



There is nothing better than a round full of close games. Those 'newbies' that we keep referring to certainly made a name for themselves too. Let's get straight into things with a recap of the first game off the rank.

The first two sides were two teams that struggled during 2016. However it seems we're in for new and improved sides based on this result. Final score had the Warriors just over the line by 3. It looked as though both sides took a half a piece. The first half was in favour of the Seahawks, the second was therefore taken by the Warriors. Fast forward to 3.30 minutes left in the game, scores were tied at 67 a piece thanks to a beyond the arc shot from Liam Osborne. From this point on it was foul for foul with each team taking it in turns to take some free shots. Unfortunately for the Seahawks, they hacked one too many times allowing the Warriors to come away with the win. Jack Pinkus shon for the Warriors with 26 points and 12 boards, followed by Hudson De Bortoli with 14 points. Issiah McLeod and Liam Osborne finished with 14 each, Tanner Blackney-Noter close behind with 12 and 11 and 7 assists.

Déjà vu moment, the Thoroughbreds and the Cavs game was almost an exact replica of the above. Half by half, tied scores and foul shots to finish off the win. And that win fell into the laps of the Cavs. Half time the Thoroughbreds seemed to be in control, however this was by a small margin of 6. Jumping straight into the 3rd quarter and the Cavs were fired up. By the time that siren went, scores were level. The final quarter was a close battle with once again scores tied with barely little time to go. 2 seconds left and Brandon Paris was sent to the line. 1 made, 2 made, game was done. Nathan Dodgson finished with 18 and 8, Alex Bazzucchini with 15 and 8. Broden Collins and Brody Richie both tied with 16 a piece.

Following on from the previous games, the next two matches followed suit.

The Gulls vs Steelers and the Eagles vs the All Stars, all were kind enough to share the lead in their respective matches. However there can only be one winner. The Steelers took their match by 4 points, the Eagles took theirs by 3. Another couple of close games. A dint to the Gulls side this year is the loss of Brad 'Little Miss' Murfett. When it comes to youth league, age comes into play and unfortunately for this squad, Murfett reached the pinnacle. However, even in their loss they look to have a number of guys to make up the loss. Copper Pratt took home 16 and 8, Nathan Frost finished with a not so chilly 12 and 16. For the winning side Dylan Thoonen was Mr Unstoppable with 30 points and 10 boards. Newbies the All Stars, coached by D2 star Manny Hendrix, took home a respectable loss. They will get their eventual win in the not too distant future. Athiaan Manyial finished with 26 and 11. The Eagles had the experience and took the win thanks to Declan Stockdale, 24 points, and Tyler Wing 13 and 10, Brett Bell 13 and 11.

With possibly only a downfall of a quarter and a half, the Breakers were in control of their match against other newbies Wallan. With 1 minute 16 left in the game, the Panthers took a 1 point lead then 3. But in the eyes of the Breakers, there was enough time to rectify this. Jackson Young 2 point made, Breakers trail by 1. Ryan Wells 2 point made, Breakers lead by 1. Final siren. Wells finished the game with 15 points, Gryf Pugh 12 and 15. James Metaxotos had 16 in his Big V debut.

Last by not least, the game that didn't follow suit, the Warriors took a comfortable 21 point win over the Cougars. We must say, from what we saw of the Cougars in YL1M, this is a much better display from them. They were in this game for a half, however the Warriors put in the full 4 quarters for the win. This is nothing unexpected. Lewis Newman, 17 and 12, Kyle Nagel 17. Mitch Evans had 16.

ROUND 1 RESULTS

Maccabi defeated **Warrnambool** (71-68)

Casey defeated **Melton** (63-61)

Western Port defeated **Chelsea** (72-68)

Craigieburn defeated **Collingwood** (75-72)

Mornington defeated **Wallan** (57-56)

Pakenham defeated Keysborough (83-62)



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