



By George Stavroulakis

# ROUND 15 PREVIEW — NPL NSW

It's Round 15 in the National Premier Leagues NSW Men's competition and with only eight weeks to go in the regular season the pressure is rising on all 12 teams to make every game count.

**Wollongong Wolves** suffered only their second defeat of the campaign last week but remain in top spot on the ladder for the 14th straight week.

However, the chasing pack is closing in fast with **APIA Leichhardt Tigers** five points behind in second as well as **Blacktown City** and **Sydney United 58** six points behind in third and fourth.

This week's fixtures will feature two matches on Saturday night with **Blacktown City** taking on **Sutherland Sharks** in the round's opening match, while **Mt Druitt Town Rangers** hosting **Rockdale City Suns**.

Four matches will take place on Sunday starting with **Manly**

**United** hosting **Marconi Stallions** and **Wollongong** taking on **Sydney FC** in the day's early games.

**APIA** will need to be at their best as they clash with rivals **Sydney United 58** at **Lambert Park**.

The final match of round 15 heads to **Belmore Sports Ground** as **Sydney Olympic** receive a visit from bottom side **Hakoah Sydney City East**.

## Sutherland Sharks v Blacktown City FC, 6.30pm Saturday at Seymour Shaw Park

**Sutherland Shark's** incredible mid season turn around faces its biggest challenge to date when **Blacktown City** visit's **Seymour Shaw Park** on Saturday night.



## NPL NSW 2019 Men's 1

### Round 14 Results

**Hakoah Sydney** - Rockdale City Suns 0-4  
**APIA Tigers** - Sutherland Sharks 2-2  
**Blacktown City** - Sydney Olympic 1-1  
**Marconi Stallions** - Sydney FC Youth 5-2  
**Wollongong Wolves** - Sydney United 1-2  
**Mt Druitt Rangers** - Manly United 2-1

### Next Games Round 15

**15.06.2019**  
 Sutherland Sharks - Blacktown City  
 Mt Druitt Rangers - Rockdale City Suns  
**16.06.2019**  
 Manly United - Marconi Stallions  
 Wollongong Wolves - Sydney FC Youth  
 APIA Tigers - Sydney United  
 Sydney Olympic - Hakoah Sydney

### Premier League NSW 1 Table 14 round

	Team	GP	Pts	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-
1	Wollongong Wolves	14	30	9	3	2	34	13	21
2	APIA Tigers	14	25	7	4	3	25	21	4
3	Blacktown City	14	24	7	3	4	18	15	3
4	Sydney United	14	24	7	3	4	23	25	-2
5	Rockdale City Suns	14	23	7	2	5	19	22	-3
6	Manly United	14	20	5	5	4	20	19	1
7	Marconi Stallions	14	19	6	1	7	32	25	7
8	Sydney Olympic	14	17	4	5	5	25	24	1
9	Sutherland Sharks	14	15	3	6	5	17	18	-1
10	Mt Druitt Rangers	14	14	3	5	6	23	32	-9
11	Sydney FC Youth	14	14	4	2	8	21	30	-9
12	Hakoah Sydney	14	7	2	1	11	9	22	-13

**The Sharks** have gone seven games unbeaten to climb off the bottom of the ladder after they started the season with 10 games without a win.

**Coach Terry** Palapanis has retooled his squad in recent weeks, bringing in three former Sydney FC youth stars in Charles Lokolingoy, Liam McGing and latest acquisition Jerry Skotadis while Bai Antoniou is set to play this weekend too.

**The signings**, combined with the club's veteran stars, have helped ignite a stuttering Sharks outfit.

**Last week** the Sharks fought back from 2-0 down to clinch a late draw against second placed APIA in yet another impressive performance

**Blacktown City** come into this game on a five game undefeated streak and are flying high at the top end of the table in third place. **Last week** they were frustrated by Sydney Olympic in a thrilling 1-1 draw which very easily could've ended with a much bigger scoreline.

**One big** positive from the match for Blacktown was the performance of new signing Lachlan Campbell who excelled in both defence and attack.

**However, Campbell's** emergence could prove bad news for centre back Daniel Collins who could be in for a battle to keep his starting

position despite a strong season to date.

**After scoring** eight goals in two games in rounds 12 and 13, finding the back of the net didn't come as easily for Blacktown last week. They will need to find their goal scoring touch again if they are to collect all three points against the Sharks.

**Sutherland have** quickly become a competition dark horse and if Blacktown City want to keep their chase for the Premiership alive then they better bring their best to Seymour Shaw Park.

## Mt Druitt Town Rangers v Rockdale City Suns, 7pm Saturday at Popondetta Park

**Riding high** off victory last round, Mt Druitt Town Rangers return to Popondetta Park to take on Rockdale City Suns on Saturday hoping to make it two wins in as many weeks.

**The Rangers** showed plenty of fighting spirit to comeback from 1-0 down last week before claiming a 2-1 win.

**It was** a performance which is sure to put a smile on coach Aidan Desmond's face and he will be pushing his players to replicate that again this week.

**New signing** Mirjan Pavlovic didn't find the