



CRICKET NORTH WEST – REPORT No.20 (15 Mar 2026)

CNW Men's 1st Grade

FOR THE second-straight season Sheffield and Ulverstone will do battle in the grand final after both teams overcame stubborn resistance from their opposition to win their semi-finals on Sunday.

The Black Caps will be in search of a history-making fifth consecutive flag following an 82-run victory against Devonport at UCI Oval.

Resuming at 9-18 in reply to the home side's imposing total of 9dec-302, the Orions opted for a steady start, reaching 2-64 at lunch.

But the wheels fell off the run chase straight after the lunch break when Theo Marshall struck before the visitors suffered an all-too-familiar collapse through the middle order driven by Brandon King, which saw them lose 4-6, all to King's bowling.

With an early finish looking likely at 7-88, coach Miles Barnard (63 not out) and all-rounder Robert French (76) showed a bit of fight in a 129-run stand that kept the hosts out in the field longer than they would have wanted.

The second new ball finally ended the resistance, however, with Rhys French (3-40) and coach Matthew Varner cleaning up the tail to end the Devonport innings at 220.

SHEFFIELD booked its spot in the decider with a 62-run triumph over Burnie as it searches for its first premiership since the 2008-09 season.

The Mountaineers declared overnight after racking up 8-301 on Saturday, leaving the Hurricanes a full day to chase down the target.

Their reply started disastrously as both openers fell for ducks inside the opening five overs, before Logan Heazlewood (3-54) collected his second wicket when he dismissed Nick Revell with the score on 24.

With their season hanging by a thread, the Hurricanes were finally able to put up some resistance as Spencer Grove and Shaun Redman combined for a 112-run partnership for the fourth wicket.

But after his heroics in the first innings with the bat, Harry Collier delivered for Sheffield with the ball, prising out Redman for 52, followed by Sam Robinson bowling Grove 42 runs later for 86.

Despite the threat of a lower-order fightback, the Mountaineers attack always had the advantage, with Robinson (4-51) taking the final three wickets to bowl Burnie out for 239.

The three-day grand final will take place at the Latrobe Recreation Ground from Friday, March 20, starting at 11.00am.





CNW Men's Second Grade

THERE will also be a repeat of last season's grand final in this weekend's Second Grade decider following wins to Devonport and Sheffield on Sunday.

At the Devonport Oval, the Orions withstood all Ulverstone could throw at them to record a first innings victory by 44 runs.

Resuming their second innings at 0-5 and with an overall lead of 49, the defending champions dug in and batted through to tea thanks to contributions from Lochie Reid (28), Alex Forbes (30) and Brad Moore (36), reaching 4-126 before the Black Caps conceded defeat.

THEY will face a red-hot Mountaineers team, who demolished Burnie at West Park by 135 runs.

The Hurricanes started day two at 1-8 in reply to Sheffield's first innings of 242, but despite 41 from Nick Imms, were simply no match for the visitors bowling attack and were bowled out for 107 in the 45th over.

Josh Marshall did the damage at the top of the order with 3-24 before Kaleb Lee cleaned up the lower half of the home team's line-up, finishing with 4-15 from 7.2 overs.

The two-day grand final will commence on Saturday, March 21 at a venue to be confirmed.

