



14 JUNE 2009

SCOREBOARD - ROUND 5

MEN

Superleague (Team 1)

Coach: John Ricciardi
Perth Coastal d Balcatta 3-0
25-14, 25-16, 25-15

Division 1 (Team 13)

Coach: Steve Petsos
Balcatta d UWA 3-1
25-17, 16-25, 25-22, 25-23

Masters (Team 17)

Coach: Marty Bertuleit
Balcatta d Southern Cross 3-2
25-22, 24-26, 15-25, 25-23, 15-11

Division 2 (Team 22)

Coach: Romano Fracassini
Balcatta d Southern Cross 3-0
25-19, 25-16, 25-12

Division 3 (Team 32)

Coach: Brendon Buckley
Balcatta d Southern Cross 3-2
21-25, 25-20, 23-25, 25-20, 15-10

WOMEN

Superleague (Team 104)

Coach: Russell Hampton
Balcatta d ECU Chequers 3-1 *
25-19, 25-21, 25-9

Division 1 (Team 111)

Coach: Aaron Leung
Balcatta d Perth Coastal 3-2
25-22, 18-25, 25-22, 18-25, 15-11

Division 2 (Team 122)

Coach: Mel Johnson
Balcatta - Bye

Division 3 - Blue (Team 132)

Coach: Layne van Smaalen
Balcatta d Rossmoyne 3-0
25-16, 25-20, 25-18

Division 3 - Red (Team 133)

Coach: Mitchell Collins
Balcatta d Sth Cross Green 3-0
25-15, 25-15, 26-24

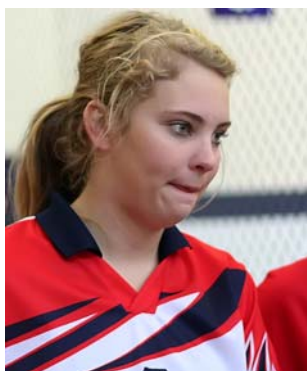
Division 4 (Team 141)

Coach: John Sewell
Balcatta d Southern Cross 3-1
27-29, 25-20, 25-22, 25-16

* Game played 7 June



Taking aim - Tim Wikins sets while Brendan Chapman looks on in the men's Division 1 game over UWA.



Welcome back - Ellin Collins returns this week to the Cats after missing the start of the season through injury.



Eye on the ball - Playing coach Marty Bertuleit gets ready to dig.



Big spike - Matt Hawkins spiked well in the Cat's five-set win over Southern Cross in the men's Div.1 competition.

Cats almost purr-fect round

The Balcatta Volleyball Club had its best round for the season winning eight out of nine games played last weekend. In the men's Division 2 and 3, and women's Division 1 competitions the Cats maintained their unbeaten runs to be on top of the PVL ladder. Balcatta also had a great win in the men's Division 1 competition with our Masters Team beating the top side - Southern Cross. The only disappointment last Sunday was the Cat's loss to Perth Coastal in the men's Superleague - the third loss now for the reigning premiers who have had a slow start to the season.

[See Superleague Reports - Pages 2 & 3](#)

Unbeaten Cats pushed to five sets

Balcatta extended its unbeaten run to five games in a row beating second placed Perth Coastal on Sunday in five sets in the women's Division 1 competition (25-22, 18-25, 25-22, 18-25, 15-11). The win sees the Cats go two games clear on top of the ladder. Cats coach Aaron Leung said that although they were not as dominant as in previous games, the team showed their fighting spirit to come back to win in the fifth set with some amazing defensive plays that denied Coastal any chance of closing out the game. "At 1-6 down in the fifth set, I chose not to call a time-out as this team seems to thrive on the pressure of playing catch-up volleyball," Aaron said. "The girls then only let Coastal win another five points in the set, which was great to watch."

Balcatta on top after Masters win

Balcatta Masters beat the undefeated Southern Cross team on the weekend in the men's Division 1 competition in a hard-fought five set game (25-22, 24-26, 15-25, 25-23, 15-11). The win elevated the Masters into fourth spot on the PVL ladder and the other Balcatta Division 1 team into equal top spot, after their four set win over University of WA. Masters coach Marty Bertuleit said that it was a great win for the Cats. "All the Balcatta players put in a great effort to set up the win," he said.

Top Cats win by a whisker

Balcatta narrowly avoided a shock loss in the men's Division 4 competition, fighting back to beat Southern Cross in five sets last weekend to keep its unbeaten record in tact (21-25, 25-20, 23-25, 25-20, 15-10). On top of the PVL table, the Cats were hot favourites to beat Southern Cross, who are now in fifth place with one win in season 2009. The Cats took a while to get on top after starting the first set with a new-look line-up and switching setters throughout the game. But after narrowly losing the first and third sets, the Cats responded and comfortably won the fourth and fifth sets. Matt Hawkins hit extremely well all game and also had a go at setting along with captain Elliott Hill and Todd Hatfield.



SUPERLEAGUE - MEN

Game Results

Superleague

Coach: John Ricciardi

Perth Coastal d Balcatta 3-0

25-14, 25-16, 25-15



Big debut - Luke Mc Taggart played his first Superleague game with the Cats on Sunday against Perth Coastal.

Cat tales

Cats Coach - John Ricciardi

Cats Captain - Paul Prindiville

PVL position in 2008 - 1

Premierships - 5 (1996-97, '99, 2007-08)

This week's game preview

Opponent - Rossmoyne

Cat's game streak - 2 wins and a loss

Last clash against opponent - Balcatta lost in four sets in round 1.

Balcatta slips down the league ladder

Balcatta dropped down to fourth place on the PVL ladder in the men's Superleague after losing to Perth Coastal in straight sets last weekend. The win elevated Coastal to top spot -equal on points with Southern Cross.

The Cats disappointing start to the season continued with the reigning premiers now losing James Clinch and Michael Prindiville for the entire season, both with shoulder injuries.

Heading into the game the Cats were confident of a victory having won their last two games in a row and they started the game well. In first set Balcatta kept Coastal at bay early with good defensive work and spiking.

But Coastal continually attacked the ball and slowly opened up a very handy lead. Despite the Cats working hard to close the gap, Coastal was too strong and won the first set 25-14.

The second and third sets were a similar story and score line. Despite Cats captain Paul Prindiville trying to lift the team, the Cats were competitive early. But after losing their confidence, Balcatta lost both sets 16-25 and 15-25, and the game.

Cats coach John Ricciardi said he was very disappointed by the way Balcatta played against Coastal. "It's a strong even competition and we have to lift our standard if we want to start winning games consistently," he said.

"There will be a lot of soul searching during the week, so hopefully we will bounce back this week."

Congratulations to Luke Mc Taggart who made his Superleague debut with the Cats on Sunday.

"Luke played very well in his first game and I'm sure there will be more opportunities for him to play Superleague again this season," John said.

"If we can work hard and train as a team we can bounce back and challenge again in the finals.

"It's been difficult getting all players to train together with Josh Court and Jason Fox training with the state team.

Superleague Men - Season at a Glance

Rnd.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Opp.	Ros	SX	Uni	ECU	PC	Ross														
Res.	L	L	W	W	L															
Score	1-3	0-3	3-0	3-0	0-3															
Pos.	-	-	-	=3	=4															

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SUPERLEAGUE - WOMEN

Game Results

Superleague

Coach: Russell Hampton
 Balcatta d ECU Chequers 3-1
 25-19, 25-21, 25-9



Dig it - Claire Dragicevic had a purple patch in the third set with the Cats winning the first four points.

Cat tales

Cats Coach - Russell Hampton
 Cats Captain - Jenny Day
 PVL position in 2008 - 4
 Premierships - 3 (1996, 1997, 1998)

This week's game preview

Opponent - UWA
 Cat's game streak - 2 wins in a row
 Last clash against opponent -
 Balcatta lost in straight sets.

Balcatta storms home against ECU Chequers

Despite missing three players, Balcatta was too strong for ECU Chequers beating them in straight sets in the women's Superleague competition at the Loftus Recreation Centre on 7 June.

Heading into the game the Cats were missing captain Jenny Day (injury), Elise Chapman (holidays) and Tracey Hasselerharm. This opened the door for Ella Pragt to play her first game for the Cats and she started off in fine style serving an ace on the first point.

The Cats opened up an early three-point lead (5-2) in the first set thanks to a good combination play with Mel Johnson killing the second tempo ball. A Jenette Brown block and Johnson ace stretched the lead to 7-3 when a run of points to ECU levelled the score at 7-all. A block to Ellwood and kill to Pragt kept Balcatta in the set at 13-all before the Cats opened up a six-point lead at (20-14) after good serves by Dragicevic and Johnson. A big quick ball kill by Ellwood stretched the lead to 21-15 before she was replaced by Nicole Leighton from Division 1. A joust-ball win to Tennille Ryan followed by successive kills to Pragt gave the Cats set point when Leighton finished it in style with an ace to take the set 25-19.

Just like in the first set, the Cats again opened up a three-point lead in the second set at 5-2 following a quick kill and block by Kim Ellwood and Jenette Brown. From here, the set went point-for-point with the Cats maintaining a three-point lead up to 11-8. A massive transition quick kill to Dragicevic backed up by aces to Ryan and Pragt gave the Cats a 17-11 advantage. After Ellwood was substituted by Leighton, the Cats struggled to close out the game with ECU closing the gap to just two points at 20-18. Jenette Brown then stepped in for successive kills and a second ball attack by Ryan gave the Cats a buffer before ECU served an error at 21-24, to give the Cats the set (25-21).

In the third set Clair Dragicevic was on fire early winning the first four points of the game with two kills, a block and an ace. The Cats were all over this set with Brown and Ellwood blocking well. The Cats opened up an eight-point lead at 11-3 and then Brown scored three aces in a run of seven serves to storm home (19-4). Fittingly, Ellwood finished the game with a quick kill, winning the set 25-9 and the game.

Cats coach Russell Hampton said the win was a great team effort with everyone pulling their weight. "Without Elise Chapman, who is such a strong player, all the girls stepped up today and played very well," Russell said. "To ECU's credit, they played quite well in defence and the game had many long rallies. We had to change our attack to get some momentum, but eventually we came away with a strong win."

Superleague Women - Season at a Glance

Round	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Opp.	SX	Uni	Bye	PC	Bye	ECU	Uni													
Result	L	L		W		W														
Score	0-3	0-3		3-2		3-0														
Posit.	-	-		-		-														

2009 PVL PREMIERSHIP TABLE

Team	G	W	L	D	F	B	Position*
MEN Superleague	5	2	3				=4
Division 1	5	4	1				=1
Masters (Div. 1)	5	2	2			1	4
Division 2	5	5					1
Division 3	5	4				1	1
WOMEN Superleague	5#	1	2			2	3
Division 1	5	5					1
Division 2	5	1	3			1	=6
Division 3 (Blue)	5	2	3				6
Division 3 (Red)	5	5					1
Division 4	5	3	1			1	=2

LEGEND
 G - Games played
 W - Wins
 L - Losses
 D - Draws
 F - Forfeits
 B - Byes
 TBC - To be confirmed

*Positions (As at Round 5)
 # Excludes win against ECU*