



30 AUGUST 2009

## SCOREBOARD - ROUND 14

### MEN

#### Superleague

Balcatta b ECU Chequers 3-0  
25-13,25-14,25-19

#### Division 1

Sth Cross b Balcatta Masters 3-0  
25-21,25-14,25-19  
Balcatta - Bye

#### Division 2

Balcatta b ECU Chequers 3-0  
25-10,25-15,25-23

#### Division 3

Balcatta b Ross. Masters 3-0  
25-21,25-23,25-22

### WOMEN

#### Superleague

Southern Cross b Balcatta 3-0  
25-15,25-15,25-23

#### Division 1

Balcatta b Southern Cross 3-1  
25-20,25-18,20-25,25-19

#### Division 2

Balcatta b ECU Chequers 3-1  
21-25,25-15,26-24,25-21

#### Division 3

Balcatta Red b Sth Cross Green 3-0  
25-16,25-14,25-20  
Balcatta Blue b Sth Cross White 3-2  
25-22,22-25,25-21,23-25,15-6

#### Division 4

Balcatta Blue b Perth Coastal 3-2  
25-23,25-14,24-26,23-25,15-9



Building blocks - [L-R] Balcatta Div 2 players Jason Sewell and Jeremy Ricciardi against ECU Chequers last weekend.



Dig it - Balcatta Division 1 Masters coach and player Marty Bertuleit gets set to dig the ball.



Fun and games - Balcatta Division 1 player Ali Mees and Ellin Collins enjoy a moment while blocking.

## Cats roar on the weekend

Round 14 was one of the best of the season to date for the Balcatta Volleyball Club. The Cats won eight out of ten games played last weekend, with only our women's Superleague and men's Masters teams losing their games. Boosted with the return of Jayson Fox and James Clinch (from injury), the Cats blitzed ECU Chequers in the men's Superleague to win in straight sets. Balcatta Div 2 and 3 boys also had convincing straight sets wins over ECU Chequers and Rossmoyne Masters, respectively. John Sewell's Division 4 girls had a thrilling five set win over Perth Coastal, while we had breakthrough victories in the women's Division 2 and 3 competitions. Mel Johnson's Div. 2 girls beat ECU in four sets after showing promising form in recent weeks, while Layne Van Smaalen's Div. 3 Red girls beat Southern Cross Green in straight sets.

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

## Older Cats face tough road ahead

After a promising start to the 2009 PVL season, Balcatta Masters have been struggling in recent weeks and could miss out on finals action. Last weekend the Cats lost in straight sets to Southern Cross (21-25, 14-25, 19-25) and are now in fourth spot on the PVL ladder with UWA and ECU hot on their heels with three wins each, just one game behind the Cats on four. Balcatta Masters playing coach Marty Bertuleit said that it was the Cat's third loss in a row. "If we want to make the finals, we will need to improve quickly," Marty said.

## Balcatta cements top two spot

Despite missing a few players this week, Balcatta cruised to victory over Southern Cross on the weekend with a season building win (25-20, 25-18, 20-25, 25-19). Playing the game at their own pace, the Cats came ready to play volleyball and the whole team played well on the day. Cats coach Aaron Leung said that the team focused on a few specific goals and, despite a slight slip in the third set while vice-captain Mel Davey took a well earned rest, they were strong for the rest of the game. "The win virtually cements a top two finish and puts us in a good position for the finals," Aaron said. The Cats have won 11 games and are on top of the PVL a game ahead of UWA and four games clear of Perth Coastal and ECU Chequers, who are equal in third position.



## 2009 PVL PREMIERSHIP TABLE

Team	G	W	L	D	F	B	Position*
<b>MEN</b> Superleague	14	7	7				4
Division 1	14	8	2		2	2	3
Masters (Div. 1)	14	5	7			2	4
Division 2	14	11	2		2		3
Division 3	14	12	1			1	1
<b>WOMEN</b> Superleague	16	6	7			3	3
Division 1	14	10	3				1
Division 2	14	4	8			2	6
Division 3 (Blue)	14	4	7			3	5
Division 3 (Red)	14	9	2			3	1
Division 4	14	9	3			2	2

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

*Positions (As at Round 14)*

## SUPERLEAGUE - MEN

### Game Results

Balcatta b ECU Chequers 3-0  
 25-13, 25-14, 25-19



*Back in business - Jayson Fox returned to the Balcatta Superleague team last weekend against ECU Chequers.*

### Cat tales

Cats Coach - John Ricciardi  
 Cats Captain - Paul Prindiville  
 PVL position in 2008 - 1  
 Current PVL position - 4  
 Premierships - 5 (1996-97, '99, 2007-08)

### This week's game preview

Opponent - Perth Coastal  
 Ladder positions - Perth Coastal (3<sup>rd</sup>)  
 Balcatta (4<sup>th</sup>)  
 Cat's game streak - 2 wins in a row  
 Last clash against opponent - Balcatta lost in straight sets (Round 10).

## Cats get ready to pounce on final contenders

With a near full strength side for the first time all season, a pumped up Balcatta Superleague team came out firing last Sunday and blitzed ECU Chequers in straight sets.

With James Clinch returning from injury and Jayson Fox back in the team, the Cats got off to a great start and everything was working like clockwork. Both James and Jayson passed superbly to setter Callum Bradburn who set perfect passes to Paul Prindiville and the in form Josh Court enabling them to spike hard and easily pass the ECU blockers. The combinations were increasing with middle-hitters Aaron Borszeky and Cameron Dall unstoppable. ECU fought hard to stay in the set, but the Cats completely dominated winning it 25-13.

It was the same story in the second set with the Cats dominating from the start. Josh Court was spiking powerfully in this set, and together with Paul Prindiville and James Clinch, the Cats were able to pass the tall ECU blockers. Aided by the middle hitters and solid defensive work from Jayson Fox, the Cats cruised home - winning the second set 25-14.

For the third set coach John Ricciardi kept a similar starting line-up hoping the Cats would continue their fine form. But in this set ECU started to challenge the Balcatta players and went head-to-head early with the Cats. But the Cats got back on top mid-way through the set and were too strong, although ECU were closer this time. With strong serving from Josh Court and Paul Prindiville, the Cats closed out the set 25-19, and the set.

"It was great having a full team to choose from," John said.

"It was a very good game to watch and with this form I am confident that the Cats will finish off the season strongly and give the finals another shake.

The reigning premiers are on a hat-trick having won the last two PVL premierships. With six games remaining for the season, the Cats are secure in fourth spot and should make the finals.

## 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	SX	Uni	ECU	PC	Ross	SX	Uni	ECU	PC					
Res.	L	L	W	W	L	L	W	W	W	L	L	L	W	W						
Score	1-3	0-3	3-0	3-0	0-3	1-3	3-0	3-0	3-0	0-3	1-3	1-3	3-1	3-0						
Pos.	-	-	-	=3	=4	=4	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	4						



## SUPERLEAGUE - WOMEN

Coach: Russell Hampton

### Game Results

Southern Cross b Balcatta 3-0  
25-15,25-15,25-23



*Time out - Elise Chapman and Mel Johnson listen to coach Russell Hampton during a break.*

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

### This week's game preview

Opponent - UWA  
Ladder positions - UWA 1<sup>st</sup>  
Balcatta 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Cat's game streak - Loss, win, loss  
Last clash against opponent -  
Balcatta lost in five sets.

## Cats drop a spot on PVL ladder

After a dream run mid-way through the season, Balcatta has lost three out of the last four games played and slipped to third spot on the PVL ladder after losing to Southern Cross on Sunday.

Heading into the game Balcatta and Southern Cross were in second and third spots on the PVL ladder, respectively. But victory to the Cross resulted in the two teams switching places with the Cats now in third spot. The Cats were missing Jenny Day (injury) and Jenette Brown (holidays) for this important clash.

In the first set the Cats started the ball rolling with kills to Claire Dragicevic and Mel Johnson. When Dragicevic struck again, the Cats were up by two points at 7-5. It was a very tight match early with both teams playing hard ball, but mid-way through the set the Cross won nine out of ten points in a row to lead 8-14. Kim Ellwood killed a quick ball to break Southern Cross's long run of points. By 11-18, SX had the first set sewn up and ended up taking the set 15-25.

Southern Cross jumped the gun in the second set and scored three aces in seven serves to lead the Cats 1-7. Good defence by Ellwood and kills to Johnson and Chapman helped the Cats regain some ground, but the Cats were still trailing by five points at 6-11. With the Cross in top form, the Cats were struggling to put the ball away against a tight defensive pattern. Elise Chapman started to find her range with power and more kills. But gaps in the Cats' defense was letting them down and they lost the set 15-25.

Balcatta beat Southern Cross in a thrilling five-set game the last time these two teams met (in Round 10) and the third set was more like the previous battles. It was a real tight affair and scores were tied at 10-all. With Chapman banging in five kills and Ella Pragt a pair, the Cats took the lead and after a block to Dragicevic and quick kill to Tracey Hasselerharm Balcatta lead by two points at 16-14. Tenille Ryan then served four crucial serves in a row to extend the Cats lead to five (20-15). But SX got some blocks and quickly closed the gap to 20-all. Scores were again tied at 23-all. A missed overpass kill to the Cats brought up set point and they won the set and game after the Cats missed an overpass of their own.

Cats coach Russell Hampton said that the Cats were outplayed in most areas and Southern Cross deservedly took the win.

"We actually played quite well, but Southern Cross had a fantastic game," Russell said.

"Elise Chapman was the standout Cat today, along with and Ella Pragt who also played well."

This weekend the Cats play top side University who have only lost one game so far in 2009.

## 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	PC	SX	ECU	PC	Uni	ECU	PC	Uni					
Result	L	L		W		W	L	W	W	W	L	L	W	L						
Score	0-3	0-3		3-2		3-0	1-3	3-1	3-2	3-0	1-3	2-3	3-0	0-3						
Posit.	-	-		-	-	-	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3						