



By George Stavroulakis

ROUND 6 PREVIEW — NP

Wollongong Wolves will be out to extend their five week run as competition leaders when Round 6 of the National Premier Leagues NSW Men's competition gets underway on Saturday.

The Wolves have been on top of the table since Round 1 but the chasing pack is hot on their tail.

APIA Leichhardt Tigers are Wollongong's nearest challengers and are getting better each week.

This week's football gets underway on Saturday night with a triple header of matches starting off with Sutherland Sharks hosting Manly United.

Saturday night's games will also feature Sydney FC taking on Blacktown City at Lambert Park while Marconi Stallions host Sydney United 58.

On Sunday, Wollongong Wolves return to their WIN Stadium home ground to take on Mount Druitt Town Rangers and Sydney Olympic travel to Illinden Sports Centre to play Rockdale City Suns.

Hensley Athletic Field in the Sydney Suburb of Eastgardens will play host to the weekend's final match with APIA travelling across town to take on Hakoah Sydney City East.

Sutherland Sharks vs Manly United, 6.30pm Saturday at Seymour Shaw

Sutherland Sharks will be desperate to avoid

five straight defeats when they take on Manly United on Saturday.

The Sharks are rooted to the bottom of the table after a horror start to their 2019 campaign but if their performances have been anything to go by then good results can't be far away.

The Terry Palapanis coached side were moments away from clinching a draw last round but conceded in the 93rd minute to give opponents Sydney United 58 the win.

Raul Romero had his best game in a Sharks jersey so far in the loss to United 58 and the midfielder's performance was just one of many signs from Sutherland that they have much more to give than what fans have witnessed so far.

Marc Warren is another player who has been a leading light and the veteran defender's experience will be important to turning things around.

Caolmhin 'Quivv' Fowler is a young gun with the ability to break a game open and has experience playing youth football at Eredivisie club Vitesse and Premier League outfit Cardiff City.

If he can find some consistency in his play then Manly will have trouble keeping skilful attacking midfielder in check.

Their opponents Manly United come into



NPL NSW 2019 Men's 1

Round 5 Results

Sydney Olympic - Wollongong Wolves 0-2

APIA Tigers - Rockdale City Suns 4-0

Manly United - Blacktown City 1-0

Mt Druitt Rangers - Sydney FC Youth 2-4

Sutherland Sharks - Sydney United 2-3

Marconi Stallions - Hakoah Sydney 3-1

Next Games Round 6

13.04.2019

Sutherland Sharks - Manly United

Sydney FC Youth - Blacktown City

14.04.2019

Wollongong Wolves - Mt Druitt Rangers

Rockdale City Suns - Sydney Olympic

Hakoah Sydney - APIA Tigers

Marconi Stallions - Sydney United

Round 5 Table

	Team	GP	Pts	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-
1	Wollongong Wolves	5	13	4	1	0	13	6	7
2	APIA Tigers	5	12	4	0	1	10	5	5
3	Manly United	5	8	2	2	1	7	6	1
4	Sydney United	5	8	2	2	1	7	7	0
5	Sydney Olympic	5	7	2	1	2	10	8	2
6	Sydney FC Youth	5	7	2	1	2	10	10	0
7	Blacktown City	5	7	2	1	2	5	5	0
8	Marconi Stallions	5	6	2	0	3	7	6	1
9	Hakoah Sydney	5	6	2	0	3	6	6	0
10	Mt Druitt Rangers	5	4	1	1	3	8	13	-5
11	Rockdale City Suns	5	4	1	1	3	2	10	-8
12	Sutherland Sharks	5	3	1	0	4	4	7	-3

Round 6 in third position and have so far had a knack for late heroics.

The Northern Beaches side boast an enviable roster of attacking talent who know their way to the back of the net.

Last week's 1-0 win against Blacktown City proved Manly can grind out a win as well.

Shot stopper Dylan Mitchell was a major part of that win and his form in between the sticks is sure to give plenty of confidence to the Manly defence.

While their is a big gap between the two side's positions on the table, the match should be a much closer contest.

Manly will want to take advantage of Sutherland's struggles but the Sharks sheer desperation to end their losing run could be enough to power them to an upset.

It could be a game with more than one twist in the plot.

Sydney FC vs Blacktown City, 7pm Saturday at Lambert Park Leichhardt

Back to back wins will be on the agenda for Sydney FC when they host Blacktown City at Lambert Park this Saturday.

The Young Sky Blues put four past Mount Druitt in an inspired second half performance.

The Jimmy van Weeren coached side have shown they are no walkovers and will be looking for nothing less than all three points

this weekend.

Midfielder Hamish Lamberton was named man of the match despite coming on as a substitute last week and is sure to be considered for a starting berth against Blacktown.

One player young Sky Blues fans are sure to have their eye on is Luke Ivanovic.

The winger made his debut for the senior A-League side earlier this year and even scored in a match against Melbourne City. He will be hoping to replicate that form in the NPL.

Sydney FC's opponents Blacktown City come into this week's match off the back of a narrow 1-0 loss to Manly United.

Currently in seventh position with two wins, two losses and a draw from their first five matches, Blacktown have had a mixed start to their campaign.

One player Crittenden will be hoping to see a greater contribution from is former A-League midfielder Devante Clut.

The one time Brisbane Roar and Newcastle Jets player has yet to truly get the most out of his talents since joining the Seven Hills based side in 2018.

Able to unlock a defence with pinpoint passing ability, Clut could be a game changer for City.

Blacktown City will be determined to break back into the top five with a win as will sixth placed Sydney FC.

Blacktown will go into the game as favourites but don't be surprised if Sydney FC claim yet another big win.