Crunch time for Victoria as Sheffield Shield set to go down to the wire in CA

JORDAN GERMANs  
CRICKET

After a week without games, the Alice Springs Cricket Association’s A-grade two-day competition returns tomorrow with just two rounds to play before the final.

Gap View Works appear a lock to play in the two-day decider, out in front on 24 competition points while West sit second on 16 and look to be their likely opponents. 

PROBuild Rovers and Federal Asbuild will be desperate for points at Albrecht Oval tomorrow.

Rovers and the Demons sit outside the finals placings on six competition points but a win this round could put them back in with a slight chance of sneaking into the final.

After round five is completed this weekend, the A-Grade will have another week off with Victoria returning for another Sheffield Shield clash, this time against Tasmania.

The final round of the season before the final will be played on the 21st and 22nd of this month.

In B-grade one day action, Rovers play West at Head Street while Federal Asbuild will come up against Gap View Works at CDU Oval.

Meanwhile, in C-grade games, Gapview Works will meet Federal Asbuild at Flynn Reserve while West and PROBuild Rovers will be at Ross Park.

In the junior grade, their two-day division one cricket contest will start this Saturday and Sunday from 8.15am.

Feds play Works at Albrecht and West take on Rovers at Jim McConville while division two games will continue from last weekend.

Rovers and the Demons sit outside the finals placings on six competition points but a win this round could put them back in with a slight chance of sneaking into the final.

An outright win against last-placed SA would cement the Bushrangers’ hold on a berth in the final and give them a shot at overtaking WA and hosting it in Melbourne. If they fall to the Redbacks, a win in the Red Centre against Tasmania is vital to their finals hopes.

The Tigers preferred young spinner Clive Bell won a bat after star fast bowler James Pattinson was injured during their last visit against Queensland.

Pattinson was due to miss the match in any case as part of workload management plan as he returns from a long-term back injury.

With two rounds to go in the season, the Bushrangers are 127 points behind leader Western Australia and 2486 points ahead of NSW.

An outright win against last-placed SA would cement the Bushrangers’ hold on a berth in the final and give them a shot at overtaking WA and hosting it in Melbourne. If they fail to the Redbacks, a win in the Red Centre against Tasmania is vital to their finals hopes.

Former Test paceman Ben Hilfenhaus was dropped from Tasmania’s side for their clash against NSW in Sydney starting yesterday.

The Tigers preferred young spinner Clive Rose to Hilfenhaus and with the Traeger Park wicket friendly to spin, Hilfenhaus may also miss out on next week’s match.

Victoria Squad: Matt Wade (c), Fawad Ahmed, Scott Boland, Dan Christian, Peter Handscomb, Jon Holland, Dave Hussey, Rob Quiney, Chris Rogers, Peter Siddle, Marcus Stoinis, Chris Tremain, Cameron White.

Tasmania Squad: Alex Doolan (c), Jackson Bird, Ed Cowan, Andrew Fekete, Evan Gulbs, Dominic Michael, Tim Paine, Sam Rainbird, Clive Rose, Jordan Silk, Beau Webster.

“An outright win against SA would cement the Bushrangers’ hold on a berth in the final and give them a shot at overtaking WA and hosting it in Melbourne. If they fail to the Redbacks, a win in the Red Centre against Tasmania is vital to their finals hopes.”

The Tigers preferred young spinner Clive Rose to Hilfenhaus and with the Traeger Park wicket friendly to spin, Hilfenhaus may also miss out on next week’s match.

Victoria Squad: Matt Wade (c), Fawad Ahmed, Scott Boland, Dan Christian, Peter Handscomb, Jon Holland, Dave Hussey, Rob Quiney, Chris Rogers, Peter Siddle, Marcus Stoinis, Chris Tremain, Cameron White.

Tasmania Squad: Alex Doolan (c), Jackson Bird, Ed Cowan, Andrew Fekete, Evan Gulbs, Dominic Michael, Tim Paine, Sam Rainbird, Clive Rose, Jordan Silk, Beau Webster.

“An outright win against SA would cement the Bushrangers’ hold on a berth in the final and give them a shot at overtaking WA and hosting it in Melbourne. If they fail to the Redbacks, a win in the Red Centre against Tasmania is vital to their finals hopes.”

The Tigers preferred young spinner Clive Rose to Hilfenhaus and with the Traeger Park wicket friendly to spin, Hilfenhaus may also miss out on next week’s match.

Victoria Squad: Matt Wade (c), Fawad Ahmed, Scott Boland, Dan Christian, Peter Handscomb, Jon Holland, Dave Hussey, Rob Quiney, Chris Rogers, Peter Siddle, Marcus Stoinis, Chris Tremain, Cameron White.

Tasmania Squad: Alex Doolan (c), Jackson Bird, Ed Cowan, Andrew Fekete, Evan Gulbs, Dominic Michael, Tim Paine, Sam Rainbird, Clive Rose, Jordan Silk, Beau Webster.

“An outright win against SA would cement the Bushrangers’ hold on a berth in the final and give them a shot at overtaking WA and hosting it in Melbourne. If they fail to the Redbacks, a win in the Red Centre against Tasmania is vital to their finals hopes.”

The Tigers preferred young spinner Clive Rose to Hilfenhaus and with the Traeger Park wicket friendly to spin, Hilfenhaus may also miss out on next week’s match.

Victoria Squad: Matt Wade (c), Fawad Ahmed, Scott Boland, Dan Christian, Peter Handscomb, Jon Holland, Dave Hussey, Rob Quiney, Chris Rogers, Peter Siddle, Marcus Stoinis, Chris Tremain, Cameron White.

Tasmania Squad: Alex Doolan (c), Jackson Bird, Ed Cowan, Andrew Fekete, Evan Gulbs, Dominic Michael, Tim Paine, Sam Rainbird, Clive Rose, Jordan Silk, Beau Webster.

“An outright win against SA would cement the Bushrangers’ hold on a berth in the final and give them a shot at overtaking WA and hosting it in Melbourne. If they fail to the Redbacks, a win in the Red Centre against Tasmania is vital to their finals hopes.”

The Tigers preferred young spinner Clive Rose to Hilfenhaus and with the Traeger Park wicket friendly to spin, Hilfenhaus may also miss out on next week’s match.

Victoria Squad: Matt Wade (c), Fawad Ahmed, Scott Boland, Dan Christian, Peter Handscomb, Jon Holland, Dave Hussey, Rob Quiney, Chris Rogers, Peter Siddle, Marcus Stoinis, Chris Tremain, Cameron White.

Tasmania Squad: Alex Doolan (c), Jackson Bird, Ed Cowan, Andrew Fekete, Evan Gulbs, Dominic Michael, Tim Paine, Sam Rainbird, Clive Rose, Jordan Silk, Beau Webster.