



2010 Bartercard

NBL

Round 12 (May 21-22)

Harbour Heat v 0800 Easy LPG Bay Hawks
Exodus Saints v Fico Finance Nelson Giants
Zerofees Southland Sharks v McDonalds Manawatu Jets
Christchurch Cougars v Fico Finance Nelson Giants
OceanaGold Nuggets v McDonalds Manawatu Jets
Taranaki Mountain Airs v Waikato Pistons

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STANDINGS

Team	P	W	L	Win %	GB	Pts
Waikato Pistons	13	12	1	92.3	0	24
Fico Finance Nelson Giants	12	9	3	75.0	2	18
Exodus Saints	12	9	3	75.0	2	18
Harbour Heat	12	8	4	66.7	3.5	16
0800 Easy LPG Bay Hawks	13	7	6	53.8	5	14
Christchurch Cougars	15	6	9	40.0	7	12
Zerofees Southland Sharks	12	5	7	41.7	6.5	10
Taranaki Mountainairs	12	4	7	33.3	7	8
McDonalds Manawatu Jets	9	0	9	0.0	10	0
OceanaGold Nuggets	11	0	11	0.0	12	0

Win % - Win Percentage, GB – Games Back

LAST WEEK

Bartercard NBL - Round 11

Thursday, May 13

At TSB Bank Arena, Wellington

Exodus Saints 103 (Eric Devendorf 36, Casey Frank 18, Lindsay Tait 18)

0800 Easy LPG Bay Hawks 91 (Josh Pace 30, Everard Bartlett 16, Ben Hill 13)

Friday, May 14

At Southland Stadium, Invercargill

Zerofees Southland Sharks 72 (Luke Martin 22, Mike Helms 11, Rene Rougeau 11)

Waikato Pistons 97 (Thomas Abercrombie 19, Alex Pledger 18, Carl Krauser 17)

At Cowles Stadium, Christchurch

Christchurch Cougars 75 (Tim Behrendorff 20, Trent Wurtz 19, Jeremy Kench 14)

Taranaki Mountain Airs 72 (Jack Leasure 19, Aaron Bailey-Nowell 17, Demarshay Johnson 12)

Saturday, May 15

At Edgar Centre, Dunedin

OceanaGold Nuggets 62 (Sam To'omata 22, Tyler Amaya 11, James Ross 8)

Waikato Pistons 95 (Thomas Abercrombie 22, Alex Pledger 20, Gerard Bowden 12)

At Trafalgar Centre, Nelson

Fico Finance Nelson Giants 81 (Phill Jones 19, Michael Harrison 14, Mika Vukona 13)

Taranaki Mountain Airs 61 (Jack Leasure 18, Tyrone Davey 9, Jeremiah Trueman 9)

NBL Trivia of the Week

Name the only NBL player to be the scoring champ and rebounding champ in the same year?

(Answer at the end of Media Guide)

THIS WEEK

2010 NBL Round 12

Friday, May 21

Exodus Saints (9-3) v Fico Finance Nelson Giants (9-3), 7pm



At TSB Bank Arena, Wellington

Referees – Andy Thackray Sean Cronin, Yalla Edwards

Head to Head*: Saints 2 Giants 6

Last Meeting: Giants 92-86 (Round Two: 13/03/2010)

Projected Starting Five

	Saints	Giants
Point Guard	Lindsay Tait	Mike Fitchett
Shooting Guard	Eric Devendorf	Phill Jones
Small Forward	Leon Henry	Mika Vukona
Power Forward	Casey Frank	Michael Harrison
Center	Nick Horvath	Tony Rampton

Leading Scorers (Points per game)

Saints	Giants
Eric Devendorf (27.4)	Phill Jones (20.8)
Lindsay Tait (15.6)	Michael Harrison (15.9)
Erron Maxey (14.3)	Mika Vukona (11.6)

Team Leaders in Other Categories (Per game)

	Saints	Giants
Rebounds	Casey Frank (7.6)	Mika Vukona (9.9)
Assists	Lindsay Tait (6.0)	Phill Jones (4.0)
Steals	Eric Devendorf (2.3)	Phill Jones (1.8)
Blocks	Nick Horvath (0.8)	Michael Harrison (2.0)

Notes

Exodus Saints look to win their seventh straight when they host the Fico Finance Giants at TSB Bank Arena where the last time the Saints lost a game there was on the 19th March 2009, when the Giants won 98-93. Since that loss the Saints have won 10 in a row at TSB Bank Arena and are still unbeaten at home this season. Giants will be quietly confident though beating the Saints in the last four times and six of the last nine games played against each other. The two teams met back in Round Two when the Giants won 92-86. Giants will be facing a different backcourt from that game of Lindsay Tait and Eric Devendorf who average a combined 46 points per game since playing with each other. This game will be very important when it comes to the possibility of hosting a home semifinal. Giants currently have a head to head advantage of six points, but if they win on Friday then they will be odds on favourites to nab a top two position. Both teams were in a similar position last year, both finishing with 12 wins and four losses, Nelson getting the home semi because they swept the series against the Saints. The matchup between Phill Jones and Eric Devendorf will be the one to keep an eye on. Both players are in the top ten in scoring averaging over twenty points per game. Giants have won six of their last seven games, but have had mixed results on the road with three wins and three losses. Rebounding will be pivotal, Mika Vukona has grabbed ten or more rebounds in five of the last six games he has played.

Harbour Heat (8-4) v 0800 Easy LPG Bay Hawks (7-6), 7pm

At North Shore Events Centre, North Shore

Referees – Dallas Pickering, Miguel Gallardo, Cheryl Crabbe

Head to Head*: Heat 6 Hawks 2

Last Meeting: Heat 94-82 (Round 7: 16/04/2010)

Projected Starting Fives

	Heat	Hawks
Point Guard	Corey Webster	Josh Pace
Shooting Guard	Kavossy Franklin	Everard Bartlett
Small Forward	Dillon Boucher	Chris Daniel
Power Forward	Beny Anthony	Dave Langrell
Center	Rick Rickert	Jon Rogers

Leading Scorers (Points per game)

Heat	Hawks
Corey Webster (22.9)	Josh Pace (20.0)
Rick Rickert (17.7)	Jon Rogers (14.8)
Kavossy Franklin (16.9)	Everard Bartlett (13.8)

Team Leaders in Other Categories (Per game)

	Heat	Hawks
Rebounds	Dillon Boucher (10.1)	Jon Rogers (7.5)
Assists	Dillon Boucher (5.5)	Josh Pace (3.7)
Steals	Corey Webster (3.3)	Everard Bartlett (1.7)
Blocks	Rick Rickert (1.0)	Jon Rogers (3.0)

Notes

Harbour Heat has been very cold of late losing four of their last five games, after starting the season winning seven in a row. It will not be easy for the Heat who will be hosting a full strength Bay Hawks team who had Paul Henare return from his ankle injury last week. Henare played twenty minutes in his return and brought his usual court leadership to the Hawks side. Coach Shawn Dennis will have plenty of guards to throw in against the Heat side, including two former Heat guards Jarrod Kenny and Nat Connell. Heat can still make a late run at making a top two position, but if they lose against the Hawks then their chances will drop dramatically with three of last five games on the road. Hawks big man Jon Rogers swatted five shots last week and will looking to repeat that performance when he goes head to head against Rick Rickert who has been very consistent for his side averaging nearly 18 points and 10 rebounds a game. In seven of their eight wins the Heat has scored over ninety points, but in the four losses they are only averaging 77.5 points. After scoring a season low 54 points in the loss in Nelson the Hawks offense has picked up averaging 90 points in the last three games. The Hawks has arguably the best bench in the league and it shows in scoring where they lead the league at 23.5 points per game which is eight points more than the Heat.

Zerofees Southland Sharks (5-7) v McDonalds Manawatu Jets (0-9), 7pm

At Southland Stadium, Invercargill

Referees – Gavin Whiu, Raelene Forde, Bevan Maslin

Projected Starting Fives

	Sharks	Jets
Point Guard	Luke Martin	Darryl Hudson
Shooting Guard	Mike Helms	Matt Te Huna
Small Forward	Rene Rougeau	Richard Jeter
Power Forward	Gareth Dawson	Chris Reay
Center	Martin Iti	Calum MacLeod

Leading Scorers (Points per game)

Sharks	Jets
Mike Helms (19.8)	Darryl Hudson (24.5)
Rene Rougeau (16.0)	Richard Jeter (19.8)
Luke Martin (10.9)	Matt Te Huna (10.8)

Team Leaders in Other Categories (Per game)

	Sharks	Jets
Rebounds	Rene Rougeau (7.5)	Chris Reay (7.3)
Assists	Luke Martin (4.2)	Darryl Hudson (3.1)
Steals	Rene Rougeau (3.5)	Matt Te Huna (2.6)
Blocks	Rene Rougeau (1.3)	Chris Reay (0.6)

Notes

Both teams will be very hungry for a win especially the Manawatu Jets who will need to win both their games down south if they hope to come close to making the playoffs. This is the first time the two teams have met. Sharks has had great crowds at home, but have struggled winning only 2 from 5 games. Sharks suffered their biggest loss at home last week against the Pistons losing by 25. Third quarters have been a problem of late losing it against the Pistons by 16 and then 15 against the Saints the previous week. Offense has also been lacking for the Sharks only averaging a tad over 70 points in the last two games and is overall third to last in scoring at 78.9. But their offense may kick start against the Jets who give up the most points in the league at 104 a game. Rene Rougeau leads his team in rebounds, steals and blocks, but his shooting has been a struggle of late with 8/35 from the field and 0/7 from the three point line in the last two games. His fellow import Mike Helms hasn't shot the ball well in the losses with 11/31, but Helms is a very dangerous scorer that could get hot very quickly if the Jets do not play defense. Another import who has had shooting woes is Richard Jeter who has shot 29% in the last two losses. Jets did not play last week so should be fully fresh for their double header. The matchup between Helms and Jets Darryl Hudson will be exciting, both athletic guards and can easily put up thirty in a hurry.

Saturday, May 22

Christchurch Cougars (6-9) v Fico Finance Nelson Giants (9-3), 7pm

At Cowles Stadium, Christchurch

Referees – Gavin Zimmerman, Raewyn Willocks, Hayden Pipe

Head to Head*: Cougars 1 Giants 2

Last Meeting: Giants 92-81 (Round 7: 17/04/2010)

Projected Starting Fives

	Cougars	Giants
Point Guard	Jeremy Kench	Mike Fitchett
Shooting Guard	Paora Winitana	Phill Jones
Small Forward	Mark Morrison	Mika Vukona
Power Forward	Trent Wurtz	Michael Harrison
Center	Tim Behrendorff	Tony Rampton

Leading Scorers (Points per game)

Cougars	Giants
Paora Winitana (19.9)	Phill Jones (20.8)
Tim Behrendorff (16.0)	Michael Harrison (15.9)
Jeremy Kench (15.5)	Mika Vukona (11.6)

Team Leaders in Other Categories (Per game)

	Cougars	Giants
Rebounds	Trent Wurtz (6.3)	Mika Vukona (9.9)
Assists	Jeremy Kench (4.3)	Phill Jones (4.0)
Steals	Jeremy Kench (2.3)	Phill Jones (1.8)
Blocks	Tim Behrendorff (1.1)	Michael Harrison (2.0)

Notes

Christchurch Cougars season is on the brink, but a win against the Giants could prove the difference in making the top six. Giants will be coming off a game in Wellington and will need help from their bench which is only averaging 14.5 points. Cougars had to work for their win over the Taranaki Mountain Airs trailing by one with a little over a minute remaining, Tim Behrendorff and Jeremy Kench stepped up big to win their third game out of their last four. Nelson also played the Airs winning thanks to a dominant fourth quarter which put them back to second place. Behrendorff had a season high 30 points in the Round Seven loss in Nelson. In that game the Cougars fought back after trailing at the half by 15, to win the third by 33-22. Giants regained their composure to win by 11, but the Cougars showed a lot of fight after playing a game the previous night. Behrendorff's opposition Tony Rampton also had a season high 24 points in that Cougars game. Still uncertainty on whether the Cougars leading scorer Paora Winitana will be playing. Winitana has missed the last five games for the Cougars and the last time he played was against the Giants when he scored 20 points.

OceanaGold Nuggets (0-11) v McDonalds Manawatu Jets (0-9), 7pm

At Edgar Centre, Dunedin

Referees – Gavin Whiu, Raelene Forde, Matt Bathurst

Head to Head: Nuggets 3 Jets 1

Last Meeting: Nuggets 100-81 (12/04/2008)

Projected Starting Five

	Nuggets	Jets
Point Guard	Sam To'omata	Darryl Hudson
Shooting Guard	Riki Buckrell	Matt Te Huna
Small Forward	Tom Rowe	Richard Jeter
Power Forward	Tyler Amaya	Chris Reay
Center	John Barber	Calum MacLeod

Leading Scorers (Points per game)

Nuggets	Jets
Tyler Amaya (22.5)	Darryl Hudson (24.5)
John Barber (14.0)	Richard Jeter (19.8)
Sam To'omata (8.7)	Matt Te Huna (10.8)

Team Leaders in Other Categories (Per game)

	Nuggets	Jets
Rebounds	John Barber (8.7)	Chris Reay (7.3)
Assists	Tyler Amaya (3.4)	Darryl Hudson (3.1)
Steals	John Barber (1.7)	Matt Te Huna (2.6)
Blocks	John Barber (1.3)	Chris Reay (0.6)

Notes

Finally the only winless teams in the league go head to head for the first time this season, but hopefully for the Manawatu Jets they already have a win against the Southland Sharks the night before. Both teams have not had seasons to remember losing by an average margin of over twenty points a game. Nuggets have really struggled offensively currently last in scoring averaging 70 points a game. They are yet to score over 85 points in a game yet. Offense for the Jets has not been a problem averaging nearly 97 points in their last four games. It is defense giving up 104 a game. Jets Darryl Hudson is averaging 32 points per game since joining the Jets, while Nuggets John Barber has been up and down in his first three games averaging only 11 points. Barber has brought other things apart from scoring to his team leading the Nuggets in rebounds, steals and blocks. Both teams will really be eager to get off the bagel and not join the 1998 Northland Suns and the 2009 Taranaki Dynamos, who are the only teams in the National League to ever go winless in a season. Both teams are sitting at the bottom at field goal percentage, Nuggets 37.2%, Jets 40.8%.

Taranaki Mountain Airs (4-7) v Waikato Pistons, 7pm

At TSB Stadium, New Plymouth, 7pm

Referees – Melony Wealleans, Jamie Hickey, Kieran Udy

Head to Head: Airs 1 Pistons 6

Last Meeting: Pistons 96-78 (Round Two: 13/03/2010)

Projected Starting Five

	Airs	Pistons
Point Guard	Tyrone Davey	Carl Krauser
Shooting Guard	Jack Leasure	Hayden Allen
Small Forward	Aaron Bailey-Nowell	Thomas Abercrombie
Power Forward	Jeremiah Trueman	Tony Ronaldson
Center	Demarshay Johnson	Alex Pledger

Leading Scorers (Points per game)

Airs	Pistons
Jack Leasure (21.1)	Thomas Abercrombie (20.8)
Demarshay Johnson (14.6)	Hayden Allen (14.6)
Aaron Bailey-Nowell (13.1)	Tony Ronaldson (13.5)

Team Leaders in Other Categories (Per game)

	Airs	Pistons
Rebounds	Aaron Bailey-Nowell (7.9)	Alex Pledger (12.7)
Assists	Tyrone Davey (2.9)	Carl Krauser (3.2)
Steals	Jack Leasure (2.1)	Carl Krauser (2.2)
Blocks	Demarshay Johnson (1.1)	Alex Pledger (2.3)

Notes

Taranaki Mountain Airs will be desperate for win currently on a five game losing streak. It will be a tough ask when they host the Waikato Pistons who have won six in a row and made the double header in the Deep South look like child's play beating the Southland Sharks by 25 and the OceanaGold Nuggets by 33. Airs trip down south didn't go as well losing to the Christchurch Cougars by three and the Nelson Giants by twenty. Airs were only down three going into the fourth in Nelson and were leading by one with a minute left against the Cougars, so finishing the game will be crucial if they wish to stay in the race for a playoff spot. Shooting guard Jack Leasure averaged 18.5 points on the road trip, but shot under 40% from the field. Pistons Thomas Abercrombie has been on a tear of late winning his third player of the week in Round 11. Abercrombie won his first player of the week this season in Round Two against the Taranaki Mountain Airs when he had the stat line of 37 points, 8 rebounds, 5 assists and 5 blocks. In that same game Jeremiah Trueman had one of his best games in an Airs uniform with 23 points and 9 rebounds. Trueman grabbed a career high 16 rebounds in the loss against the Giants. The boards will be a battle, both teams in the top three in the league in second effort points. Pistons have had recent dominance over the Airs winning six of the last seven games played against each other and 11 of the last 14.

Note: Head to Head = Wins (07, 08, 09 Seasons)

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PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Round 11

Thomas Abercrombie (Waikato Pistons)

22 points (9/16 FG), 12 rebounds, 7 assists, 3 blocks, 3 steals in the 95-62 win over the OceanaGold Nuggets.

Waikato Pistons Thomas Abercrombie earns his third player of the week honors for his performance against the OceanaGold Nuggets.

Abercrombie was three assists shy of getting a triple double, also blocking three shots and grabbing three steals. The Pistons small forward also goes to the top of the overall rankings knocking off former leader and former team mate Eric Devendorf who had a pretty good game himself with 36 points and three steals in the Exodus Saints 103-91 win over the 0800 Easy LPG Bay Hawks.

Another Piston who is creeping up the overall rankings is Alex Pledger who is leading the league in rebounds 12.7. Pledger is only one of two current players averaging over 10 rebounds a game (Dillon Boucher 10.1). Against the Nuggets Pledger had a double double of 20 points and 18 rebounds, which is his eighth double double this season.

Other notable performances were from Bay Hawks Josh Pace who was outstanding in the fourth quarter against the Saints scoring 17 of his 30 points in the quarter. Airs Aaron Bailey-Nowell had a big game in the loss against the Cougars with 17 points and 17 rebounds.

PLAYER POWER RANKINGS

1. **Thomas Abercrombie (Waikato Pistons)**
2. **Eric Devendorf (Exodus Saints)**
3. **Rene Rougeau (Zerofees Southland Sharks)**
4. **Alex Pledger (Waikato Pistons)**
5. **Dillon Boucher (Harbour Heat)**
6. **Darryl Hudson (McDonalds Manawatu Jets)**
7. **Rick Rickert (Harbour Heat)**
8. **Corey Webster (Harbour Heat)**
9. **Phil Jones (Fico Finance Giants)**
10. **Mika Vukona (Fico Finance Giants)**

The Next 10 . . .

Jeremy Kench (Cougars), Lindsay Tait (Saints), Michael Harrison (Giants), Jon Rogers (Hawks), Josh Pace (Hawks), Jack Leasure (Airs), Tyler Amaya (Nuggets), Tim Behrendorff (Cougars), Paora Winitana (Cougars), John Barber (Nuggets)

Visit www.basketball.org.nz for Top-50 Player Power Rankings
Check out www.tab.co.nz for the latest odds

Note: *Denotes Team Records since 2000

STAT LEADERS

Points (Min 100 points)

Eric Devendorf (Pistons)	27.4
Darryl Hudson (Jets)	24.5
Corey Webster (Heat)	22.9

Rebounds (Min 50 Reb)

Alex Pledger (Pistons)	12.7
Dillon Boucher (Heat)	10.1
Mika Vukona (Giants)	9.9

Assists

Lindsay Tait (Saints)	6.0
Dillon Boucher (Heat)	5.5
Jeremy Kench (Cougars)	4.3

Steals

Rene Rougeau (Sharks)	3.5
Corey Webster (Heat)	3.2
Mike Helms (Sharks)	2.7

Blocks

Jon Rogers (Hawks)	3.0
Alex Pledger (Pistons)	2.3
Michael Harrison (Giants)	2.1

FG % (Min 30 Attempts)

Nick Horvath (Saints)	60.5
Casey Frank (Saints)	60.4
Dillon Boucher (Heat)	60.3

3pt % (Min 15 Attempts)

Carl Krauser (Pistons)	66.6
Eric Devendorf (Saints)	60.7
Dave Langrell (Hawks)	54.0

FT % (Min 10 Attempts)

Mike Helms (Sharks)	88.2
Kavossy Franklin (Heat)	86.9
Phill Jones (Giants)	86.5

NBL Trivia of the Week

Name the only NBL player to be the scoring champ and rebounding champ in the same year?

Answer: John “The Pope” Whorton (Canterbury Rams) - 2003

Whorton is the only NBL player to lead the league in scoring and rebounding in the same year averaging 29 points and 16.5 rebounds per game. Whorton played four seasons for the Rams averaging over twenty points and ten rebounds in 52 games.

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