

Game 2

Diamond Valley **76** *defeated* **Waverley** **52**

The Diamond Valley Eagles have taken a giant leap towards their championship aspirations with a comfy 24 point victory over Waverley on Saturday night.

The Eagles signalled their intentions early on, posting a 20-7 opening quarter as they scored with relative ease and stifled the Falcons offense. The story was the same for the next two quarters until they unloaded their bench in the fourth that saw a pretty equal final term with the game sewn up.

Despite rolling his ankle the previous week, Arkell dominated. Despite playing only 28 minutes, he posted 23 points and 12 rebounds and was seemingly unstoppable. Matt Reynolds was on point as well, drilling in 15 points, 7 boards and 4 assists in a great cameo role.

As for the Falcons, they fought valiantly despite missing the irrepressible Kernich-Drew for the second half of the season. Daniel Wilkins fired for Waverley with 18 points as the Falcons look to 2011.

Eagles win series 2-0

Game 3

Melbourne **72** *defeated* **Ringwood** **58**

The Melbourne Tigers have booked a spot in the Youth League One Grand Final with a big 14 point victory over the Ringwood Hawks on Saturday night at Oakleigh.

In a highly entertaining first quarter, both squads went tit for tat with Melbourne jumping out to a 3 point lead at the end of the first break. In the second, Ringwood couldn't buy a basket while Melbourne was steady as they extended the lead to 11 at the long change. In the premiership quarter, Melbourne took control of the game, setting up a 14 point win.

With plenty of scoring happening across the board, Muka Silver was the standout, dropping in 16 points to go with 11 boards in 20 minutes while Ben Kelly nailed 17 points.

For the Hawks, Zomer did the usual damage, putting in 22 points and 14 boards and there wasn't really any other standout in a dirty day for Ringwood.

The Tigers now face top of the table Diamond Valley Eagles in what is set to be an absolute blinder of a series that will almost definitely go to three games.

Tigers win series 2-0

Game 2

Hawthorn **65** *defeated* **Waverley** **50**

Hawthorn has weaved some serious Magic and has done what nobody would have even comprehended earlier in the season- they swept the Falcons in the Big V finals. In a single swift blow, Hawthorn has followed up last week's result with a 15 point win to head into the Grand Final Series against Diamond Valley.

The Magic went bang early, drilling in 23 points to 11 in the first quarter, dominating the glass and locking down on D. But the Falcons are a class outfit and fought back in the second to cut the lead back to 7 points as they headed into the change rooms. But Hawthorn's potency couldn't be undone, as they put themselves in a winning position by dominating the third. Hats off to Steph Perch who was dominant, putting in 26 points, but had plenty of help from the twin towers Ross-Harris and Georgia Stott who posted massive double doubles to sink the Falcons. Rizkallah was the only one who really showed up for Waverley, putting in 17 points and 10 boards in a game that will have the Falcons left wondering going into the off-season.

Magic win series 2-1

Game 2

Melbourne **79** *defeated* **Diamond Valley** **55**

The Melbourne Tigers have bounced back to level the series 1-1 with a 24 point win over a shell-shocked Eagles outfit.

Diamond Valley struggled to contain Melbourne who scored easily behind star guard Isabella Brancatisano who dropped 26 points, 8 boards and 6 dimes in a match winning performance. The Eagles struggled to have any influence offensively with only one player managing double digits, Nicki Schleibs with 10. Game three is now on the cards in what has been an exciting series to date.

Diamond Valley **68** *defeated* **Melbourne** **59**

Game 3

In the deciding game of the Youth League Women finals series, the Diamond Valley Eagles have taken the chocolates with a 9 point victory in a tense game three at Diamond Valley on Sunday.

It looked like a totally different Eagles outfit that came to play after a shocking display the night before. They scored, they player defence and were at their scary best in a scintillating game of basketball. Bernardi lead the way with 17 points, but had plenty of help as usual in Amy Faulkner who had 15 and Kahlia Ashton who posted 13 points and 9 rebounds.

With Brancatisano held in check by the Eagles defence, Courtney Gaze stepped up with an inspiring 19 points and 10 rebounds.

Eagles win series 2-1