



# 2019/20 Finals

UC CAPITALS



EST 1984



## SEMI-FINAL GAME 3 PREVIEW

It's do or die for the UC Capitals.

The Caps were aiming to sweep the series in two to cement their place in the grand final after a 14-point win in game one boosted their hopes.

The Melbourne Boomers played with a sense of desperation that the Caps couldn't match, though, and after a 12-point defeat, the series was forced to a game three decider.

The Caps put their loss down to their lack of defense and trouble gaining momentum, but Maddy Rocci says that the team is looking forward to redeeming themselves come Wednesday night.

"We're ready. We're going to put behind us what happened in game two. We were obviously super disappointed with our efforts and the way we played.

"We knew they were going to come out firing and we knew we had to stop them, but we just couldn't find our momentum.

"We're ready for game three in front of our home crowd and ready to get that win to head into the grand final," said Rocci.

In particular, shutting down Lindsay Allen and Maddie Garrick will be key for the Caps to limit the Boomers' damage on the scoreboard. Allen put up 17 points in game one followed by a game-high 25 points in game two, while Garrick added 16 and 17 respectively.

Gemma Potter played a pivotal role in defending Allen in game one, but after spraining her ankle during training, she's been sidelined and constrained in a moonboot. It is unlikely Potter will return to the court tonight meaning Goriss will look to Keely Froling, Alex Delaney and Abby Cubillo off the bench to fill that role.

The Melbourne Boomers, on the other hand, will be all over Kia Nurse and Kelsey Griffin as they did in game two, so it will be crucial for the Caps to get the ball moving and get the rest of the team in the game.

Marianna Tolo said that getting on a roll early will make all the difference.

“We need to play more to our strengths. We were letting them dictate the pace and dictate the game and we need to control that tempo by taking our time and being on the front foot first.

“Melbourne are a confidence team - when they get rolling, they can really get rolling. You can see that by Maddie Garrick’s shooting last time,” said Tolo.

That’s exactly what happened in the second quarter on Sunday when Melbourne got away with 26 points which ultimately kept the Caps at bay for the rest of the game.

The home court advantage will be the Capitals’ greatest weapon in this sudden death game, particularly because Canberra fans are fired up after the incident involving Sophie Cunningham and Keely Froling.

Cunningham was fined \$250 for striking Froling in the face with an open hand which the WNBL’s Incident Review Panel graded as “Careless, low impact, high contact”. Froling, whose elbow collided with Cunningham before the strike, was not charged.

Expect another highly physical game tonight typical of the Caps and Boomers match up, but hopefully without any further incidents to detract from the game.

The Capitals hope their crowd will be louder than ever tonight as their season hinges on one more win before the championship becomes within reach.





## Official partner of the Canberra Capitals

Peoplecare Health Cover are back for another season with the University of Canberra Capitals after a stellar 2018/2019 season. We wish the team the best of luck in 2019/20 WNBL season and we'll be there to cheer the team on throughout the season so make sure you come and say hi!

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Please see [peoplecare.com.au/capitals](http://peoplecare.com.au/capitals) for more info.

\*T&Cs apply





**KELSEY GRIFFIN**

Height: 188cm

DOB: 02/07/1987

Position: Forward



**MARIANNA TOLO**

Height: 196cm

DOB: 02/07/1989

Position: Centre



**KIA NURSE**

Height: 183cm

DOB: 22/02/1996

Position: Guard



**OLIVIA EPOUPA**

Height: 165cm

DOB: 30/04/1994

Position: Point Guard



**MADDY ROCCI**

Height: 169cm

DOB: 01/06/1998

Position: Guard



**KEELY FROLING**

Height: 188cm

DOB: 31/01/1996

Position: Forward



**ABBY CUBILLO**

Height: 168cm

DOB: 18/05/1999

Position: Guard



**ALEX DELANEY**

Height: 183cm

DOB: 21/06/1995

Position: Forward



**KRISTY WALLACE**

Height: 180cm

DOB: 03/01/1996

Position: Guard



**LILY SCANLON**

Height: 175cm

DOB: 21/02/2001

Position: Point Guard



**GEMMA POTTER**

Height: 183cm

DOB: 27/02/2002

Position: Guard-Forward



**SHAKERA REILLY**

Height: 178cm

DOB: 08/09/1999

Position: Forward



**MADDY WHEATLEY**

Height: 180cm

DOB: 03/06/2002

Position: Guard



**PYPER THORNBERRY**

Height: 187cm

DOB: 02/07/2002

Position: Forward

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NO.	PLAYER	HEIGHT (CM)	POSITION
5	Sophie Cunningham	185	Forward
7	Toni Farnworth	182	Guard
11	Penina Davidson	190	Forward
12	Chelsea D'Angelo	178	Guard
13	Ezi Magbegor	193	Forward
15	Lindsay Allen	172	Guard
21	Stella Beck	181	Guard
22	Cayla George	193	Forward
23	Maddie Garrick	178	Guard
32	Kalani Purcell	185	Forward

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