



COBRA TILING
0450 949 957



President's Welcome

This week is round 10 which means it is the halfway point of the season.

The highlight of the season so far is our junior program. At the time of writing all our junior grades were all in their respective final 4's. Training nights have to be seen to be believed, with over 110 players regularly training at one time (ages under 6's to under 16's)

I would like to thank all the people involved in our junior program for the effort and commitment to these players, your efforts are rewarded by the way the kids keep coming back.

Continuing with the juniors, there will be some crack jack games this Friday night when Palmerston takes on Uni in all grades except under 8's. A couple of them are top of the table clashes with the under 16 game in particular highly recommended viewing. Don't take it from me, come and see it for yourself this Friday night.

Ben Blyton



Under 16's

What's on this weekend...

FRIDAY	All Junior grades at Rugby Park
SATURDAY	Senior grades at Rugby Park: 4:00pm – Under 18's 5:30pm – B Grade 7:00pm – A Grade



Noticeboard

NTRU LADDERS

A Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Casuarina	7	7	0	0	35
Souths	7	4	0	3	20
Dragons	6	3	0	3	15
University	7	2	0	5	11
Palmerston	7	1	0	6	6

B Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Casuarina	8	6	0	2	30
Souths	8	5	0	3	25
University	8	5	0	3	24
Swampdogs	8	4	0	4	19
Palmerston	8	3	0	5	18
Dragons	8	3	1	4	15
Jabiru	6	0	1	5	2

Under 18's

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Swampdogs	6	5	0	1	25
Casuarina	6	4	0	2	21
University	6	3	0	3	15
Palmerston	6	2	0	4	12
Dragons	4	0	0	4	0

WEEKEND ACTION



B Grade

Around The Grounds



THE SENIORS

A Grade – Casuarina 81 Palmerston 7

Update from coach Greg Hill

I was confident coming into this game that we would put in a substantially better performance than we did last time we played Casuarina. This however did not pan out. Contrary to the last game, we started well and had a competitive first half that the players seemed to enjoy. We managed to restrict that well-oiled mob in blue and white to a respectable and competitive first half score. The second half did not go as well and playing the extra game really showed up. We weren't helped by injury to Razz who had to be carried off or by their really slick move in the inside backs that prompted Nikko to say "did you see that move, that's the one we were trying to do at training!" To everybody's credit, nobody stopped trying and we fought it out with Nikko scoring a beauty in the corner and then Ian curling the conversion in like a pro.

It was disappointing to note that player numbers were down for the two grades. Maybe the variety of attractions at Bass in the Grass was more important than playing for the club that you have committed to.

Try – Michael Nicholas; **Conversion** – Ian Verral

B Grade – Casuarina 34 Palmerston 21

Update from coach Craig Leach

B grade took on top of the table Casuarina on the weekend. Starting short again, we had to play hard to keep in touch. Great clubman, Anthony Smith, scored the first try at speed for the Crocs. Josh Parker backed up with another in the second half. New man Aaron Constable put the fend onto several defenders to plough over late in the game. Rodney Fejo kicked 3 from 3. Great effort to come back late in the game, but the clock beat us, going down 21-34. A big thanks to those committed blokes who came on for B grade, then ran straight back out for A grade.

Tries - Anthony Smith 1, Josh Parker 1, Aaron Constable 1;
Conversions – Rodney Fejo 3

Under 18's – Under 18's had a bye

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WEEKEND ACTION A & B GRADE

*Photos below supplied
by Fiona Austine*



THE JUNIORS

Update from Junior Coordinator Robbie Taylor

Another great week for Junior rugby at Palmerston. The results are looking pretty impressive every week. And the effort is awesome. Keep up the good work everyone. The behaviour of the club has been pretty good this season. We would love to keep ensuring we set the best example for the kids in our club to follow. A big thankyou also to everyone involved who keep the club going strong both on and off the field. The junior results are showing the work we do is worth it.

Under 6's - Update from U6 coach Ricky Hoe

This week Gareth scored the opening try and along with Rodney, displayed the best listening skills both at training and during the game! We scored again through Bradley who made some flying defensive efforts against the Cougars/Dragons combined team. Our defence was rock solid to the point where we let the other team score outside of the field of play just to keep them interested!

With our manager away, Freddie stepped in and was an awesome assistant! Thanks mate! Yes we had enough players to field another team - thanks to NTRU President Dan Bree for his refereeing efforts - the look on his face at full time - priceless! Apparently Lily made the only legitimate tackle in the game, Hamish got squashed under a human pile up, Tynan played very well, Ollie scored 3 tries and Bodie's defensive stance creatively saw him turn into an aeroplane!

Under 8's - Palmerston 50 Swampdogs 50

The Under 8's played out a 50 all draw with Swampdogs. It was a very exciting game between both teams.

Try Scorers - Maddy McVee 3, Daniel Akers 2, Tristan Humphries 1, Shane Bracken 1, Izaiah Waters 1, Alexandra Blyton 1 and Aaron McFarlane 1; **Special Mentions** - Daniel Akers, Maddy McVee and Izaiah Waters

Under 10's - Casuarina 33 Palmerston 21

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SOME PHOTOS FROM EARLIER GAMES...



Under 6's



Under 6's



Under 8's



Under 8's

The Under 10's took on Casuarina in a very tight affair. Both teams were looking to get back to winning ways. In what was probably one of the best displays of rugby so far this season, the boys only just went down due to a couple of late tries to Casuarina.

Tries - Jack Akers 1, Jayden Humphries 1 and Mitchell Brady 1;
Conversions - Riley Reid 3; **Special Mentions** - Riley Reid, Josh McVee and Aiden Smith

Under 12's - *Casuarina 41 Palmerston 5*

The Under 12's were a couple short, and unfortunately we could not get the numbers evened out as is required. So it was that Casuarina managed a victory over our ever improving Under 12's. Our kids continue to show some brilliant signs of how good they could be with a full complement to play with.

Tries - Cameron Croker 1; **Conversions** – Nil; **Special Mentions** - Corey McVee, Cameron Croker and Thomas Howe

Under 14's - *Palmerston 41 Casuarina 12*

The Under 14's were up against Casuarina, the only team to beat them this year. So with a great attitude and a lot of commitment to each other, the boys ran riot over the Cougars. It was an awesome showing and the boys really made sure they got the win. A special shout out to Matthew Ellis who suffered a serious neck injury during the game. We send our best wishes for a speedy recovery and hope to see you back on the field once you're ready mate.

Tries - Kosta Kachionis 4, Isaako Teuati 2 and Sean McFarlane 1;
Conversions - Keegan Quakawoot 3; **Special Mentions** - Kosta Kachionis, Keanu Feeney and Jet Wyles-Kelly

Under 16's - *Palmerston 51 Casuarina 0*

These boys keep on rolling on with the 2012 season. In what was another awesome display of rugby, the boys worked hard early and set the platform for a very impressive performance. All players contributed in the game and all left a mark on the result.

Tries - Trent Keppel 3, Thomas Roe 1, Bailey Hakes 1, Ben Kaart 1, Gavin McHugh 1, Xavier McKenzie 1 and Greg Svanfelds 1;
Conversions - Greg Svanfelds 2 and Scott Cotton 1; **Special Mentions** - Trent Keppel, Henry Degoumois, Thomas Roe and Scott Cotton

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Noticeboard

SENIOR SUBS

Senior subs are now due. **\$190** includes playing kit and insurance. Payment required so that your insurance is paid!

LOST PROPERTY

We're accumulating quite a bit of lost property. It seems to be mostly junior items. If your child has lost some gear please drop into the clubhouse and check – we'll have a table with all items on display.

CRACKER NIGHT AT THE CLUBHOUSE

Sunday 1st July from 6.00pm.
Club will be open for drinks, sausage and steak sandwiches.

BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Sunday 8th July. Roster is on the notice board at the clubhouse. 4 x 2 hour shifts. Great fund raiser for the club.

DARWIN SHOW CLEAN UP

From **Thursday 26th July to Sunday morning 29th July.** See details on the right.



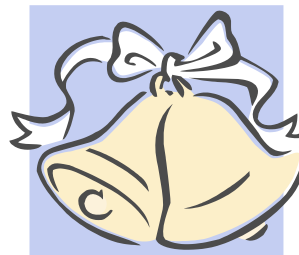
MONSTER RAFFLE

See **Dennis Grant** for tickets in the Monster Raffle.

Other news...

WEDDING BELLS

All the best to senior player **Denny Johnson** and his fiancée **Zaydah Hunnam**, who tie the knot this weekend. Congratulations Denny and Zaydah, and best wishes for a long and happy life together.



ADVANCED COACHING WORKSHOP

Murray Archibald, Head Coach Rugby Union at the NTIS, will be holding an Advanced Coaching Workshop on **Monday 4th June** from **5.30-6.30pm** at the NTIS. The topic will be *Attack*.

Murray will be holding an ACW held each month, with a new focus at each session, for example *Defence, Kickoffs, Lineout, Tackle Contest*.

Coaches of all grades are encouraged to attend.

ROYAL DARWIN SHOW CLEAN UP – THE CLUBS MAJOR FUNDRAISER

The Royal Darwin Show Clean-Up is once again our major fundraiser for the year.

Due to game commitments we will be allocating shifts for the clean-up as follows:

- Seniors – Thursday, Friday, Sunday morning
- Juniors – Saturday

Entry to the show will be free for those helping with the clean-up. See a Clean Up Co-ordinator to book your shift now:

Seniors Clean Up Co-ordinator
Dennis Grant

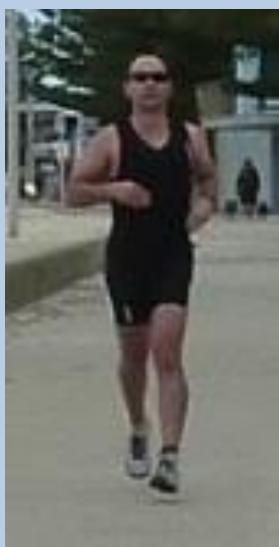
Juniors Clean Up Co-ordinators
Robbie Taylor or Ben Blyton



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The Bree clan on Jeremy's 18th birthday. From L→R, Paddy, James, Jeremy, Daniel, Bernie, Dennis, Noel and Gerry.



Jeremy the triathlete.



Easter Sunday Triathlon, with Bernie, Caitlyn, Nicky and Josh providing support from the sidelines.

Where are they now?

Name: Jeremy 'Bullfrog' Bree

Lives: Melbourne, with wife Nicky and children Josh and Caitlyn

Hailing from the clan Bree, the Palmy Crocs were always going to be in my blood, but what may surprise you is that coming from such pedigree of Bernie Bree and having uncles Dennis, Paddy and Noel, I did not start my playing career until I was 18! Dennis was holding out until he could play a game alongside me before he retired, that has been and gone and I think he is now waiting for Hamish, Tommy and Josh (the next generation) to come up and play!

I have a fond memory of playing a game early in my career, on my 18th birthday, where the name Bree featured heavily on the players' sheet. Bernie, Dennis, Noel, Paddy, Daniel and myself ran on (some got pretty puffed just doing that), my grandfather Gerry called the coin toss and a then young James was ball boy. Those were early days when I started on the wing in C grade! I quickly learnt that A) the ball does not get out there very often in C grade, B) a Bree is not actually fast enough to be a winger and C) I don't care about my hair style enough to be a back, so the progression to side of the scrum was made to mix it up with the big boys. I have also had the pleasure of playing in the tropical midday sun with Burls, Squirter, Boulder, Fang, Backpacker, T-Bear, Brock Spider, Mud Crab, Smoking Joe, Snogga to nick-name a few.

Palmy has always been a club with an amazing culture, and a strange aversion to clothing, that is very hard to replicate anywhere else. This was found out when years later, chasing a girl and a job, I found myself in Melbourne where I still reside today. Whoever decided to play rugby in the middle of winter should be taken out to the back pasture and shot; no one can get respectfully nude in those conditions. Braving the conditions I joined the Melbourne Uni Rugby Football Club and played with them for 4 years and captained their 2nd grade for 2 years. My rugby career is currently on hold, not retired, just not playing. We will be visiting Darwin in June this year and I may need to borrow a pair of boots, there is at least 10 good minutes of rugby in me at the moment.

Ironically I gave up playing rugby to spend more time with family but have since found myself addicted to triathlons which are getting longer and longer. Later this year I will complete (not compete) my first Half Ironman and next year plan to tackle the full Ironman distance. This is the current passion until I can pull on the purple shorts of golden oldies and run around again. Until that point I remain a strong Reds supporter (with a touch of home ground Rebels) and have so far resisted the peer pressure of trying my hand at AFL.

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Each week *Croc Tales* is running a "PALMY TRIVIA" competition.

Weekly winners will receive \$10 off their 35th Anniversary Dinner Tickets. You may enter more than once, so keep those entries coming!!

Remember, email your answers by 6pm Wednesday each week to: ben.blyton@bigpond.com or wleach@bigpond.com



This week's winner is Craig Leach. Having attended every event shown, Squirter had no trouble in naming what was happening.



Previous trivia winners are:

- # 1 - Steven Roberts
- # 2 - Garry Crone
- # 3 - Jaz Deo
- # 4 - Jeremy Bright
- # 5 - Garry Russell
- # 6 - Colin Snowden
- # 7 - Dave Ley
- # 8 - Rob Sloan
- # 9 - Craig Leach
- # 10 - Robbie Taylor
- # 11 - Michael Killiner
- # 11 - Sachin Deo (Junior)
- # 12 - J, A & C Blyton (Juniors)
- # 13 - Fiona Austine
- # 14 - Tom Hurse
- # 15 - Craig Leach

Palmy Trivia # 16

There are two parts to this week's quiz:

1. What is the club's major fundraiser?
2. Which shift can you help out with?

Don't forget to get you entry in for a chance of receiving \$10 off your 35th anniversary ticket!

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?



From Squirter: The Palmy nude calendar, the grand final toga party, the world famous 'wheel of death', the Palmy pirate party, the 'Back to the 70s' night at the clubhouse, the 'The Full Monty' presentation night, Maxy Fairbanks ('none for 99') going away drinks at no undie Sunday and ninja turtles Harry and Snogga at the fancy dress lawn bowls day! Oh dear I need to lay down after all that.

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35TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER**CONFIRMED**

Fiona Austine
 Alan Babbs
 Jeff Hellfire Bennett
 Jason & Bryony Blake
 Ben & Selina Blyton
 Cecily & Rod Boulton
 Bernie & Sonya Bree
 Dan & Evey Bree
 Dennis & Cec Bree
 Tony & Vicky Burns
 Matt Cabot
 Greg Cottrell
 Tom Cummins & Jessica Young
 Jaz & Robyn Deo
 Graham Doyle
 Ben Emmett
 Brock Evans
 Dallas Graetz
 Dennis Grant
 Gary Harper
 Todd & Nichole Harrison
 Greg & Roma Hill
 Greg Jarvis
 Sam Jeffries
 Ben Johnson
 Vince & Andrea Kelly
 Glen & Jo Kennedy (from NZ!)
 Michael Killiner
 Sean Killiner
 Craig & Mel Leach
 Wendy & Mal Leach
 Dave & Sharmay Ley
 Chris Marlow
 Martin & Lavinia Mills
 Percy & Joanne Peel
 Stephen Roberts
 Garry, Marcia & Mietta Russell
 Rob & Ann Sloan
 Kerry & Sue Smith
 Mick Smith
 Colin & Alison Snowden
 Rod Williams & Julie White
 Mike & Coral Wilson
 Alan & Michelle Woodcock
 Nick 'Squirrel' Woodroffe

MAYBES

Paddy Bree
 Jeremy Bright
 Merv Daniels
 Sean Kearns
 Bill Murphy
 Anthony Ryan

35th Anniversary Dinner

When: 30th June 2012 @ 7pm**Where:** Crowne Plaza Hotel, Darwin**Tickets:** \$150.00 per person*

*To purchase tickets, please contact Treasurer Percy Peel at percypeel@hotmail.com for payment details.

THINKING OF ATTENDING?

Email Wendy Leach and we'll add you to our growing list.

Palmerston Rugby Union Club

HALL OF FAME

Commencing at our 35th Anniversary Dinner, Palmerston Rugby Union Club
 will induct former players from all eras of the club into the Palmerston Rugby Union Club Hall of Fame.
 In the first year the club will induct up to 10 members and then each year up to two more will be added.
 Inductees are drawn from all teams starting with the first side in 1976.

Criteria

While consideration is given to a players' on-field career, induction is not based on statistical achievement alone. To be eligible for inclusion in the Palmerston Rugby Union Hall of Fame, a player must have:

1976-1979

- Played at least one representative level game
- Played over 20 A Grade games for Palmerston

1980
onwards

- Played at least one representative level game
- Played over 50 A Grade games for Palmerston
- Been retired from Palmerston Rugby for at least two years

All eras

- Made a major contribution to the game of rugby in the Territory
- Demonstrated outstanding ability, sportsmanship, commitment, character and personal contribution to their team and the game of rugby in their era.

Nominations

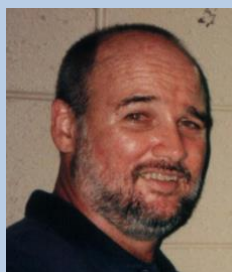
Who would you like to see inducted into the Hall of Fame?
 Email your nominations through to Wendy Leach.

****NOMINATIONS CLOSE TODAY!****

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Palmerston Rugby Union Club

HALL OF FAME



Bernie



Wendy



Dave



Garry

A four person committee has been established to elect the inductees into our Hall of Fame. The committee members have extensive experience in playing, coaching, refereeing, administrating and/or supporting rugby. We are proud to introduce the committee to you.

Bernie Bree

Palmerston's "Mr I've Done Everything" man. Bernie is one of the original Crocs who established the club back in the '70s and has remained a club stalwart ever since. He has played and coached all senior grades including A grade, served on the committee and been the club president for 6 seasons. Bernie is also a Life Member of the club and was voted the *Club Person of the First 25 years* at our 25th anniversary in 2002.

Wendy Leach

Wendy joined the club in 1986 when her two sons, Cameron and Craig, came to play for the Crocs. Wendy has probably watched more Palmerston Rugby Union games than any other person as she has hardly missed a game since she joined the club (until recently this meant driving up from Batchelor every weekend). Wendy is also a Life Member of the club and with her husband Mal they sponsor the Leach Award for the season's most promising junior.

David Ley

David Ley joined Palmerston Rugby Union Club in the 1992-93 season. His involvement with Palmerston has seen him play A Grade, coach A Grade, serve on the committee and be Club President. He is currently a club sponsor. Dave is a Level 3 coach who has previously coached the NT at both senior Mosquitos and Schoolboy level. He has also coached the Australian Combined States Schoolboy side as well as refereed NTRU games at an A Grade Level.

Garry Russell

Garry joined Palmerston in 1979/80 and played A grade for the club during the 80's. Garry could be considered the club's best ever administrator, having held every position on the committee over numerous years including 6 years as President. It was during one of these stints that we won our first A Grade premiership in 1990/91. Garry is a Life Member of Palmerston. He has also managed several NT representative sides at both schoolboy and senior Mosquito level.

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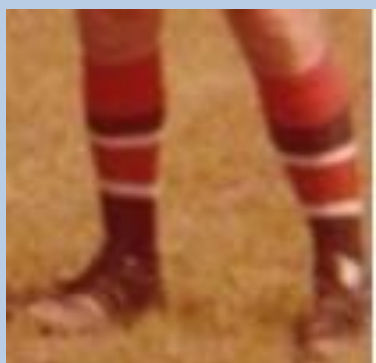
(CROC) TALES FROM HISTORY



Needless to say, early issues of the Palmy newsletter were typed up on a typewriter.



What you would have handed over to play for Palmerston.



Genuine socks from the '70s

35th Anniversary

THE MORE THINGS CHANGE - by Ben Blyton

As we prepare for the 35th Anniversary Dinner, I have been going through old issues of Croc Tales, looking for history, inspiration and the like. Although I have said it before I'll say it again, the more things change the more they stay the same.

For example, below are some snippets from the Palmerston Newsletter, Edition 1, September 1978...

"This newsletter is the first for the 1978/79 playing season, and hopefully it will become a regular feature. The current format may change to suit the demands of the club. But the intention will remain the same, that is to let you know what the club is doing, how we are faring, and to give you a chance to have a say or express your attitude and opinions."

Not much has changed here.

It continues ...

"Naturally, the most important thing to a rugby player is a rugby match..."

We still have these.

It then goes on about players being berated for not being at training.

That sounds familiar.

Then subs are mentioned...

"Registration... and player's fees are due. It goes like this:

Ordinary club fees - \$2

Players fees - \$5

Total - \$7

(N.B. the fees also cover the cost of a pair of socks, so it's not a bad deal)"

Well perhaps things do change after all!

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