

Thanks

Sincere thanks to Garry Russell who produced Croc Tales for the Club for so many years. The Committee, Coaches, Players & Supporters wish to express their appreciation of his efforts. He will be a hard act to follow.

Next Games

FRIDAY 2ND July

Austar 2 Park

6.00 B v University

7.30 A v University

A Grade Ladder

	P	W	L	Pts
Casuarina	11	11	0	52
Palmerston	10	7	3	32
University	10	4	6	23
Dragons	11	3	8	18
Souths	10	1	9	5

B Grade Ladder

	P	W	L	Pts
Dragons	11	9	2	41
Palmerston	11	9	2	40
Jabiru	11	7	4	36
University	11	6	5	30
Souths	11	5	6	26
Casuarina	12	3	9	15
Swampdogs	11	0	11	1

Last Week's Games

A v Dragons

Palmerston 22 d Dragons 14

Coach **Sean Kearns** reports for Croc Tales that Dragons were put to the sword by a classy Palmerston outfit. The 1st XV started the game with precision after an aggressive kick-off.

A dynamic set piece, capitalising at the end of well-executed play resulted in their first try after eight minutes. Space was created by **Alex Davidson's** backline on the back of some quick ball by the forwards enabling **Wise Sekitoga** to cross the line early. Palmerston set their dominance early at the scrum. Our hooker and debutant, **Jock Munro**, was not taking a backward step and ably supported by **Steve Schuman** and **Ian Hogan** provided the best platform a Palmerston side has seen in the last three years. The Dragons forwards were on roller skates and this was very encouraging for Palmerston to attack.

Less than 10 minutes later the Crocs were over again through Wise's brother, **Phil**. Both conversions were unsuccessful due mainly to management failing to produce the requested tee. With Fiona off to hospital with two walking wounded from B Grade, the reserve management and delivery of kicking tees became problematic.

Twenty-five minutes into the game saw the first of a few crucial injuries that would test the Crocs. **Alex Davidson** was struck with a reoccurring knee problem, and after some running repairs was eventually subdued when he could no longer stand. As the key playmaker in this go-forward backline, his replacement would see a rigorous reshuffle that denied the backline the penetration they're capable of.

After an early knock to **Paddy Kilner**, he played on unable to breathe properly and coughing up blood – a brave effort from the young man who took the lead and gave direction to the backline immediately. Dragon niggles soon ensued with Crocs taking a comfortable lead. The slurs, punches and cheap-shots were haphazardly dealt with as misdemeanours and slaps on the wrist by the officials, and although distracting it had little effect on the Crocs as they went into the break with a 10-7 lead.

After the break, a re-focused Crocs took the field and looked to systematically defeat their opponents. Early pressure was applied and this transferred to many opportunities as the line-out was dominated on both throws by the Palmerston lads. In general play our ball carriers were continually getting well beyond the advantage line and our ball was being recycled very quickly. Our defence was reasonable and exceptional at times. Big hits were applied by **Anthony Smith** on blokes much larger than himself and **Lee Verral** was also punishing Dragons attackers. As a Club however we will need to improve our line speed and effectiveness at the contact in the coming weeks.

Matt Solis backed up well to cross midway through the second stanza to extend the lead and was instrumental in territorial gains via timely tactical kicking.

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The clinching try for victory came when the Club's best finisher, **Anthony Smith**, scored a classic winger's try when he hit a wide ball at pace and with conviction. Unfortunately, with 12 minutes remaining, tragedy struck another Palmerston debutant in **Marshall Fowle**. Having had a cracking game in B Grade and coming on for brave Paddy Kilner, he was caught awkwardly in a desperate Dragons tackle when he seemed certain to score. "**Chook**" was injured in very similar circumstances to Jai Wise-Kelly's injury in 2009. The reaction of players, officials and medical staff alike is to be commended as they provided the best assistance possible to our mate. We all wish Chook a swift and full recovery.

Players Player was drawn between the hard-working leader in the front row, **Steve Schuman**, and debutant **Jock Munro** for his tireless work rate.

All in all a good victory to cap off a successful day for the Club. The side is growing in confidence and we are taking pride in the development and maturing of the squad as we continue to build on approach to the finals.

B v Souths

Palmerston 19 d Souths 12

Coach **Sean Kearns** played his first game of the season for B grade in No. 8 position. Again, this was an excellent game with Palmerston leading all the way.

Brock Evans had a good game, and went on to make a cameo appearance (off the bench) in A Grade, as a **winger!**

Kurt Collie was Player's Player of the match putting in another solid performance.

Croc Jottings



Snogga

Croc Tales can report that Snogga has received excellent news from his Sydney oncologist and hopes to return to the NT in the near future. Our very best wishes to Snogga, Alison and family – we have all been thinking of you during the last few months and hope to catch up with you in Darwin before you head back to Gove.



Miss Palmy in Drag - 2010

Although only a small crowd attended, the night was a great success. Miss Palmy 2009 – **Anthony Smith (also known as Chicken Wing)** – opened the proceedings in a **Cher** look-alike outfit, accompanied by 2 good-looking sailors, ready to hand over the crown.

The wooden spoon was won by **Charlie Chambers**, and the people's choice was **Tommy Hurse**, mainly due to the athletic ability he showed whilst on stage. **Wise Sekitoga** also put on a great performance.

The judges voted **Matt Solis** to be Miss Palmy 2010 – a worthy winner on the night.



Wallabies vs Ireland Test

A large contingent of present and ex-Palmerston players attended the Test on Saturday in Brisbane. They gathered as usual at the Normanby Pub for pre-test drinks and story telling. A good time was had by all accounts. See a couple of pictures below.



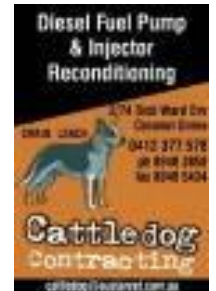
STOP PRESS

A FIREWORKS DISPLAY will be held at the Clubhouse TONIGHT (1st July) – to celebrate Territory Day. Come along and support the Junior teams.

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