

## Upcoming Games

**SATURDAY 25<sup>th</sup> March**

**Austar Rugby Park 2  
Round 1**

4.30 **B** v Casuarina  
6.00 **A** v Casuarina

**SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> April**

**Magela Field Jabiru  
Round 2**

4.00 **B** v Jabiru

See the **full season draw** in the Resource Library on our website.

[palmerston.rugbynet.com.au](http://palmerston.rugbynet.com.au)

## Coming Events

### Players Tea & U16 Dinner

Tonight, Thursday, the U16s will be putting on their **first post training dinner** of the year. Bring \$3 and get a plate of fine food to re-fuel. I also understand their will be a **guest speaker later** in the evening.

### Jabiru Trip

On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April our B Grade will be **playing Jabiru at Jabiru**.

Plan now to be leaving about lunch time and getting back about midnight. A bus will be organised.

## Last Week's Games

**South Darwin 10s**

I was not able to get to this tournament so my facts are a bit sketchy.

**Wayne Connop** tells me that the guys played 'absolutely fantastic and exciting rugby'

and he is 'very proud of the professional and dedicated way they played'.

The Sunday Territorian tells me that we **beat the Barbarians 55-0** in the first round, **the Dragons 24-0** in the semi final and then lost the final to **South Darwin by 0-21**.

I also hear we had plenty of players and a few went and helped make up the numbers for the Barbarians team. Well done to all our players.

## Wayne's Words

**Coach Wayne Connop**

provided me with the following thoughts:

*'Now is the time for all senior players to firm up on their **personal goals** for this season and to feed these back to the coaching staff. Do you want to represent for the Mosquitoes? Do you want to play a major role in helping the Crocs to win another A Grade premiership? Do you want to make a positional switch? Make sure you let the coaches know.*

*Now that the season proper is upon us, the **emphasis at training will now change** so that we can further develop our game structure and plans. We will also be adding some work on line outs and spending more time running as teams.*

*I would also like to say thanks to Colin 'Snogga' Snowden for the work he has been doing on scrummaging.*

## Jacob Barlow

As many of you already know, **Jacob** has been doing an excellent job for a few years now **refereeing junior games** and touch judging senior games. Well the Australian Rugby Union (ARU) has finally caught up with him and recently awarded him a **Student Referees Scholarship**. He was presented with a certificate and Australian apparel at the Referees Association AGM. He will wear his **ARU strip** when he referees this season.

His mum, Gail, tells me he was quietly happy as I am sure she was.

**Congratulations Jacob.**

## U18s and Senior Rugby

There has been major concern about the ARU's off season decision to **restrict senior rugby to people who are 18 years** old or over.

Fortunately for our competition and most other country competitions, they have **softened their stance** and changed the word 'shall' to 'should'.

**What does this mean in Darwin?** A Grade will be restricted to players 18 years and over. Players U18 who wish to play A Grade will need to get the support of their parents, their coach and the competition manager before being able to do so.



For the start of the season, the **B Grade competition** will continue to be played with U19 laws and U18 players will need to get the support of their parents, coach and the competition manager to play.

As the season starts this week-end and the change has only just been advised, **U18 players will have 2 weeks to complete the paperwork.**

Club Presidents will meet with the NTRU in the next week or so to formalise the local arrangements.

## 2006 Darwin Show

Yes, I know you have all been waiting for this news. We will be back again this year **picking up the rubbish at the Royal Darwin Show.** I have yet to formalise things with the Show Society but they tell me *'we are in like Flynn, cos you guys do a great job'*.

Now, that's great to know.

## 2005 Award Winners

CrocTales dropped out of production at the end of last season before I had a chance to tell you about all of **last season's award winners.**

Here they all are. Next time you see them, thank them for their great efforts and achievements.

### Club Person of the Year

Dan McIntyre

### Mal & Wendy Leach - Most Promising Player Award

Paddy Killen

### Nick Woodruff Award (Highest Point Scorer)

Pete Burnheim

## A Grade

### Best & Fairest

John Sullivan

### Best Back

Shane Stoeckert

### Best Forward

George Hatzismalis

### Coaches Award

Todd Harrison

## B Grade

### Best & Fairest

Ian Hogan

### Best Back

Paddy Killen

### Best Forward

Anthony Lees

### Coaches Award

Denny Johnston

### NTRU – ABC Player of the Year

Shane Stoeckert

### NTRU - Eric Johnson Medal

Runner-Up – John Sullivan

### NTRU – Mozzies Player of the Year

John Sullivan

### NTRU Volunteer of the Year

Garry Russell

## Croc Jottings

It must be the start of the season.

I hear we have suffered a few injuries at the South Darwin 10s. **Ian Hogan** has a **broken collar bone**, **Shane Stoeckert** has a **thumb problem** (broken / dislocated?) and **Ben Emmett** has a **sore neck**. Ben tells me it was all **Chris Howard's fault**. Now I was sure Chris had retired from refereeing but maybe not. Now, how was he responsible for the sore neck? If Chris hadn't let the opposition players fringe off-side at the ruck, Ben tells me he wouldn't have run into one and hurt his neck. **Isn't it great to be back in season!!**

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An update on **Nick 'Squirrel' Woodroff**. Not only has he found the lady of his dreams and **announced his engagement** but **PROPed up** has posted a note on our web page forum saying that he got married on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2006 to a lovely Scottish lass.

I'm not sure who PROPed up is but I assume (could be dangerous) the information is correct.

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## This week-end at the Top End Hotel

- Friday Lunches @ Honey Pot Club 12 - 4pm (\$60) 3 course meal plus show
- Chase the Ace @ Lizards Bar this Friday 5-8pm. Be there for your chance to win \$3,200
- Live music Friday & Saturday night from 8pm
- **Goose Club Raffle @ Lizards Bar - Fridays 6-8pm for Palmerston Rugby Union Club**
- Darwin Cricket club Raffles - Saturday night from 6pm
- Extreme Dream Give-away draw No.4. - Saturday night - Be there to win \$100 prize pack Draw 8pm, plus go in the draw for the \$10,000 give-away drawn 6th May 8pm @ Lizards

