



What a way to begin week one of the Semi Finals!!!

First up was the Coburg Giants who played host to the new but deadly Warrnambool Mermaids. Even though this is their first taste of Big V Finals the Mermaids sure showed us it doesn't matter if it's a regular season game or a final they are here and they mean business. Both teams showed to be a little nervous with plenty of shots going up but none finding the bottom of the net, it was Coburg who got the first points of the game then Warrnambool followed suit and kept on going and before the Giants knew what hit them it was 13-2. The Mermaids maintained their lead and went into the quarter break up by 10 points, the second quarter was tight and both teams showed off their strengths. Half time couldn't come quick enough for the Giants who had some ground to catch up in the third if they wanted to take game 1 at home, but it seemed the third quarter belonged to Warrnambool who went on a 28-14 quarter, which meant Coburg had a giant gap of 29 points to chase down in the fourth. They didn't let that get to them though they dug deep and out scored the Mermaids in the final term but sadly couldn't get the W. Deslyn Applewhaite did what she could for her Giants team and stuffed the stats sheet with 24pts 11rebs 2asts & 3stls while the Mermaids captain Amy Wormald lead her team to victory with 24pts 12rebs 6asts but she couldn't do it alone, Madeleine White also had a nice 15pts 4rebs 2asts & 2stls.

In the second set of Semi Finals we had Mornington taking on our other new team Wallan. Mornington have been here done that before but this is Wallan's first rodeo and sure enough the nerves popped their heads up in the first quarter, but lucky for them Mornington took some time to find their feet also. Mornington went into the first quarter break up by 2 in a very low scoring quarter of only 8-6, the Panthers found their form in the second and went into the long break with a small 3point lead. Mornington had other plans though as they stole it back in the third, the game was setting up the fourth quarter to be a ripper as they Mornington went into it up by just 1 point. Patrice McKenzie had another stand out performance in the final term but it was Haylee Cooper-Maclean from Wallan who stole the show hitting 10 of the Panther's 19 points for the final term, Haylee ended the match with an impressive 21pts 7rebs 6stls. Mornington will be kicking themselves for letting this one slip out of their fingers, they now have to head into the Panthers den and sneak out with 2 wins to make it through to the grand final without the Panthers catching them out. Patrice McKenzie gets to each game and just does her job week in week out finals or regular game they are all hers for the taking, she almost had a dub, dub finishing with 20pts 16rebs & 7stls but sadly it wasn't enough to get her side over the line this week.

There is always next week!!!

Bring on games 2 Saturday night & if needed games 3 on Sunday at Warrnambool and Wallan.

### GAME 1 SEMI FINAL RESULTS

Warrnambool defeated **Coburg** (82-56)

Wallan defeated **Mornington** (53-45)



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