

SNBL Round 5 TCA (The Newsroom) Report

SNBL 2018-19 is supported by Edelrid and Red Chilli

TCA put on an excellent competition of 30 problems in the qualifiers. These were the raw scores used for the SNBL Series, but there was a grand final with top climbers competing including Ajda Remskar and Max Milne. These were, by all accounts, very tough.

There were no Junior Female competitors taking part so Tilly Knight and Emma Davidson remain joint 1st in this category. Charlie De Beaux was the only Junior Male to take part at TCA. This was his 4th round and with 355 SNBL points he is now 155 points ahead of his nearest rival, Matthew Fall. The final round at Eden Rock will be Matthew's 'local' wall and although he is climbing well he can now only get 2nd place if he competes as otherwise Jamie Niven, on 131 NBL points would take 2nd place.

In the Adult Female category the top nine placed competitors after SNBL all took part at TCA. For some it was their fifth round, for others only their third. The top spots in the competition were hotly contested between Bex Whitehead, Kirsten Taylor, Naomi Hatto and Ajda Remskar gaining 4th to 1st places respectively. As a result their SNBL ranking puts Ajda 1st, Kirsten and Naomi Hatto joint 2nd, all after just three rounds. They will have to all compete in order to keep or better their position, as close behind, and in contention for podiums are Alison Macdougall and Laura Ann Begbie.

The Adult Male category was the biggest with 22 competitors climbing in SNBL. After the previous round David Elder remained in 1st place overall with an eighty point lead over his nearest contender Stephen Kier (who had missed round 4). However, Stephen took the win at TCA knocking David back to 3rd place which means David remains 1st in SNBL but the gap has closed with only 45 points between them. Jack McKechnie also missed round 4 but his 2nd place at TCA means he moves from 5th to 3rd overall. Callum Armour came joint 6th at TCA but he still manages 4th overall. With the ranking points between all the top four places now quite close the final round will decide who gets onto the podium.

Last but certainly not least: the Vets. There were five competitors in the Female category (including two new to SNBL) but Koon Morris retains her 1st place in the league with her win at TCA ensuring her dominance of the female vets, 150 points ahead of her nearest rival Ali Nimmo (still in 2nd place despite not attending TCA). Debbie Riley and Avril Gall remain in 3rd and 4th place respectively and with only 50 points between each competitor it will all depend on the final round who takes 2nd and 3rd podiums. Ruben Welch continues to dominate the Male Vets winning his fourth round at TCA which means he now takes 1st in the league. His main contender, Gareth Yardley, came 2nd at TCA and is now 75 SNBL points below Reuben and in 2nd place overall. Mitch Figures came 3rd at TCA which brings him up to 6th place overall, but it was Sandy Sharpe getting 4th in the TCA comp that brought him into the top three, knocking Paul Diffley from 3rd in the SNBL rankings.

THE FINAL ROUND

The final round of the SNBL 2018-19 League will be at Eden Rock on Saturday 16 March. There will be the usual round results towards the SNBL scores and a Final for Eden Rock's Competition. So, who will take the podiums this year? For some categories it is still all in the final round...

See you all there for the presentations to the winners of SNBL 2018-19.