

First Home Game of the Season

Wollongong Hawks Basketball

Basketball Clubs

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The Brisbane Bullets come to town this Sunday, as the Illawarra Hawks play their first home game this season. With three tiring and tough road games in the books, the squad can now dial in on improving their slow start to the 2017/18 NBL season.

All three fixtures have shown glimpses of what the squad is capable of, but the Hawks are yet to taste a win. What better place to do so than a packed WIN Entertainment Centre.

Brisbane travel to Wollongong off the back of a long haul flight from Phoenix and a home game two days prior against Cairns. At time of writing, Brisbane have only completed one game this season. From that it was clear to see where the offensive production comes from. The guard combination of Travis Trice and Perrin Buford combined for 40 of the Bullets 86 points in round one, with the dynamic duo no doubt the key to the Bullets game plan.

Another man to watch out for is Daniel Kickert. The veteran patiently sits on the wing and continues to show he can shoot as well as anyone in the league, and will need to be closely watched as the likes of Trice and Buford drive towards the rim.

From an Illawarra stand point, starting centre AJ Ogilvy found himself in foul trouble against the Kings last week and only managed 19:50 of game time. He still impressively scored 14 points, showing the type of production he is capable of when he stays on court.

Offensively, Illawarra had a rough shooting night in Sydney going 4/21 from deep, with Rotnei Clarke managing only 1/6. On his home court and keen to have the loyal Hawkheads in full flight, look out if he gets going early. Second year Hawk Nick Kay is another man worth watching. He matches up well against the Bullets and is ready for a big game.

Playing at home for the first time and no doubt the faithfuls new favourite player, Demetrius Conger, who has been the standout Hawk to start the year, has the potential to go off. He has posted scores of 17, 16 and 21 to start his NBL career and is only looking better and better each time he steps on court.

All signs point towards a fine display from Illawarra. With the up-tempo offense and full court defensive pressure the Hawks are known for, the speed of the fixture could be the difference maker in this one. Be there to see it unfold at 5pm AEDT.