



Pressure on in penultimate round of PBL

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As the Premier British League approaches a thrilling conclusion, there is truly no room for error in the penultimate round of action this weekend.

All eight teams will take to the table over the weekend, all looking to place themselves comfortably before the final round of action.

For Ormeau, this weekend presents them with their final game of the season, having played BATTs a fortnight ago.

A 4-1 victory moved them to the top of the table, albeit having played a game extra than their rivals, but they will look to exert as much pressure as possible on their title rivals when they take on Drumchapel.

Only a heavy victory is likely to give Ormeau any sort of hope, but with Urban and Ormesby playing each other in a mouthwatering final round, a big victory against the Scots on Saturday would provide hope.

Lucas Molland won both his singles games against BATTs and the young Frenchman is likely to be called upon once again. Drumchapel, who themselves are only four points behind their opponents and face basement side Fusion in the final round, will too sense a slight opportunity for glory. They'll hope to call on the services of England international David McBeath for this one.

Urban, the defending champions, will be lining up a big victory in their own trip to Scotland, as they take on North Ayrshire. Urban are only a point behind Ormeau and will be confident of overturning that over the two rounds, but with a title showdown on the horizon next month, they'll want to position themselves as strongly as possible this weekend.

Lethal defender Satoshi Aida remains unbeaten this season, as does Hungarian Daniel Schaffer. Should they turn up to defend their unbeaten streaks, it could be a long afternoon for North Ayrshire, who have endured a difficult season for a variety of reasons but are three points clear of the bottom.

Ormesby will entertain BATTs in Cleveland, themselves looking to at least match Urban's result ahead of next week.

The Cleveland outfit, who are likely to have Darius Knight present, are just a point behind Urban. Should they be able to tie things up this weekend, their showdown with Urban will be a humdinger in March.

The final game of the weekend will see Cardiff travel to Fusion, knowing victory would almost certainly ensure they avoid the wooden spoon.

Fusion are at the bottom of the league currently, three points behind the rest. Defeat would see them needing a miracle to climb the table in the final round.

ROUND 6 (2pm KO)

North Ayrshire v Urban

Ormesby v BATTs

Fusion v Cardiff

Ormeau v Drumchapel

The league table can be found here:

https://tabletennis365.com/britishleague/Tables/Premier_2018-19/Premier

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