

## This Week's Games

**Friday 21 May**  
**Optus Park 1**

5.30 **U12** v University  
6.20 **U14** v University

**Saturday 22 May**  
**Optus Park 1**

8.30 **U8** v Swampdogs  
9.00 **U6**  
9.30 **U10** v University

**Optus Park 2**

2.30 **B** v Souths  
4.00 **A** v Souths  
Again, this week we have to put A and B Grade sides on the paddock without our 8 Mossie players. We therefore need everyone, including C Graders, at training tonight and at the games on Saturday.

This week the **Mossies** travel to Adelaide. This is a game I am hopeful they can win but it is not going to be easy. Adelaide lost 10 – 20 to NSW Country in week 1 and followed it up with a very narrow 17 – 19 loss to Perth in Perth last week-end. This week-end we add Ray Walters to our Mossie representatives giving a total of eight. Ben Emmett, John Sullivan and Peter McLaurin have been joined in the starting side by Peter Burnheim at outside centre. Ray joins Todd Harrison and Tom Hurse on the bench while George Hatzismalis is still out injured.

Go hard guys and do yourself and the club proud!!!!

## Last Week's Games



**Mosquitoes v NSW Country**

A bit of a disappointing score line, **Mossies 21 – NSW Country 59**, after the great win in the first round. I have very little in the way of information from the game other than we stayed with them for about 2/3 of the game and Tom Hurse is still yet to get any game time off the bench.

### A's v Dragons

**Lost 23 – 24.** We ran out of time to pull this one out of the fire. As disappointing as it is to lose, it was a great effort from the team. Thanks to all of the B graders who stepped up and/or backed up. I am sure we will go a lot better this week for the run. Player's player was Shane Cotton for a captain's innings up front. That man, Freddie Waianga, and Brad Naylor scored tries while Paul Veach converted both as well as knocking over three penalties.

### B's v Jabiru

Again, another very narrow **loss, 17 – 24.** Narrow, when you consider, Dragons got the converted try on full-time to take the win. Thanks to everyone for turning up and making sure we had a team and filling in where ever required. Colin 'Snogga' Snowden playing fly half was a surprise to many but equipped himself well. Tries

were scored by Vince Kelly and Snogga. Robbie Taylor kicked a penalty and a conversion plus A Ned also kicked a conversion.

## Juniors

The **U16's** played **Casuarina** in a 10-a-side game and although we came up with a **loss** the boys played well. I'm still trying to work out how come, when the coaches agreed to even up the teams, we got 9 players and they got 11? I don't have the scorers available but I do remember Tom Cummins running 30 metres to score a try in the corner after a great backline move. Best player was Mitchell Lawrence. Keep it up boys. It looks like this competition will move to Saturday games, along with the seniors, in a few weeks and I hope that will allow us to get a few of the boys from St Johns to come down and have a run.

The **U14's** also played **Casuarina** who turned up with only ten players while we had twenty, yes 20. Five of our players volunteered to play for them to make it an even contest. Our, Kurt Collie-Whakave and Watene Kirikind, combined for Casuarina and put on some moves to help Casuarina score twice before the Crocs knew what had happened. The Palmie boys regathered, got some forward momentum happening and



**TOP END HOTEL**



Tom Pavone and Blake Bishell scored evening it up at 10 all on half time. A change of players for Casuarina and a reshuffle of our play makers allowed us to put on two more tries through Brodie Lafferty and Watene with Rory Valentin converting one. By my calculation, that makes it **a 22 – 10 win to the Crocs**. Best player for the night was Watene Kirikind, (with a half for both teams), followed closely by Brett Noakes and captain for the night, Michael Green. A couple of highlights from the game were Brett's 90 metre dash to get tackled just before the try line and Rory's nice one handed, behind the head catch on half way and run before also being tackled just before the try line. Well done to all the lads.

Unfortunately this week I do not have any details for the U6, U8 and U12 games. The U10's had the bye.

## Rugby Foundation Scholarships

The NTRU Rugby Foundation Scholarships were introduced last year for the first time. They are awarded to young high school age rugby players to assist them to achieve their rugby goals and to support their academic studies. This year, four more scholarships have been awarded with 2 of them going to U16 Crocs, Tom Cummins and Stephen Bartholdt-Green. Congratulations boys. Both of these boys are very committed to their rugby and working hard to do their best each week for the U16's team and to make this year's U16 NT team. They will be officially presented with their scholarships at the Friends of Rugby game on the 12<sup>th</sup> June.

## Home Game on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May

Last week's CrocTales alerted you to this game but unfortunately I didn't have all of the facts. Not only, is it rugby on Sunday at Moulden Park Oval but it is a **FEAST of rugby**. All games are against Casuarina. The day will start at 9.30am with the U8's followed at 10.00am by the U10's, 10.30am will be the U6's, 11.00am the U14's and 12.00 noon will see the U16's try and give Casuarina their 2<sup>nd</sup> defeat of the season. U12's will have a bye. The seniors will then get into the action with the C Grade at 1.00pm, the B Grade at 2.30pm and finally the A Grade at 4.00pm.

The action will then move to the Clubhouse for something to eat, perhaps something to drink and the normal speeches, awards and good times.

## Communicate and Stay in Touch

Contact details for the senior coaches and junior coordinator have been added to the CrocTales header. Don't forget to let the coaches know what you are doing this week.

Do you have to miss training? Call and let the coach know.

Do you have an injury? Call and let the coach know plus you can still come down to training and be a part of the club.

Know someone who can't train or play, get them to let the coach know or pass on the message.

## Work Wanted

A couple of players are in need of work. **Tim Young**

has recently joined the club from Brisbane. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and English from the University of Queensland. He would like to work in political speech writing and campaigning. He has also done a range of other things including bar work. Do you know of any opportunities?

**Matt Payne** is also looking for work. He has given up on the tow truck driving because of the hours and the interference with his rugby. He will do anything (within reason). See them at training or give me a call on 0401 111 700 if you know of something.

## Croc Jottings

Again, last week-end, the Dragons called for uncontested scrums in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of both the A Grade and B Grade games. They have been making a habit of doing this against us in the last 2 seasons. This call severely disadvantages us by removing the scrum contest from the game. I am convinced that the A Grade result would have been different last weekend if the scrums had continued as a contest. My reading of the rules of the game tells me that the Dragons are not fielding a team according to the rules and I therefore conclude that they must forfeit the games. I have asked the NTRU to investigate.

☺ ☺ ☺

The Brumbies play the Super 12 Final on Saturday at 7.00pm our time. There will be just time to shower after the games and get on down to the Pig' n Whistle to watch the game.



[christine.bree@bigpond.com](mailto:christine.bree@bigpond.com)

