

Welcome to the season for 2024/25 and looks to be another exciting season ahead. Open gender is here and we will see a couple of clubs with ladies in their line up. As an early prediction I do see a clear top 4 but as we know anything can happen in the game. Kardinya and Safety Bay both make their return back to premier but lets have a closer look on how I see this year panning out this year.

1st - Cambridge

Fell just short of the big dance last year but it's the Knights for me to finish on top. With Jimmy Buchannan and Joe McGinlay coming in along with state player Deb Saunders I think these guys could possibly go all the way this year. Plucka Adams will lead the way and I think Blake Nairn might have premier duties once again in Qld but with the likes of Sweeny and Gillingham gives the knights plenty of options down the track.

2nd - South Perth

The Millers have quite a handy squad building up and whoever the selectors are for this side will have their hands full. Troy Kinnane and Tom Antonio are back and Tod Weir also coming over from the Saints. I'm not certain but I think we may even see former state skipper in Helen Morss also in the line up. South Perth will be hard to beat this year and I believe will contest strongly for the flag

3rd - Mt Lawley

Just missing out on finals last year but Mt Lawley have recruited well during the off season and will throw down a challenge this year. State champion of champion singles winner Shane Knott is a big in and have also recruited Chris Schell and state player Benny Leggett. Would not surprise me at all if these guys go on to win the whole thing.

4th - Doubleview

Defending premiers the View will be looking to defend their flag once again. Bates has departed and no new recruits but with the likes of Williams, Moyle, McIlroy, White and the Slavich brothers will make them hard to beat again this year and it wouldn't surprise me if they finished in the top 2

5th - Manning

The 1 side that the open gender will impact the most and I for one am very keen to see how the Eagles go this year. Some big outs in Hyatt, Grigg, Knott and Packer but word on the street is that Cody will marquee for them this year. John Davidson is in from Albany and we will see Commonwealth games gold medallist Kristina Krstic come into the line up as well as state skipper Hailey Packer and Australian open singles winner Laura Butler. The Butlers are expecting their first child at any moment so not sure when we will see them in but with Mitchell, Downey and Jones plus others in the squad will still be a good chance of making finals pending on what side trots out each week.

6th - Osborne Park

Not a great off season at all for the Saints with Mawdsley, Caffell, Schell and Carr all departing the club with no new recruits that I know of. However still a good team and looks like it will be time for the youth to step up. I cant see them making finals though again this year but lets see how they go.

7th - Sorrento

Just hung on last year by the skin of their teeth last year but Sorrento remain in the comp. They have gained a couple of players from Joondalup in Chris Leggett and Simon Deering and Phil Potts comes over from Cambridge. Along with the experience of Rhett Butler and Bruce Eagles these guys will be looking for a better performance this year.

8th - Kardinya

The Cats coming back into the comp and I think they can hang on this year. Peter Holmes joins the club but the big news is they will have the world number 1 Aron Sherriff playing for them when they take on Manning next month. Great news for the club as the look to rebuild and will be tough especially at home.

9th - Bassendean

If I'm wrong with 1 of my predictions I really hope this is it but after a horrid back half off the season last year the Lions have some work to do. Kinnane, Antonio and Lynch have all departed but have gained Wes Neilson who had a strong season last year. They will need to get some home form back if they are any hope of hanging onto premier this season.

10th - Safety Bay

Safety Bay are back up to have another crack at premier. The last time these guys were up they played very well in the second half but didn't remain in the comp. If they can start off with that form you never know they could hang on, the tricky conditions at home will be the key for them for survival I think.