



RD 1 - RECAP

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP WOMEN

Wildcats 85 - Eagles 63: Eltham started the season with a strong win against their arch rival. Leading from start to finish, the visitors enjoyed 39pts from Bec Cole, while Katrina Hibbert added 13pts in her playing comeback. For the Eagles, Kasey Burton (23pts) and Mikayla Pirini (14pts) flew the flag. Highlights - it was great to see Hibbert back on court and also thumbs up for DV for putting on a good night of fan-engagement with some really cool new initiatives. Well done.

Sharks 61 - Jets 75: Not even jumping a division could bring an end to Sunbury's winning run under coach Kennedy Kereama. Strong off-season recruiting reaped rewards for the Jets with Orla O'Reilly (17pts) and Josephine Stockill (13pts) joining with Karen Duever (21pts) and Chelsea Burns (15pts) to ensure a good win. The Sharks will put this one behind them and will only go forward from here. Britt Carter did her bit for the home team with 23pts.

Broncos 67 - Boomers 45: Hume City's title defence started well with a 67-45 victory against Bulleen. Much has changed at the Broncos - a new coach and a change in import, all eyes are on whether or not the champs will be a leading force once again. Replacing star import Colleen Planeta, Samantha Guastella (19pts) looked good for the winners, as did Mua Laloifi (16pts, 8rbs, last, 5stl). For the young Boomers, Lily Scanlon (10pts) was the only player to reach double figures.

Falcons 59 - Raiders 67: One of the most anticipated games proved to be a ripper with Knox storming home to claim a great win against quality opposition. Tegan Cunningham (27pts) did all she could for Waverley, but Knox proved too strong with Bec Ott (20pts), Ta'rea Cunnigan (12pts) and Lucy Dawson (10pts, 12rbs) getting the job done. There's every chance the Falcons and Raiders will be right up the top this season, so this was a good look into the quality and depth of both teams. Early days, but the Raiders take the first points here.

Jets 96 - Cougars 41: Sunbury's weekend ended in cruise control courtesy of a thumping win against a depleted McKinnon outfit. With Ariel Thomas sidelined this was always going to be a tough ask for the visiting Cougars and at 18-41 down at the half, they fell away in the second half as the home team piled on 55-23. Karen Duever (21pts) and Orla O'Reilly (18pts) feasted, while for the Cougars only Mel Ioannidis (10pts) reached double digits.

Venom 60 - Hawks 62: In a tight battle, Warrandyte blew an 11pt half-time lead to go down to rivals, Ringwood. Minus Nicole Romeo, the Venom looked great early, however a poor third term (10-21) allowed the Hawks back into the contest. Victoria Jarosz (16pts, 15rbs) and Danni Bone (16pts) did well for Ringwood, while for Warrandyte it was Michelle Couling and Mollie Burke leading the way with 10pts each.

ROUND 1 RESULTS

Diamond Valley 63 (Burton 23pts) lost to **Eltham 85** (Cole 39pts)
Sth Peninsula 61 (Carter 23pts) lost to **Sunbury 75** (Duever 21pts)
Hume City 67 (Gaustella 19pts) def Bulleen 45 (Scanlon 10pts)
Waverley 59 (Cunningham 27pts) lost to **Knox 67** (Ott 20pts)
Sunbury 96 (Duever 21pts) def McKinnon 41 (Ioannidis 10pts)
Warrandyte 60 (Couling/Burke 10pts) lost to **Ringwood 62** (Jarosz/Bone 16pts)

