

Edition 9 25 April 2013 81 Bonson Terrace, Moulden, Palmerston, NT, 0830 admin@palmerstonrugby.com.au www.palmerstonrugby.com.au



# **President's Welcome**

Welcome to another edition of Croc Tales which today comes out on the ANZAC Day public holiday.

Being ANZAC Day, it is timely to remember that many of our current and past members have strong defence force ties, with many currently either serving or having family members serving overseas. The club wishes these people well and a safe return to Australia when their current deployment finishes.

Last week saw the end of the first round for the senior teams. The senior competition looks like it is wide open this year which will keep things interesting for everyone. This week sees the Under 18s and B Grade playing at home against the Swampdogs (A Grade have a bye).

The junior numbers continue to grow and a lot of great rugby is played on Friday nights. Junior rugby is all about participation and enjoyment and it's always rewarding to see the enthusiasm that our young players have for training and their games.

See you all at rugby sometime over the weekend.

Ben Blyton, President

# What's coming up...

Friday 26 April – Round 4 Junior games at Rugby Park, as follows:

- Under 6 @ 6.00pm, Field 1
- Under 8 v Casuarina Blue @ 6.00pm, Field 1
- Under 10 v Swampdogs @ 6.00pm, Field 2
- Under 12 v Swampdogs @ 6.50pm, Field 2
- Under 14 v University @ 7.50pm, Field TBC
- Under 16 v Swampdogs @ 9.00pm, Field 2

Saturday 13 April – Round 6 Senior games at Palmerston, as follows:

- Under 18s v Swampdogs @ 4.00pm
- B Grade v Swampdogs @ 5.30pm
- A Grade have the bye



**B** GRADE



# NTRU LADDERS

A Grade						
Team	Р	w	D	L	Points	
University	4	4	0	0	20	
Casuarina	4	3	0	1	15	
Souths	4	2	0	2	10	
Dragons	4	1	0	З	5	
Palmerston	4	0	0	4	0	
B Grade						
Team	Ρ	W	D	L	Points	
Swampdogs	5	4	0	1	19	
Dragons	5	3	1	1	17	
Souths	5	3	0	2	15	
University	5	2	0	3	10	
Casuarina	5	1	1	3	9	
Palmerston	5	1	0	4	7	
Under 18s						
Team	Р	w	D	L	Points	
Palmerston	4	4	0	0	20	
Swampdogs	4	3	0	1	15	

Casuarina

University

Dragons

4 2 0 2

4 1 0 3

4 0 0 4

10

6

0

# **Around The Grounds**





## ROUND 5 REPORT by Ben Blyton

University is looking to be the pick of the A Grade sides this year, but all sides look capable of beating each other on their day. Unfortunately our results have not been what we would have hoped for; however we have been competitive for periods in all A Grade games this year and we just need to play for longer periods and the results will come. We have several new players who are making their mark and when key players return from either injury or work commitments, I am sure we will be competitive.

B Grade will also benefit when the A Grade side settles as they then will also be able to start combinations and I expect them to come home with a wet sail and again feature in the finals. This will start this week with a win against Swampdogs on Saturday at home.

The Under 18s continue to train exceptionally well, often getting around 25 players at training each night. However they have not had much game time, with another win by forfeit this week. In fact, the boys have only played one game in the entire first round. The side is to be congratulated for their continued commitment to training. Well done! As mentioned at training last week, the club is proud of you and will support you to keep interested in rugby.

A pleasing aspect of the seniors' games last weekend was to see a number of younger players play in both our A Grade and B Grade sides. The Under 18 squad has supported the seniors well this year and as a result the B Grade match day squad had 7 players under the age of 19 in it, and the A grade match day squad had 5. Special mentions to Cody Macfarlane and Luke Schneider who came off the bench for their A grade debuts – well done Cody and Luke, I am sure you both will play many more A grade games.

# **ROUND 5 RESULTS - 20/4/13**

### A Grade Dragons 28 Palmerston 15

**Tries:** Peter Kilgour (1), Paul Williams (1); **Conversion:** Damian Collie (1), **Penalty:** Damian Collie (1)

**B Grade** *Dragons 33 Palmerston 5* **Tries:** Tom Hurse

Photos by Fiona Austine.

Under 18s won on forfeit



LMERSTON CLUB

#### A GRADE





**B** GRADE



**UNDER 18s** 



#### **ROUND 4 REPORT** by seniors coach Kerry Smith

B Grade (aka Killer B's) put in a solid effort throughout the game that had them in front at the end of normal time. At the last second Casuarina scored the winning points off an error right on the try line. It was a cruel blow after the hard work done through the heat of the day. Palmerston certainly showed enough enterprise and go-forward to be confident that they can match any side in the competition now that we're starting to get a bit of fitness. Players who stood out were Ashley Cunningham, Josh Parker, the Gluck brothers Rhys and Dillon and Nick Skinnon.

For the second week in a row A Grade were competitive for the majority of the game but leaked cheap points at the worst times. Casuarina was a reasonably sharp outfit with good skills and a sprinkling of pace that broke our line a few too many times. Our boys had a number of winning aspects to the game and had they used possession consistently to the high standards when they looked at their best we would no doubt have reversed the score.

Cougars went out to an early lead with two unanswered tries. Palmerston then hit back with a couple of our own. It was when the guys ran the ball as they did for the first try, or maintained a patient build up close to the line which produced the second try, that they looked like match winners. Palmerston also looked all class in line outs and had a strong scrum. We won our fair share of possession throughout the game but were only able to put good attacking play together in parts.

Despite the 43 - 19 score line there was a lot to be happy with. Palmerston's best on the field is hard to pin down as there was a lot of great performances, but Damian Collie had a strong influence on defence and attack and Rhys Hitchcock also had a very strong game and led the team exceptionally well. Newcomers Watine Kirikono and Hemi Seymour added a lot to the forward pack along with the ever-reliable Paul Williams and Brad Hogan.

## ROUND 4 RESULTS - 13/4/13

#### A Grade Casuarina 43 Palmerston 19

**Tries:** Paul Williams (1), Nick Skinnon (1), Brock Evans (1); **Penalties:** Damien Collie (2); **Players' Player:** Watene Kirikino

#### **B Grade** Casuarina 29 Palmerston 26

**Tries:** Nick Skinnon (1), Joel Alexander (1 + one penalty try); **Penalties:** Kurt Collie-Whakaue (2), Te Kepa Russell (1)

**Under 18s** won on a forfeit (and stayed to play Palmy vs. Palmy)



### **UNDER 18s (continued)**





**UNDER 6s** 





**UNDER 8s** 





# **Around The Grounds**



Under 16s



Junior rugby – participation, team work, doing your best

# ROUND 2 - 12/4/2013

**Under 6** University 35 Palmerston 15 **Tries:** Hamish Blake (1), Thomas Bree (1), Jackson Howe (1)

Update by Bryony Bree (manager)

The U6 team had a great game against University, with one of their players (another Hamish) joining the Crocs to even the numbers a little. Whilst University may have crossed the line a few more times, everyone had fun running around, doing some great kick-offs and plenty of tackling.

Under 8 Swampdogs 40 Palmerston 35 Tries: Maloi Terupo (3), Charli Brady (2), Aaron McFarlane (2)

Update by Glen Brady (coach)

This game displayed what could only be described as an extremely intense game from start to finish. From the opening Palmerston was like a well-oiled machine, very impressive considering that the team have been playing together for only two weeks! Swampdogs also displayed some strong team works and after a few tricky tries from the line took the game. Thanks to Gareth for assisting the Swampdogs make up their numbers. U8s, keep it up! Thanks also to Cody for assisting with the team song.



#### UNDER 10s





**UNDER 12s** 





#### **UNDER 14s**



**UNDER 16s** 



Under 10 Casuarina 73 Palmerston 12 Tries: Mitchell Brady (2); Conversion: Tristan Humphreys (1)

#### Update by Ben Blyton (coach)

Our game against Casuarina saw the Under 10s learn another side about rugby when we were well beaten. It was just one of nights you sometimes get and every time we got the ball we lost it straight away and then could not get it back from Casuarina. Having said that, I was amazed at our tackling. The players are really getting into it and considering that most of the players are in their first year of tackling, we are really making progress. Big efforts all around as it was also the first time that many of the kids would have played a full game. A special mention should also go Ayden Whitehouse who volunteered to play for Casuarina as they were short. Well done Under 10's - we will get better.

# **Under 12** *Casuarina 30 Palmerston 10* **Tries:** Cameron Croker (2)

Update by Wayne Smith (coach)

What a game on Friday. Where to begin, there was just so much awesome rugby played by all. The forwards continually dominated the scrums and the majority of the loose rucks and mauls. They also showed their true colours by never giving up and continuously taking the game to the opposition. And as for the fearless back line, they played outstandingly, maintaining their positions and attacking when the opportunity arose, not to mention the numerous trysaving tackles made in defence.

This was an excellent match to watch and all the players should be proud of their performance as it was good to see the determination and dedication of all the players. WELL DONE U12s. One other point to mention was the fact that some of our players had to play for the opposition due to their numbers being down. Thank you for not letting the club down and giving everyone the opportunity to play with full teams on the field.

Under 14 Swampdogs 62 Palmerston 10 Tries: C Hakes (1), T Terupo (1)

Under 16 Palmerston 39 Casuarina 31 Tries: F Byrne (3), J Briskin (1), K Qwakawoot (1), R Hogan (1); Conversions: R Hogan (2), I Teuati (1)





**UNDER 8s** 



UNDER 10s



UNDER 12s



UNDER 14s



**UNDER 16s** 



## ROUND 3 RESULTS - 19/4/2013

**Under 6** *Palmerston 35 Casuarina 30* **Tries:** Levi Muller (6), Jackson Howe (1)

Information from Larissa Deo and Georgia McFarlane (coaches)

The Under 6's have improved a lot, are learning new skills and are having fun. We the mighty Crocs won by 1 try last week, with Levi having a great game scoring 6 tries and Jackson 1, with Tommy providing great support to his team mates. We were glad to see new kids at training last Thursday and hopefully more players are to come.

## Under 8 Palmerston 45 Pirates 10

**Tries:** Connor Blyton (3), Charli Brady (2), Aaron McFarlane (2), Gareth Blackman (1), Oliver Muller (1)

**Under 10** *Dragons 46 Palmerston 15* **Tries:** Mitchell Brady 1, Thomas Dean 1, Tristan Humphreys 1

Update by Ben Blyton (coach)

Friday night's game against Dragons saw a big improvement in the way we played. The Under 10's are starting to get some idea on what to do when they are tackled, starting to look for the ball in rucks and mauls and again the tackling was a sensation to watch. This game saw us be very competitive against a much bigger and I am guessing older Dragon side. Everyone gave their all and several players had their best games of the season so far. Unfortunately we only had 11 players which meant we had no reserves and Dragons had heaps, so eventually we ran out of puff. Well done kids, you are doing great and we will continue to improve.

# Under 12 Dragons 27 Palmerston 22 Tries: Sachin Deo (2), Jayden Humphreys (1), Kenneth O'Çonnor (1), Conversion: Riley Reid (1)

Under 14 Dragons 91 Palmerston 7 Try: Wayne Bilston (1), Conversion: Hamish Blake (1)

Under 16 Dragons 43 Palmerston 14



# 2013 KERR-BARLOW SCHOLARSHIPS



# LUKE SCHNEIDER



# 150+ A GRADE GAMES



Tim and Colin in the *Team of the First 25 Years* 25<sup>th</sup> Reunion Dinner, 2002

# Introducing our scholarship recipients

NAME:	Luke Schneider
D.O.B.:	12/12/1994

Luke played in the Under 18s and is now in his first year of senior rugby. Luke (' Milky' as he is commonly known) is a player which has impressed the club with his dedication to training, his willingness to help out around the club and his general team spirit. It was these qualities which the club saw in him, which led him to being awarded the scholarship.

### **Playing history**

Now in my third year with the Palmerston Crocs, in second row and as a line-out jumper

#### **Rugby goals**

To improve my skills to the best of my ability and support the club whenever I can.

#### **Other interests and achievements**

*I love playing in a team. I also have done seven years martial arts training prior to joining rugby and also trained in boxing.* 

What would receiving a Kerr-Barlow Scholarship mean to you *...it would be good to have support within the rugby club.* 

# **150+ Games Correction**

Croc Tales has a correction to make. Our last edition included an article about players who have played more than 150 A Grade games for the club. Unfortunately we left two players off this list:

**Colin Snowden**, who is also a Life Member of the club and twice won A Grade Best and Fairest, was awarded his 200<sup>th</sup> A Grade game award in 2009, by then President Gareth Felton.

**Tim Curran**, also an A Grade Best and Fairest winner, was awarded his 150<sup>th</sup> A Grade award in 1999 by then President, Al Watson.

Both Colin and Tim were very good players who played with the club over many years, both represented the Territory on many occasions and both were also part of our first premiership winning side in 1990-91.

The club and Croc Tales apologises for these omission.



**Noticeboard** 

**BRITISH LIONS** 



This year, the British & Irish Lions tour Australia. The tour only occurs every 12 years, so it's huge event on the rugby calendar.

If any Croc Tales readers would like to send something through – either their recollections of previous tours or their plans for this coming tour – we'd love to include it in Croc Tales.

To get the ball rolling, Paddy Bree would love to hear from anyone who will be in Brisbane for the Brisbane Lions games. No doubt the Normandy Hotel will be the place to be.

**CROC SHOP** 



Club polo's: \$40.00

Adult sizes: XS, S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL, XXXL

# **Club news**



# **RUGBY PARK REMINDER**

This week has seen rugby union make the news for the wrong reasons. Although the incident reported in the NT News did not involve Palmerston, the club would like to take this opportunity to remind all players, officials and supporters of the following:

- Rugby Park is a licensed venue and no alcohol can be taken into it. This applies to both Friday nights and Saturdays.
- Good player and spectator behaviour is expected at all times. In particular, the abuse of referees or linesman is never acceptable.

Thank you for support.

# LAST HOME GAME FOR THE SEASON

Our last home game for the season is on Saturday 18 May against Casuarina. The club is looking at making it a CLUB DAY



(Sponsors Day / Past Players Day / Supporters Day / Juniors Day / Ladies Day / Old Salties Day all rolled into one). Keep this day free to not only come down and support the Crocs at their last game at home but to bring the family down and catch up with old mates.

# **CROC SHOP**



The Croc shop is open for business and has polo's and many other items for sale. Current members, see someone at the bar. Out-of-towners, contact the club via the website or send us an email like the one below received from past player Garry Crone, currently working in the mines in W.A....

"I am in need of some rugby shorts, so rather than the generic blue/black/green Canterbury stuff at the rugby shop, I would like to spend my money with the Croc Shop... This should round out my shorts wardrobe of the elite, high performing teams like the Wallabies – Brumbies – Crocs... (well, maybe the Wallabies are not so much 'High Performance' as High Expectations...)"







### **REFEREEES FOR THE JUNIORS**

Would you like to be more involved, but can't commit to the weekly duties of coaching or managing a junior side?

On Friday nights the club is expected to supply a number of referees for Junior games. If you are interested in helping out on the Fridays, refereeing may be an option as you can referee when you are available. It will also be a great help to our Junior coaches, who sometimes find themselves having to coach and referee at the same time.

Training and mentoring is available for people who are interested. Let us know at the clubhouse bar or see Ben on the field if you are interested.



## **ARU ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Here's an extract from an email from Greg Denny, Manager, Administration Education, ARU:

"I wanted to acknowledge the Palmerston Rugby Union Clubs excellent website <u>www.palmerstonrugby.com.au</u> – One of the best club websites I have seen... Well done!"

### **UNDER 18 REVISED DRAW**



With the withdrawal of Dragons from the Under 18 competition, the NTRU have issued a revised 2013 draw. There are 11 more Rounds of matches for Under 18s. The Under 18 cycle is three weeks. First and Reserve Grade are five weeks. The Under 18s will have a two week Finals Series with both Semi Finals now Elimination (1v4, 2v3).

### UPDATE ON PLAYING CLOTHING

The next order of club gear is due the first week in June. The club apologises for any inconvenience to its members but our original order was not supplied in full.

This is always a difficult issue to get 100% right. This year, in addition to the usual gear, we also replaced five sets of team jerseys, ordered 7s jumpers and dealt with a new supplier for the first time. To give some context to the logistics of ordering the playing gear, this year the club has spent over \$22 000 on players clothing. Over 200 pairs of socks, shorts and singlets have already been handed out and the players and supporters are looking great!

### **FROM THE ARCHIVES**



From Squirter: a couple of young bucks drinking Powers though a straw. Circa 1990? From L-R: Squirter, Gilly, Watto and Gozz-Wallaby. Sean Gill (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) has recently been spotted back on the paddock, helping out with his son's Under 8s side. It's fantastic to have you back Gilly!



# In appreciation of our valuable sponsors...

**MAJOR SPONSOR** 



