

Season Preview

The upcoming 1 Blue bowls season promises to be an exciting one with plenty of movement between divisions. The Pioneers make the step up to One White after a strong campaign, while Doubleview and North Beach were automatically relegated at the end of last season.

Four new clubs enter the division this year. Bassendean drop down after relegation from White, while Yanchep and Ellenbrook join the fray after finishing on top of their respective 2nd divisions. Yanchep impressed last season with Hartzler leading the way as the top skipper, with the club losing only two games all year. Ellenbrook were equally dominant, finishing with three of their skips occupying the top three positions on the ladder. Rounding out the changes, Morley earned their place in the division after edging out Yokine in last year's challenge final.

Among the returning clubs, Wanneroo and Sorrento will again be ones to watch after finishing second and third respectively last season. Mount Lawley were just outside the finals mix in fourth and will be eager to go one better this time around. Quinns, Cambridge, and Warwick rounded out the mid-table, with Warwick showing plenty of promise in their debut season. Cambridge's Premier side has weakened, which could filter down to this division, while Quinns remain a steady and consistent performer year after year.

Bassendean's Premier League experience will make them difficult to beat, while Ellenbrook could surprise many with their strong home-ground advantage and the evergreen Robbie Ball skipping once again. Morley may find the jump a challenge, but with so much depth and talent across the division, every week should bring tight, competitive contests and a few unexpected results.

My ladder prediction

1. Mount Lawley
2. Bassendean
3. Quinns Rocks
4. Wanneroo
5. Sorrento
6. Yanchep
7. Ellenbrook
8. Warwick
9. Cambridge
10. Morley