

**A Grade vs Dragons – 5.00pm
(Austar 2)**

**B Grade vs Souths – 3.30pm
(Austar 2)**

These are the knockout games – a win will see the teams play next week in the semi-finals, a loss and the season is finished for the Crocs.

A Grade Ladder

	P	W	D	L	Points
Casuarina	16	15	1	0	76
University	16	8	1	7	42
Palmerston	16	6	0	9	33
Dragons	16	6	0	9	30
Souths	16	3	0	13	17

B Grade Ladder

	P	W	D	L	Points
Casuarina	18	11	1	6	54
Dragons	18	9	0	6	52
Souths	18	10	1	7	50
Palmerston	18	10	0	7	49
Swampdogs	18	9	0	8	47
Jabiru	18	3	2	10	27
University	18	4	2	12	26

A grade finished third on the ladder and B grade fourth.

Last Week's Games

A Grade:

A Grade was supposed to play Dragons on Saturday, but Dragons forfeited the game the day before. This was very disappointing for the Crocs as they were looking forward to a hit-out before the knockout game this week.

B Grade:

The Armchair Critic reports:

Well, with a side that on paper looked to be unbeatable against Casuarina, the stinger B's went down in a close game – 17-10. The Casuarina Cougars as per usual turned up to play rugby. The Cougars will never give you a game – you generally have to win it off them! We didn't turn up on Saturday. Some would argue we put in a great effort, but I believe we didn't turn up.

To take out the B grade finals, and then grand final, we have to turn up to win the game, not just turn up to play. There is a difference there. Also we need to play more as a team. I hate playing against one force, playing the same game all on the same page. I love playing against a side of heroes and individuals – they are easily beaten.

On a positive note, for a team that has hardly played with each other before, we put on a good display against a full strength Cougars' side. We dominated them in the scrums – we didn't lose a line-out, and we looked strong in both attack and in defence in the backs. So with all this said, how did we go down to a side that was dominated? **If you know the answer to that, be sure to tell the B grade coaching staff before our next game!**

The player who stood out in my book and deserves a mention is first of all back at his best – **Jai Wyles-Kelly**. He played an outstanding game as No. 8 and took no prisoners all game. His defence was **faultless**, his go-forward was **text book** and he was always making an **impact** when needed, or was always there in support. For those up-and-coming juniors out there who are looking for a forwards mentor – Jai is your man!

Cougars had a few 1st graders stiffening up their side, but so did we. Cougars had a few decisions go their way in the first half, but so did we. Cougars turned up to win at all costs and did – we didn't!

Now I'm not saying we didn't prepare well because I think for B grade standards we did. I'm not saying we didn't give it all because I think we all did. I'm saying there is a difference between turning up to give it all you have in a game of rugby and **turning up to win at all costs**.

Hit 'em late early!

Arm Chair Critic signing off.

Try Scorers: **Alex Sumpton & Karl McGrath**

JUNIOR GAMES

Friday, 5th August

U17' vs University - Austar 2 **9.00pm**
(Minor knockout semi final)

U15's vs Dragons- Austar 1 **7.50pm**
(Major semi final)

U13's vs University - Austar 2 **6.50pm**
(Minor knockout semi final)

U9's vs Swampdogs- Warren Park **5.45pm**

U7's vs Swampdogs - Austar 2 **6.00pm**

Junior Co-ordinator **Robbie Taylor** reports:

This is the first week of finals for the juniors. I would like to congratulate all the players, coaches and managers on a great season. The time and effort is appreciated by all within the club.

Last week was probably not the best way to go into the finals, with all teams losing by narrow margins. However, the results most certainly did not reflect on how keen they all are to get out there and give 'em heaps!

All grades, except the Under 11's are playing. They left their run home a little late, and finished 6th on the ladder. All the kids played well, just wish we had a few more at the start of the year. **Ryan Cotton** has done a great job with coaching the kids, and this showed in the improvement they made throughout the year.



Paul Theyers has done a wonderful job with managing the kids.

Without Paul ringing around and talking to parents, we may have played the whole season short on numbers. Thank you, guys, for your time and effort.

All other grades will be playing this Friday night at Austar Park, Marrara.

The Under 7's have been going well all season. There is no premier in this grade, as it is designed to get the kids right into rugby and show them how to get started.

The Under 9's are currently third on the ladder and are within range of getting second spot if they have three big weeks in a row. The Under 9's play normal rounds right through to Grand Final Day. This competition is set up so as first past the post wins the premiership.

The Under 13's finished fourth on the ladder and will now take on University in the minor semi final. It is a must win game as the loser will be knocked out. The winner takes on either Casuarina or Dragons next week. The boys will be keen to bounce back and get a win over the Pirates.

The Under 15's have finished second on the ladder and will go up against Dragons this week. The boys have done well to finish in the top two. This gives them a second chance if they need it. We beat Dragons last time out, so hopefully the boys can repeat the dose. If the Under 15's get the win, they will go straight through to the Grand Final. These boys have finished in the best position out of ALL grades in the Club. Well done!!

The Under 17's have finished fourth on the ladder and will be going up against University in the minor semi final. The same thing applies to the Under 17's and to the Under 13's. The boys MUST win to keep their premiership hopes alive. We had a 24-all draw with University last week. I know the boys are hungry for a win and will leave nothing out there on Friday night. We are the only team to beat Swampdogs this year – they finished first – so hopefully the boys will go out there and treat Uni the same way we have the Swampdogs the past two times.

Hopefully this week we might see some of the senior members of the club come down and really get behind all junior grades. The kids deserve a good loud crowd to get them home.

Good luck to all the junior grades, and good luck to both A and B grade teams as well.

PRESENTATION NIGHT

Presentation night will be held on

SATURDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER

AT THE CLUBHOUSE

7.30 pm for an 8.00 pm start

Tickets are \$60.00 per person

Lucky Door Prize

Good food, music and dance

Presentation of trophies

Bottled red/white wine on table

Drinks at pre-1995 prices

Dress Code: Same as usual

This is always a good night.

Mark the date in your diary.

Hope to see you there.
