

Game 2

Diamond Valley 93 defeated Waverley 87

With the Falcons leading the series 1 – 0 it was time for the Eagles to step up and avoid being swept on their home court, and they didn't disappoint. Down by 3 points at three quarter time Diamond Valley poured in an impressive 34 points in the final quarter to even the series. The Eagles caught fire in the final term connecting on 54% of their shots including a couple from 3-point range.

Adam Moore starred again for Diamond Valley with yet another double-double (20 points, 10 boards) and with some crucial play at the dying stages of the game. Waverley's free throw shooting was below average and contributed to their slow in momentum. Only converting 57% from the stripe let them down in crucial stages of the game.

With the series now tied at 1 -1 it comes down to the final game on Sunday to decide the State Championship final positions. Can the Falcons turn the momentum around and find a way to topple the Eagles on a Sunday afternoon? Or will it be Diamond Valley continuing their form from the final quarter of game 2 and carry on their hot shooting. Only time will tell as both of these sides seasons rides on the final game of the semi-final series.

Game 2

Ringwood 84 defeated Hume City 64

In a must win game for Hume City the Broncos came out firing in the first quarter scoring the first 7 points of the game but the quality of Hawks shone through and scores were tied at half time. Ringwood's three point shooting was on fire in the first half of the game knocking in 47% of their shots but it was Hume City failing to take advantage of the Ringwood turnovers and not converting when given many more shooting opportunities. The second half was a different story though with the bigger, tougher Hawks running away with the game with a complete domination of points scored in the paint being plus 18 in this category. The Hawks didn't stop there and kept rolling till the final whistle ending up 20 point victors. Kevin Ratzsch came up big again for Ringwood scoring 25 points grabbing 12 boards including 5 offensive rebounds. Luke Mcmillan was again solid and will bring good form heading into the finals series with 20 points consisting of three 3-pointers. Russell McIntosh played solid for the Broncos with 18 points 7 boards and solid defence throughout the game.

With Hume City's season over it's the end to a surprising season with a good effort to make the playoffs with the help of star import Jermiane Maybank. For the Hawks it's off to the finals series with tremendous momentum and the team to make it all the way. The question is wether Daryl Corletto will be back in time to make for his Hawks finals series.

Ringwood win the series 2 - 0

Game 3

Diamond Valley 74 defeated by Waverley 80

The stage was set for a showdown between two of the powerhouses of State Championship Men to book a place in the finals. The crowd was pumped for a fast scoring game were not disappointed with 45 points being scored in the first quarter alone. Waverley looked determined to push the floor and take advantage of the speed they posses but Diamond Valleys defence was solid.

With the Eagles up by 5 at half time the momentum swung in the third quarter and Waverley started to steal the show. Waverley shot at 58% from the field in the third term creating a 2 point lead heading into the last. Waverley learnt from the previous night's game and started making free throws putting in 85% of their attempts. The final term saw the Falcons open up the biggest lead of the game to eventually win by 6 points. Diamond Valley's shooting disappeared in the last quarter converting on 35% of their shots and not connecting on a single three pointer. Waverley on the other hand kept their cool and made some clutch free throws to seal the game. Adam Moore again top scored for the match with 23 points to go alongside 7 rebounds. While Simon Blennerhassett top scored for the Falcons with 20 points while Ivan Platenik once again was impressive with a solid 17 points and 7 boards.

With their spot booked on the finals the Waverley Falcons now have the task of playing the Ringwood Hawks, the dominant side of the league. For the Eagles it's the end of another season with a good finish on the table but unable to progress through to the finals series.

Waverley wins the series 2 – 1

WOMEN

Game 2

Geelong 79 defeated Melbourne 63

After a close three point loss at Melbourne the Tigers are on the back foot trying to force this semi-finals series to three games. The stage was set for a big game with many Tigers fans making the trek down the highway to see what could be their last game of the season. Though all the support it was the Cats who jumped off to the early lead with an 8 point lead at the quarter time break. The defensive pressure of the Cats was obvious in the first term, forcing the Tigers into 10 turnovers.

Unfortunately for Melbourne there troubles didn't end their with another poor showing in the second quarter and another 8 turnovers. The points were spread for Geelong as Anna Teague led the team with 16 points and 11 boards. Candice Rogers again showed her quality with 15 points and 13 boards to help her team to victory. For the Tigers it was Lucy Spalding who did the most damage with 19 points and 3 steals. Ashleigh Stonehouse also had a respectable outing with 13 points 11 boards in 27 minutes of play. As expected Geelong won with ease over the Tigers ending up 16 point victors on their way to the BigV Grandfinal. For the Melbourne Tigers it's the end of an impressive season with an outstanding effort to make the finals and make a push to go the whole way. For Geelong this is just another step on the way to the premiership.

Geelong win the series 2 - 0

Game 2

Waverley 51 defeated by Hume City 62

With Hume City stealing an away win it was up to the Falcons to turn around their form and force the semi-finals series to three games. In potentially the last game of the season for the Falcons they came out firing bringing the intensity to the first quarter with 7 offensive rebounds and to lead by 4 points at quarter time. From then on though it was all Hume City who controlled the game on both ends of the floor. At three quarter time the Broncos led by 2 and it was the last effort by the Falcons who eventually fell short. Waverley tried everything to stay in the game putting up 8 three pointers in the final term and only converting on 1.

Ana Marinovic led all scorers with 15 points and 13 boards in 26 minutes with 11 of her 15 points coming from the free throw line. Ellie Mclean was close to a double-double with 11 points and 9 rebounds. For the Falcons it was Laura Thomas with 13 points and 12 boards, she was the only player to score in double figures.

The Broncos ran out 11 point victors on the night and seemed to have found some form heading into the finals series. This marks the end of the season for the Falcons who showing the skill and class at times during the season but ultimately fell short at the final stage. The Broncos have booked their place to play against the Cats in the Grandfinal series and only time will tell whether they can cause an upset and knock off the favourites Geelong.

Hume City win the series 2 – 0



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