



18 OCTOBER 2009

SCOREBOARD - FINALS ROUND 1

MEN

Superleague (Wednesday)
Perth Coastal b Balcatta 3-2
25-23, 25-21, 21-25, 11-25, 15-12

Division 1 (Tuesday)
Balcatta b Balcatta Masters 3-0
25-23, 25-8, 25-21

Division 2
Balcatta b Rossmoyne 3-1
25-19, 25-23, 22-25, 25-19

Division 3
UWA b Balcatta 3-2
19-25, 25-17, 19-25, 25-16, 16-14



Super Cats - All the Balcatta women's teams who made the finals are still in the race for a PVL Premiership in 2009.



Brave Cats - Balcatta fought hard against Perth Coastal but lost in five sets to bow out of the finals.



Back in business - Balcatta bounced back to win the second semi-final Derby on Tuesday night.



Successful move - Div.2 player Nick Terpsis made a successful switch to middle hitter in the first semi-final against Rossmoyne.



Down, but not out - Balcatta plays Rossmoyne this Friday for a chance to meet UWA in the Grand Final.

Cats purring in the finals

The season keeps getting better for the Balcatta Volleyball Club with four teams winning the first semi-final to advance straight to the grand final and another four teams still in with a chance and will play off in tonight's preliminary finals. The only sour note for the Cats in round 1 of the finals was that reigning Superleague Premiers Balcatta bowed out of the finals after losing to Perth Coastal in the second semi-final.

Top cats lose by a whisker

Balcatta Superleague men came back from two sets to love to tie the second-semi final, but then lost the fifth set by three points to end their finals campaign (25-23, 25-21, 21-25, 11-25, 15-12). The reigning premiers had a roller-coaster season in 2009 after a poor start, but the Cats started to find form coming into the finals. Rossmoyne advanced to the grand final after beating Southern Cross in five sets in the first semi-final. The Cross will play Perth Coastal tonight in the preliminary final, these teams finishing the season in second and third spots on the PVL ladder.

Young guns win Balcatta Derby

Balcatta was guaranteed a win in the second semi final in the men's Division 1 competition between Balcatta and Balcatta Masters. But the younger boys made amends for their last Derby loss to convincingly win in straight sets (25-23, 25-8, 25-21). Coach Steve Petsos' boys will now meet Southern Cross in the preliminary final after Rossmoyne beat the Cross to advance to the grand final.

In form Cats through to GF

Balcatta beat minor premiers Rossmoyne in four sets in the first semi final to book a spot in the Grand Final (25-19, 25-23, 22-25, 25-19). Cats coach Romano Fraccasini said his team was very determined to win the first semi-final and they dominated from the start with some great hits from Matt Miles. "With middle blocker Jeremy Ricciardi out with the flu, the versatile Nick Terpsis moved from site hitter position to the middle, blocking and attacking well," Romano said. "The result was a morale boosting win leading into the Grand Final."

Minor premiers beaten by UWA

Minor premiers Balcatta narrowly lost their first semi-final clash against University of WA in a marathon five setter (19-25, 25-17, 19-25, 25-16, 16-14). The Cats only lost one game during the season, against UWA, and after a slow start looked on track to advance to the Grand Final. The Cats were serving for the game, but UWA fought back to tie the final set at 14-all and then they went onto win the game after the Cats made errors on the final two points.



SCOREBOARD - FINALS ROUND 1

WOMEN

Superleague

Balcatta b Perth Coastal 3-0
25-20, 25-22, 25-14

Division 1

Balcatta b UWA 3-2
25-22, 19-25, 22-25, 25-18, 15-11

Division 2

Balcatta b UWA 3-2
15-25, 26-24, 20-25, 25-20, 15-8

Division 3

Balcatta Red b Sth Cross White 3-0
25-13, 27-25, 25-22

Division 4

Sth Cross Penrhos A b Balcatta 3-1
25-23, 16-25, 25-21, 25-11



Perfect position - Balcatta Superleague player Mel Johnson gets set to dig the ball against Coastal in the second semi-final.



On target - Balcatta player Mel Davey and her team are through to the Grand Final.



White hot form - Balcatta Div.2 girls are through to the second round of the finals after scraping into the Top 4.



Talking tactics - Cats Division 3 women's coach Mitchell Collins fires up his team in between sets.

Breakthrough for Superleague girls

Balcatta beat Perth Coastal in straight sets in the women's Superleague second semi-final to advance to this Friday's preliminary final against Southern Cross (25-20, 25-22, 25-14). Cats coach Russell Hampton said that it was the first finals win for most of the Balcatta players, (including his first win as a coach. Russell said that it was a full-team effort. "Tenille Ryan was very consistent all game and a standout today, and Cats captain Jenny Day came on at a crucial time (midway through the second set) when Coastal were leading the set and played her best game of the year by far.

Cats make second Grand Final

Balcatta bounced back to beat UWA in five sets in the women's Division 1 competition in the first semi-final after being down two sets to one (25-22, 19-25, 22-25, 25-18, 15-11). The minor premiers made it tough for themselves, eventually closing out the marathon five set game to make the Grand Final for the second year in a row. Cats coach Aaron Leung said that it was great to see his team find form in the second half of the match. "We will work hard to make sure we are ready for next week and hope to go one better than last year," Aaron said. "We will play the winner of Friday's playoff between UWA and Perth Coastal."

Balcatta continues to improve

Balcatta beat UWA in five sets in the women's Division 2 second semi-final to advance through to the preliminary final (15-25, 26-24, 20-25, 25-20, 15-8). After sitting outside of the top four on the PVL ladder, the Cats - who are coached by Mel Johnson - improved throughout the season and scraped into the finals to cause an upset win over third-placed UWA. The Cats play either ECU or Southern Cross this Friday for a chance to make the Grand Final.

Cats crush the Cross

Balcatta convincingly beat Southern Cross in straight sets in the first semi final in the women's Division 3 competition to advance through to the Grand Final. The minor premiers, coached by Mitchell Collins, took the first set 25-13 with some great passing from libero Tahnee Gibson and a good serving run from Kiera Man-Piercy. The second was a little closer 27-25, but with some hard aggressive hitting from Nicole Glossop and great net work by Charlotte Ryan, the girls continued to put on the their own show. In the third set Kate Ganz stepped up her setting making smart choices and tearing apart the defence setting years above her age. Rianne Parker gave us two strong serving runs and Chelsea Packham kept us in many points and player some smart options.



In the mix - Balcatta is still in the finals race in the women's Division 4 competition after losing the first semi-final.

Young Cats lose in four sets

Balcatta lost to Southern Cross Penrhos A in four sets in the women's Division 4 competition in the first semi-final (25-23, 16-25, 25-21, 25-11). The Cats, who finished in second spot at the end of the season, took the game up to the minor premiers early. But after winning the second set and narrowly losing the first and third, the Cats collapsed in the fourth set. Balcatta meets Perth Coastal in the preliminary final this Friday with the winner taking on the Cross in the grand final.

FINALS FIXTURES - WEEK 2

Friday, 23 October - Preliminary Finals
Venue: Loftus Recreation Centre

Superleague Women (Court 2 at 9pm) Balcatta vs Sth Cross
Division 3 Men (Court 4 at 7.30pm) Balcatta vs Rossmoyne
Division 4 Women (Court 3 at 7.30pm) Balcatta vs Perth Coastal
Division 1 Men (Court 1 at 7.30pm) Balcatta vs Sth Cross

Sunday, 25 October - Grand Finals
Venue: Loftus Recreation Centre

Division 1 Women (Court 2 at 11am) Balcatta vs (PC or UWA)
Division 2 Women (Court 2 at 1pm) Balcatta vs (UWA or ECU Masters)
Division 2 Men (Court 3 at 11am) Balcatta vs (Rossmoyne or SX)
Division 3 Women (Court 2 at 9am) Bal. Red vs (SX White or UWA)

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