SCANDAL ROCKS NPC

Enmore, Tue 24 Nov 2026:

In what is thought to be a gross violation of HPDP chain-of-custody protocols, the score sheet for last Wednesday night's Nick Power Cup Week 2 is reported to have gone missing. This comes on the heels of the prior week's controversy surrounding an apparent coup attempt to seize control of the organiser role, a much coveted and highly-respected position. Investigations have been ordered by the **HPDP Central Organising Committee (COC)**, to determine when and how this could have occurred. As expected, conspiracy theories abound and include the usual suspects: foreign interference, drug doping, "the dog ate my score sheet" and (the more commonly-held theory) aliens from planet Kepler -442b. Overheard Chinese whispers also alluded to an inside job connected to last week's controversial coup events.

HPDP officials have so far remained tight-lipped about potential causes for this extremely embarrassing situation, however, one source who wished to remain anonymous was quoted as saying "*What an almighty cock-up! Thank f#*k it didn't happen last week when I was running it*". It is understood a reward and possible whistleblower/finders keepers protections may be offered for the safe return of the blue folder containing said score sheet.

Whilst it is feared many of the scores may be lost to the winds of destiny, one result stood out as the highlight of the night. In the very first game of the evening, **Peter T**, after looking down the barrel of a pantsdown, managed to turn the game around with a decisive finish to rob **Dave C** of any chance of taking out the honours for this year. The crowd went wild seeing Peter T, three times NPC winner, potentially returning to his (in)famous days of past cup glories.

Spotted after fleeing the scene of the total debacle was that close-knit family, the **Jinks**, apparently changing ball games and absconding to the West Indies and signing up with the local cricket team to avoid the ongoing scandal.



Left: Seeking to distance themselves from the latest scandal, Jink and Jink Junior eloped to a distant cricket oval for a fun family outing.

Photo credit: *Anon/ChatGPT*

STOP PRESS

The HPDP COC has just advised this publication that, after several sleepless days and nights and many hours of thorough investigation and deep analysis, the results from last week were able to be reconstructed. They further advised that, despite there possibly being some discrepancies with player scores lower down the ladder, it is clear that there are only three real contenders to take out this year's Nick Power Cup. They are:

- **Marcus**
- **Laurence**
- **Alex**

However, despite **Michael** not being present on Week 2, if he shows this week and wins on the night, he could equal Marcus' score causing a runoff.

Scores are to be reconfirmed this week prior to the start of the third and final NPC round. This will indeed be a thrilling nail-biting final with anything possible as is the norm with every prior Nick Power Cup. Other players are reminded that they are all "spoilers" now so pick your favourite and do your best to encourage them to do their best.



Left: Two of the HPDP elders looking rather smug despite being relegated to spoiler status.

Photo credit: *Peter T/ChatGPT*

One of the other highlights of the night involved newcomer, **Cameron**, who after his very embarrassing "pantsdown" effort in Week 1, did considerably better in the 2nd week going through to the third round following a hugely controversial first round dummy-spit by his black-fouling opponent, **Smokin' Joe**, prompting a report to the HPDP COC.



Above: Cameron about to take out his 1st game by default against Smokin' Joe (inset).

Photo credit: *Peter T*

The HPDP Rules & Ethics committee has requested that punters be reminded that the HPDP Rules, adopted in 2006 and always clearly posted around the venue, should be adhered to at all times. They also noted in particular that the organiser's ruling is **always** final.

Unfortunately, owing to a sudden medical incident involving our discreet onsite sports reporter, other match highlights and action photos have been lost to the swirling mists of time… or something.

Also unfortunately, due to the extraordinary administrative cock-up, the latest results are not yet available at hpdp.org. Check again after this week's final.

Glebe Globe Roving Sports Correspondent