

## This Week's Games

**Friday 7 May**  
**Optus Park 2**  
5.30 **U12** v Dragons  
**Optus Park 1**  
7.10 **U14** v Dragons  
8.00 **U16** v Dragons  
**Saturday 8 May**  
**Optus Park 1**  
8.30 **U8** v Swampdogs  
9.00 **U6**  
9.30 **U10** v Swampdogs  
1.30 **C** v Swampdogs  
3.10 **A Mossies v Qld Country**  
5.00 **B** v Jabiru

Yes, that's right. The mighty Palmie C Grade is the curtain raiser to the Australian Rugby Shield game. Will the players be able to cope with the nerves of playing in front of a full house?

## Last Week's Games

**A's v University**  
Well it had to come, the **first loss for the season, 20 - 33**. Although we competed hard for the whole game, University always seemed to have the answers. At present, we seem to lack cohesion in the team. The talent and effort is there but the teamwork needs to be built up on the training paddock. Player's player in his return game was Tom Hurse. Other good players included Ben 'Cube' Emmett, George Hatzismalis, Wise

Sekitoga, John Sullivan and Pete McLaurin.

### B's v University

Another win for the **B's, 22 - 17**, and won in style with a 50 metre + movement that involved an interchange of passes between that rampart running prop, Scott Reed, someone else and Murray Liddle who finished it off. Great way to finish your first game for the club Murray. Tries to B Mitchell (is that Bob or Bronson?), Brad Naylor and Murray. Two conversions to Brad and a penalty to Damian Collie.

### C's v University

We had 25+ players for this game including 3 U16s and a couple of guys who had to play B Grade. We won't need them to back up in the future. **Winners by 27 - 0**. It was great to see Joe Tadeo back and bringing down a couple of young boys from St Johns. It was also good to see Shane Hanna and Steve Payne back in action. Best players included Ralph Traut and Scott Reed - props who are practising running like backs.

### Juniors

Last weekend the juniors, except the U16's who had the bye, joined with the seniors for the home game at University Oval on Saturday.

At the starting whistle for the **U14's** game we only had 12 players ready to take on University's 12. The low numbers probably due to it being a long week-end. It was a lethargic start from the boys allowing University to cross the try line first. It looked like we were going to be down another try soon after, but Floyd Thompson brought off the play of the day by following the University player over the try line and when he tried to improve the position Floyd held him up with the assistance of Kurt Collie. Very well done boys. This allowed us to regather and create some plays for vice-captain for the day, Brendan Russell, to barge over out wide. That left us 5 - 7 behind at ½ time. The half time break provided the boys with a chance to rev each other up and they went out ready to make amends. Lots of chances were created, great rugby was being played but we couldn't get the ball over the line until Tom Pavone got there. The final score 10-7 to us to maintain our unbeaten record. Best player points went to Floyd Thompson, Blake Bishell and Brendan Russell although the whole team played well in hot



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conditions with no interchanges. I know all the boys had fun playing in front of the large gathering of senior players who were cheering them on.

The **U12's** suffered their **1<sup>st</sup> loss of the season** on Saturday 5 - 7. Shaun Austral scored our only try. He is playing really well for his first season of rugby being a shining light in the forwards. Sean Ley also rates a special mention, going head to head all game with the University scrumhalf. He had a tough game but kept his opposite number in check.

The **U10's** lost **7 - 37**. Our try scorer was Tyler Donovan and Ashley Brooking converted the try. Best players included Wade Burkenhagen, Ashley Brooking, Matthew Scott and Bradley Moss.

The **U8's** won on a forfeit. In the scratch match Riley Hogan (2), Ben Kaart, Rhys White (3) and Jye Snowden all scored tries. Best players were Jye Snowden, Christopher Cornwill, Rhys White and Riley Hogan. The **U6's** try scorers this week included Koby Snowden, Blake Windler, Brett Mullen, Maryanne Kerr and Elijah Kereama.



Last week Mossies coach Tony Bundock led me astray and I failed to tell you that Tom Hurse is also in the Mossies squad. Congratulations Tom.

The 22 man Mossies squad has been chosen for this weekend's game against Queensland Country and 3 Palmie players are in the run-on team, Ben Emmett ©,

John Sullivan and Peter McLaurin. Todd Harrison, George Hatzismalis, Tom Hurse and Peter Burnheim have been named on the reserves bench.

They will be up against last year's team mate, Sean Kearns, who will be playing blindside flanker for the Queensland Country team. Kearnsy was transferred to Rockhampton by the Army during the off-season. Welcome back Kearnsy.

### Sponsors

They keep coming thick and fast. Thankfully! This week I am pleased to officially welcome the



as a sponsor. The manager is Ryan O'Hanlon who tells me he is a past rugby player. I'm a bit suspicious though, because it didn't matter how hard I tried, he wasn't going to be talked into a run in C Grade.

They have recently opened in Mitchell Street and are keen to welcome all club players, supporters and friends along for a drink, something to eat and to be entertained. They also have a couple of large plasma screens that are ideal to watch Super 12 or Test Match rugby games. We receive half of our sponsorship now and the other half at the end of the season, subject to satisfactory support. So please, get along and support them so they can continue to support us. Say **Thank You** to Ryan while you are there.

### Coming Events

Well the real Dry Season did try to show itself last week, so it is time to organise some

social events. This Thursday night, **TONIGHT**, is the **1st Thursday** of the month and that means its **C Grade and Old Salties Day**. Yes, it is their chance to come to training, have a look around the training paddock then quickly escape to the clubhouse to make sure everything is in readiness for the **Player's Tea**. There they can re-ignite some old and make some new friendships.

For those that may have forgotten, the address is at the top of CrocTales. Spread the word & see you there.

### Croc Jottings

Courtesy of the NTRU e-Rugby News we have information on a couple of our younger players who are trying their hand in Sydney. **Nick Barlow** is currently playing 3rd Grade at the Parramatta Two Blues. Keep up the good work Nick. Unfortunately the news is not good for **Shaun Kober** at Gordon. He was injured in an off the field accident resulting in a fractured skull. He will miss the entire season after being the Club's Most Improved Colt in 2003 and had been earmarked for the fullback spot in 1st Grade Colts this year.

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I heard a short conversation on the sideline during the C Grade game. There was a comment about how well a particular player was going. Dallas Graetz then informed all that this particular player didn't drink. Colin 'Snogga' Snowden's immediate response was: "He must have something to hide".

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