

First Crack Chronicle

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BEVAN PICKS UP HER FOURTH HOOKER OF 2019.

It may have taken 10 rounds, but Joanne Bevan has taken steps to resurrecting a dismal 2019, by signing James Segeyaro at the 11th hour.

A battle was on for the nippy dummy half, with another club chasing his also signature, but missing out on the waiver due to their high league position. Segeyaro is expected to turn out this weekend, against the club that missed out, Rosebery Rampage.

"It's F@*king bullshit" says Jeremy Barton about his failed attempt to sign the number 9, "Clarkson the twat got in contact with Jo and told her Segeyaro was available, he should mind his own F@*king business". Barton is still clearly frustrated with his narrow loss to Clarksons Piranhas from last weekend.

2019 has been cruel to the Avengers, a host of injuries have derailed a promising start to the season, and the cellar dwellers are once again in the basement, desperate to claw their way out. And things are looking up for the down and out club.



Avengers hooking trouble. (from Left to Right) Jake Friend, Andrew McCullough Mitch Rein and new recruit, PNG international James Segeyaro.

Daly Cherry-Evans and Tom Trbojevic are close to returns from injury and Addin Fonua-Blake and Josh Addo-Carr are hitting some form. But players need to stay on the paddock if the Avengers are to get ahead, and the number 9 jersey has been somewhat cursed in 2019.

Jake Friend did a pec and ended up getting cut without making an appearance in 2019. Then Andrew McCullough went down with a dicky knee at training after round 8. Mitch Rein was scouted and played 2 games with an average of 50ppg, before Segeyaro became available for the first time in 2019.

With so much talent passing through the hooking position, it can be easily forgotten about the loss of Joey Leilua to a herniated disc in his neck. We at FCC wish Joey a speedy recovery from surgery that took place during the week.



In other news from FCFL circles, Kalyn Ponga has hit some form, and is now chasing down Roger Tuivasa-Sheck in the McLeod Medal race. Sitting 6 points behind the leader, he has a few more weeks to impress, but RTS is a short favorite to keep the exciting fullback at arms length.

Ryan Papenhuyzen produced the goods for the Piranhas, after he was a last minute selection ahead of Jack Wighton on the weekend. He picked up his first 3 points towards the McLeod Medal tally.

Mitchell Pearce looks to have found a home at the Balmain Tigers, the club him father Wayne, played 158 first grade games for. Papatoetoe Piranhas will be kicking themselves they let him go too early.

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Don McLeod Player of the Week – Kalyn Ponga

Kalyn Ponga (born 30 March 1998) is a professional rugby league footballer who plays as a fullback, five-eighth and on the wing for Basic B!tches in the FCFL. He previously played for the Eely Avengers.

Blessed with speed, skill, and vision beyond his years, Ponga is slowly maturing into the complete package as a footballer, developing leadership skills passed on by the great Jonathon Thurston.

Ponga is known for his head gear, which is often mistaken for protection, but is actually used to cover up the dead possum that people mistake for his hairdo.

In his spare time, Ponga can be found jamming on his PS4 playing fortnite and smashing down pints of caramel milkshakes.

Kalyn Ponga (B!tches)



RTS extends his lead in McLeod Medal race

A loss to the Papatoetoe Piranhas hasn't stopped live wire Roger Tuivasa-Sheck from extending his lead in this years McLeod Medal tally. A blistering display in a narrow defeat over the weekend saw the Kiwi snatch a vital 2 points and move 4 clear of Dragon Cameron Murray who is on 10 points. With the Rampage facing an out of sorts Avengers this weekend, he will be looking to extend that lead once again, as he is favoured to pick up all 3 points this weekend.

Don "Cowboy" McLeod Player of the Year Tally

Rampage v Piranhas- 3 – Ryan Papenhuyzen (Piranhas) 2 –Roger Tuivasa-Sheck (Rampage) 1 – Aiden Tolman (Rampage).

Dragons v B!tches- 3 – Kalyn Ponga (B!tches) 2- Jason Taumalolo (Dragons) 1 – Tevita Pangai Jnr. (Dragons)

Grubs v Avengers- 3 – Addin Fonua-Blake (Avengers) 2 – Payne Haas (Grubs) 1 – Andrew Fifita (Grubs)

Dingoes v Tigers - 3 – Mitchell Pearce (Tigers) 2 – Robbie Farah (Dingoes) 1 – Cody Walker (Dingoes).

McLeod Medal Total Points Leaders

14	R. Tuivasa-Sheck
10	Cameron Murray
9	Damien Cook
9	James Tedesco
8	Clint Gutherson
8	Kalyn Ponga
8	Cody Walker