

First Crack Chronicle

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THE CURIOUS CASE OF SHAUN JOHNSON AND THE LATE WITHDRAWALS

Each season, The B!tches take on the Piranhas, and their star half goes into hiding. Is it a case of misfortune, or something more sinister?

For those who are unaware, Shaun Johnson has never laced a boot to face off against the Papatoetoe Piranhas (the team formerly known as 100N80). The thing that is most upsetting for coach Talia Bevan, is the fact that Johnson always pulls out o game day.

“Jesus, in this day and age, with all the communication devices and platforms we have to get the message across, it’s always left until the very last minute” says a clearly frustrated Mrs. Bevan.

So why is it that he always dodges these games? Is it a case of misfortune, or something a little more deep seeded on Johnsons part? Lets look at a few interesting facts around all involved.

Exhibit A is Shaun Johnson, a freakish talent who can turn a game on its head within minutes. He has all the skills, can run, kick and pass with the games elite, even if he is somewhat of a turnstile in defense.

Exhibit B is Talia Bevan. Now a veteran, but last season touted as one to watch in the eyes of the coaches in FCFL. Of Portuguese decent, she has a take no prisoners attitude, yet has kept Johnson in cotton wool against rivals Papatoetoe for 2 seasons now.

Exhibit C is Nevan Clarkson. He seems to be the coach that Johnson misses each and every time. Is it the fact that his side is based in the country where Johnson grew up as the Prince of Mt. Smart?

This is gonna sound really stupid, but there is a fear factor there. But it’s not Nevan or the Piranhas” says a sheepish Johnson



“I have a fear of flying, and the thought of climbing on a plane 4 times a year scares the crap out of me”.

Others are not so convinced. Chairman Darren Bevan believes it is a fear of Clarkson himself, as the main cause of Magic Johnsons disappearing acts.

“What kind of world are we living in, when a 28 year old man cannot admit he is scared of another man?” says Bevan. “He CLEARLY has some sort of fear factor there, as it is always last minute withdrawals. If he plays on the weekend, B!tches probably beat the Piranhas, instead they were a man short and lost”

Piranhas beat the B!tches by a 48 point margin, and Johnson is more than capable of 50+ scores.

Clarkson isn’t sure that Johnson is scared of him, but one thing is for sure, he has lit the fire under Johnson and Mrs. Bevan as he chipped in with a comment that is sure to be used as motivation in the late rounds of 2019.

“Shaun Johnson is clearly a bitch. He plays for a team called the B!tches, because he is a BITCH. He knows that if he gets on that plane to visit Kohuora Park, then B!tches get stitches”

So the fuse has been lit, and now we all wait in anticipation to see if Shaun Johnson faces the Piranhas EVER, and if he does, what type of impact he has on the fixture.

THE BACK PAGE

Don McLeod Player of the Week – Joseph Manu

Joseph Manu (born 29 June 1996) is a New Zealand professional rugby league footballer who plays as a winger and centre for Dazzlers Dingoes in the FCFL. Manu is a New Zealand international representative.

Joseph made his FCFL debut in the Dingoes round 1 victory over Basic B!tches scoring a decent 45 points on debut, and is yet to miss a game in 2019 with 4 starts.

Highly underrated, he will be one to watch in the Dingoes quest for a 2nd successive FCFL title.

Joseph Manu (Dingoes)



Don't count Grubs out yet, it's a long season.

Grubs mentor Josh has worked tirelessly in his maiden season to get his side it's first victory. But the harder he tries, the more he seems to fall just short. In 2019 the Piranhas were in the same boat, and a couple of key signings and a little luck got them to the final. We are predicting a similar outcome for the new kid on the block.

Don "Cowboy" McLeod Player of the Year Tally

Pianhas v B!tches - 3 – Kaylan Ponga (B!tches) 2 – Matt Gillett (B!tches) 1 – David Klemmer (B!tches).

Avengers v Rampage- 3 – Roger Tuivasa-Sheck (Rampage) 2- Mitchell Aubusson (Rampage) 1 – Joey Leilua (Avengers)

Tigers v Dragons - 3 – James Tedesco (Tigers) 2 – Cameron Murray (Dragons) 1 – Ryan Matterson (Tigers)

Dingoes v Grubs- 3 – Joseph Manu (Dingoes) 2 – Blake Ferguson (Grubs) 1 – Andrew Fifita (Grubs).

McLeod Medal total points leaders

8	R. Tuivasa-Sheck
6	Cameron Murray
6	Corey Oates
6	James Tedesco
5	Blake Ferguson