelson
Referees: Dallas Pickering, Yalla Edwards, Marty Davison

Notes

The Giants have won five straight, their last loss was at home to the Rams 104-90, which is their only loss at Trafalgar Centre where they are 5-1. Rams point guard, Xavier Thames, had 24 points in the win, and is recently coming off a season high 31 points against the Saints. Thames will match up against Kyle Adnam who is averaging 19.2 points and 7.1 assists game. Rams leading scorer, Winston Shepard III, will be looking to rebound from his season low 12 points. Shepard is one of the top candidates for MVP so far this season with averages of 20.5 points, 10.5 rebounds and 7.3 assists. Shepard will go up against, Finn Delany, who is averaging nearly 24 points in his last three games. Rams have won the last five of seven played between the two. Forward, Mika Vukona, started in place of injured Jerry Evans III. Vukona will hopefully get more game time after fouling out in 13 minutes against the Jets last week.

SIT Zerofees Sharks (7-2) v The Wheeler Motor Canterbury Rams (5-3)

When: Friday, June 15, 7pm
Where: ILT Stadium, Invercargill
Referees: Matt Bathurst, Tayla Ammunson, Sherhon Martin

Notes

The Sharks will play their sixth straight game at home where they continue to dominate winning by an average margin of 25.8 points per game. This will be the first game against a current top four team in the Rams who have won all three road games this season. The two teams last met in Round Two, the Sharks winning 108-95. Sharks forward, Orlando Coleman, had 24 points and 13 rebounds. Coleman has had three straight double-doubles, and during that span is averaging 20.3 points and 12 rebounds, and is the best offensive rebounder in the league at 4.5 per game. Coleman will probably match up against Shepard who had 26 points, nine rebounds and four steals against them. Last week the Sharks were missing centre, Alex Pledger, who suffered an ankle injury the week before. Sharks currently lead the league in scoring at 104 points per game, and overall they shoot a league high 41% from three. The battle between point guards Jarrad Weeks and Xavier Thames could be the difference in the game. Weeks currently leads the Sharks in scoring (18.2 ppg) and assists (5.3 apg), and Thames is averaging 20.3 points and 3.9 assists per game.

Taylor Hawks (5-5) v 2 Cheap Cars Supercity Rangers (1-9)

When: Saturday, June 16, 5pm
Where: Pettigrew Green Arena, Napier
Referees: Ryan Jones, Yalla Edwards, Duran Whiu

Notes

The Hawks have dropped four of their last five and will be in must win mode when they play the Rangers who finally ended their nine game losing streak last week. In the last few seasons the Rangers have won seven of the last nine meetings between the two teams. Last year's assist winner, Jarrod Kenny, will match up against the current assists leader, Lindsay Tait, who is averaging 8.3 per game. Tait will be gunning for his fourth assist title, winning the other three in 2010, 2013, and 2015. In the last two games Kenny has dished out 11 assists in each of them. Last week the Hawks were without Angus Brandt and Everard Bartlett, both should be back in the line-up. Shooting guard, Clay Wilson, played his first game for the Rangers since 27th May, and scored 22 in the win. Marcel Jones continues to be one of the best scorers in the competition, currently averaging 22.1 points per game, and is also averaging 8.7 rebounds a game.

Round Eight Preview

Cigna Saints (8-1) v Augusta Mountainairs (2-7)

When: Saturday, June 16, 7pm (Live Streamed)
Where: TSB Bank Arena, Wellington
Referees: Melony Weallens, Hayden Pipe, Sam Pan

Notes

The Cigna Saints return home after winning three straight on the road to play the Airs for the first time this season. The Saints have won eight straight against the Airs, the last loss was 76-74 on June 6, 2014. There are no remaining Airs players from the roster. Forward, Aaron Bailey-Nowell scored 21 points in the win and has been sorely missed for the Airs who have struggled all season with injuries. Hopefully Taranaki will have the full roster available with centre, Xavier Smith, back in the line-up after missing their last two games. Taranaki are currently on four game losing streak, and their only two wins have come against the Jets. Forward, Javonte Douglas has been a double-double machine of late averaging 23 points and 15.3 rebounds in his last three games. Douglas will go head to head with, LJ Peak, who been consistent for the Saints this season, averaging 19.3 points at 56% from the field.

Go Media Jets (1-8) v Cigna Saints (8-1)

When: Sunday, June 17, 3pm
Where: Ballroom Arena, Manawatu
Referees: Sean Cronin, Gavin Zimmerman, Hayden Pipe

Notes

The Go Media will play their first home game since the 20th of May and will be hosting a Saints side that will be coming off a home game the night before and will without their leading scorer, Shea Ili, who will be attending an NBA camp with the Dallas Mavericks. The Jets are currently 0-3 at home, but in their last loss they only were beaten by two points against the Giants. The two teams met in Round Five, the Saints winning 109-101. Shea Ili had 31 points and nine assists. Jets point guard, Daishon Knight, had 22 points and 10 assists, and is coming off back to back thirty plus point games. Knight will go head to head with Ili's back up, Shaun Bruce, who has played more of a shooting guard role alongside Ili. Saints will have to try and contain Knight and Iverson who average a combined 49.1 points per game, which is 58% of the Jets total offense.