

First Crack Chronicle

<http://firstcrackfantasy.com/>

FIRST CLASS JOURNALISM since 2018

Vol. 02 - 2020

MUNSTER BECOMES A FILTHY GRUB TO BREAK PREMIERSHIP DROUGHT.

The 2020 FCFL draft has seen Cameron Munster join his 3rd club in as many years as he hopes to end his bridesmaid status after two previously attempts at Grand Final glory.

The 25 year old Rockhampton junior has made the big dance in the first 2 FCFL seasons, with 2 different clubs, yet has fallen agonizingly short on both occasions. 2019 will be a tad more bitter, as he was named Man of the Match in a losing side, as the defending premiers Dazzlers Dingoes fell to Grubs 812 to 861.

The thought of facing a red hot Munster has scared Grubs mentor Josh into making Munster his first draft pick, and 10th overall which is astonishing considering his stats lines.

Munster has played 28 regular season matches for the Piranhas and Dingoes averaging 63.14, and averaged a mouthwatering 110.50 in his 2 finals appearances in 2019.

With Munster likely to play in the halves, many coaches chose the Fullback pick up and completely ignored Munster. 5 of the 10 coaches chose Fullbacks, with Tedesco (Noah's Ark), Tom Trbojevic (Avengers), Tuivasa-Sheck (Dingoes), Ponga (Tigers) and most surprisingly Latrell Mitchell (Piranhas) going in the first round. Considering Mitchell has moved from the Centres and will not be first choice goal kicker means he needs to be more productive to cover the loss of Damien Cook.

Of the 26 players that featured in the 2019 decider, Grubs has not only managed to hold onto 2 off his players, but poach 3 players from Dingoes with Munster, Jake Trbojevic and Viliame Kikau joining Ken Maumalo and Wade Graham in the Red and White hoops.

Joanne Bevan has scored a few handy pick ups in 2020. As well as Tom Trbojevic, she has added Blake Ferguson and Junior Paulo and Josh Papalil adding size and skill to a dangerous roster.

New comers 2Great4U have also had a solid draft round, snaring premiership winner

James Fisher-Harris, as well as the experienced Cameron Smith, Cameron Murray and livewire Ryan Papenhuyzen. And if rookie coaches are anything to go by, Eddie will be as tough as they come.

“Added the Filthy to Grubs. Rebranding isn't cheap lad”

Josh Dewar when asked how his side spent their \$17.50 after winning their first premiership.

The Dragons were a very late inclusion to the 2020 season. Having finished last in 2019, retirement plans had crept in as she was asked by Gordon Ramsey to cook in one of his restaurants. After giving it a crack, and thinking he was a dick, Rose returned to her First Crack family and cooked up a few nice signings, snaring Jason Taumalolo, John Bateman, Cameron McInnes and Reuben Garrick. Hopefully Bateman and McInnes return from injury sooner rather than later.

Noah's Ark had the luxury of first pick, choosing wisely and nabbing James Tedesco. In addition to the classy fullback, James landed some class across all positions in Shaun Lane, Josh Hodgson, Jarrod Croker and Tevita Pangai Jr.

Balmain Tigers needed some consistency after falling away in 2018. After missing out on retaining Tedesco, they managed to nab hot and cold Kalyn Ponga, powerhouse Andrew Fifita, livewire Luke Keary and the zip zip man Josh Addo-Carr.

Determined mastermind Darren Bevan has chosen to reinvent his tired 2019 squad. Acquisitions of Roger Tuivasa-Sheck, Kotoni Staggs, Jesse Ramien and Adam Elliott shall see if the old fella still has the wits to outsmart his newer rivals.

Jeremy Barton want on a Rampage. Damien Cook has jumped across the ditch, leaving the Piranhas after 2 seasons. The Dingoes also managed to lose Cody Walker and Clint Gutherson to the Rampage.

Blitches have flown under the radar, snaring Jack Wighton, Payne Haas, Martin Taupau and Valentine Holmes, adding some muscle and some silkyskill.

Piranhas have made some extremely odd choices. Choosing a day on the drink over attending draft day, mentor Nevan Clarkson has let his Samsung do the selections and it hasn't ended well. Josh Dugan is the 2020 version of Greg Inglis, and Kieran Foran is not much better. His best bet now is to hit the Waiver Wire and snare a few outside chances to help him hit a mid table finish. Daly Cherry-Evans is a highlight, the first ever Piranhas captain is back to steady the ship.

THE BACK PAGE

THE PRESSURE TEST: THE KEY MEN

Dazzlers Dingoes

1st: Roger Tuivasa-Sheck

2nd: Conan Hess

3rd: Kotoni Staggs

Key: RTS. Holds all the aces, and just needs to stay injury free.

Filthy Grubs

1st: Cameron Munster

2nd: Wade Graham

3rd: Jake Trbojevic

Key: Munster will succeed. But how long until he gels?

Rosebery Rampage

1st: Damien Cook

2nd: Cody Walker

3rd: Jemaine Issako

Key: Cook. Has a habit of disappearing. This must stop.

Basic B!tches

1st: Payne Hass

2nd: Jack Wighton

3rd: Valentine Holmes

Key: Haas. Absolute beast of a human. Will get Wighton on right foot.

Papatoetoe Piranhas

1st: Daly Cherry-Evans

2nd: Ryan Mastterson

3rd: Latrell Mitchell

Key: Mitchell. Loses the goal kicking, and needs a few assists to recoup the points lost.

Dragons 1015

1st: Jason Taumalolo

2nd: John Bateman

3rd: Cameron McInnes

Key: Bateman. Will miss rounds, and needs to hot the ground running upon his return.

Eely Avengers

1st: Tom Trbojevic

2nd: Corey Norman

3rd: Jarrod Wallace

Key: Turbo. Missed a few weeks in 2019. Needs to be on the park to help out more.

Balmain Tigers

1st: Luke Keary

2nd: Nathan Cleary

3rd: Kalyn Ponga

Key: Ponga. The magician can fool you with his mastery, and also disappear without a trace.

2Great4U

1st: Cameron Murray

2nd: Jai Arrow

3rd: Ryan Papenhuyzen

Key: Rpap. 2nd year syndrome is always a worry, this kid will win the Don McLeod medal.

Noah's Ark

1st: James Tedesco

2nd: Shaun Johnson

3rd: Tevita Pangai Jr.

Key: Johnson. Needs to do what he does best and run the ball. Then the Ark will set sail.



Where are they Now? All FCFL2018 First Team

1. T. Trbojevic* (B!tches) – Moved to Avengers in 2019 where he remains.
2. B. Ferguson* (Piranhas) – Won a premiership with Grubs, before heading to Avengers
3. E. Marsters* (Piranhas) – Moved to B!tches in 2019 and then to Rampage in 2020.
4. L. Mitchell** (Dingoes) – Moved to Rampage in 2019 and on to Piranhas in 2020
5. W. Hopoate* (B!tches) – Moved back to Piranhas in 2019 before switching to Dingoes in 2020.
6. K. Ponga** (Avengers) – Moved to B!tches in 2019, then onto the Tigers in 2020
7. S. Johnson* (B!tches) – After 2 seasons with basic, he has fled to the Ark in 2020.
8. R. James* (Piranhas) – Cut in 2019 by Piranhas to join B!tches. Injury killed 2020 chances.
9. D. Cook** (Piranhas) – After 2 seasons Cook has set sail for Rampage in 2020.
10. A. Fifita** (Avengers) – Moved to Grubs in 2019 to win a premiership. A Tiger in 2020.
11. A. Crichton* (Piranhas) – Moved to Rampage in 2019 then to Dragons in 2020.
12. J. Trbojevic* (Dingoes) – Back to Back Grand Finals with Dingoes. A Filthy Grub in 2020
13. J. Taumalolo** (Dingoes) – Sacked by Avengers in 2018 before becoming a B2B All Star in 18/19. Headed to the Dragons in 2020.

*Denotes 1 x All Star

** Denotes 2 x All Star