

This Week's Games

Friday 4 June
Optus Park 1

- 5.30 **U12** v Swampdogs
7.10 **U14** v Dragons
8.00 **U16** v Dragons

Saturday 5 June
Optus Park 1

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

- 1.30 **U14 Trial Game**
3.10 **Mossies v Perth**
5.00 **U19 Schoolboys Trial**

Sunday 6 June
Optus Park 1

- 1.00 **C** v University
2.30 **B** v University
4.00 **A** v University

This week the **Mossies stay at home** against the Perth Gold. This will be a tough game, Perth has only lost one game, last week-end to NSW Country, and needs a win to have any chance of winning the ARS. But that is no reason to write off the Mossies. If they play to their potential they can win. This week-end we have Ben Emmett, John Sullivan and Peter Burnheim in the run-on team. Todd Harrison and Peter McLaurin are reserves. Tom Hurse and Ray Walters have missed spots in this week's 22 while George Hatzismalis is still out injured. Go hard guys and do yourself and the club proud!!!!

Coming Events

Today is the **1st Thursday of the month** and that means it is **C Grade & Old Salties Day**. Yes, all of the C Graders and Old Salties should be coming to training, having a look

around and then departing to the clubhouse to discuss important matters and the Old Days. Spread the word & see you there.

This week-end, junior games are back to normal on Friday night and Saturday morning but the senior games stay on Sunday.

The **next week-end** (June 12th & 13th) is the **Queen's Birthday** long week-end when the Friends of Rugby game (Mossies v Barbarians) will be held. U6, U8, U10 and U12 games will be held on Friday night while the U14 & U16 competitions have a bye. The **senior grades** also have a **week-end off**. The club will have a **stall selling pies** at the **Palmerston Troppo Festival** on the Saturday. Let Lyn Cotton know if you can help out or go along and lend some moral support.

The week-end of **June 19 & 20** is the 1st game of Round 3 and the 1st week-end of the school holidays. Junior plans for this week-end are still to be determined. Tentatively we are planning a **CAR WASH** at **BP Palms** on the Saturday morning, so keep this free. C Grade plays on Saturday at Optus Park, B Grade will be travelling to Jabiru to play and the A Grade, instead of having a bye, will be playing a trial game against the NT Schoolboys. The Schoolboys travel to their championships the following week. This is a great opportunity to get some combinations working again after the Mossies campaign.

Last Week's Games



Mosquitoes v Melbourne

Another **win for the Mossies, 27-22**. Like the local May & June rainfall totals, we are in **RECORD** territory. 2 wins from 4 outings, the most ever in a season. An excerpt from the ARU game report: *'But the Mozzies buzzed all over Melbourne for the rest of the half with a commanding forward performance, including winning four tight head scrums...'* Great effort Ben 'Cube' Emmett.

A's v Casuarina

Another **loss, 29-50**. This round certainly hasn't been kind to us. Tries to Craig 'Squiter' Leach, Fred Waianga and 2 to Chris Cuthbertson. Squiter converted 3 plus kicked 3 penalties. Player's player was Matt Payne while Peter Winton was awarded the Coach's Team Man of the Week award.

B's v Casuarina

An **excellent win, 15-10**, for the B's especially after playing with only **14 players** for ¾ of the game after the send-off of Miles 'Ralph' Hindle. Try scorers were Tim Randell and John Waihirere. Kerry Amory converted one while Bronson 'Mitch' Mitchell kicked a penalty. Welcome back Kerry, it was great to see you out there again. There were a lot of other great efforts in the game, too many to mention, but **best players** included



Vince Kelly, Matt **'Phang'** Pheeneey (missed a chance at A Grade game 100 after picking up an injury in this game), **Jesse 'Spotty' Leal** and another returnee, **Chris Cuthbertson**. Chris followed up his effort in this game with a commanding effort off the bench late in the A Grade game. Coach Babbs could only mutter something that sounded like *"Thank God for that try saving tackle on the fulltime whistle by Mike Palmer [I think that's his name] from C Grade"*.

C's v Casuarina

C Grade (or is it the Thirsty Thirds?) also did battle after an interesting start, whereby Casuarina forfeited 5 minutes before kick off and then changed their mind.

Obviously, our start was slow as most players had started heading to the bar, but as the half progressed the lads noticed some room around the fringes and tries started to appear. Coordinator, Noel Bree, asked them to get a bit tighter in the 2nd half before letting the backline fly but everyone wanted to score a try so more were squandered than scored. **Tries** were scored by **Dan Curtin, Tim Randell, John Waihirere and 2 to 'Ralph' (don't call me Miles) Hindle** giving a **31-0 victory**. We must not forget the 3 conversions by another blast from the past, Alan 'Babbsie' Babbs. It looked like he had never been out of the game.

Best players were **Chris Cuthbertson, Scott Reed and Ralph**.

Juniors

We only had 5 fit **U16 players** but Casuarina wasn't much better with only 8 players. They gave us one and we played 6 a side. Our team isn't suited to this style of game as we have a majority of forwards. That didn't stop the boys trying hard though and once they

worked out that there is some advantage in passing the ball and backing up rather than getting caught in a ruck or maul we started to make some headway. Tom Cummins and Mitchell Lawrence had some good runs with Tom scoring both of our tries. Mitchell converted one of them. **Final score was 12 – 58 to Casuarina**.

The **Under 14's**, playing at home for the first time this season, had a walk over with Casuarina only having 5 players. We lent them 6 players and had a game. The final score was a **36-7 win to us**. Try scorers were Rory Valentin, Jye Wyles-Kelly, Brett Noakes, Fred Norris, Watene Kirikind and Tom Pavone with Watene converting 2 and Kurt Collie-Whakave 1. Rory Valentin also scored and converted for Casuarina.

On Saturday we had **13 players at the NT U14 trials**. Michael Pols, playing his 1st season of rugby, unfortunately ended up with a suspected broken elbow. Michael has been playing some great rugby and his injury is a big blow to the club and NT rugby. **Get well quickly Michael**.

As with the U14's, Casuarina only had 6 **U10** players so we **won on forfeit**. We then gave them some of our players so we could all have a game. The final result being a **41-0 win to the Crocs**. Try scorers were Damien Stedman and Wade Burkenhagen with 2 each, Mitchell Carr, Josh Rodda & Josh Ellis. Best players included Damien Stedman, Xavier McKenzie and Mathew Akers.

The **U8's lost 10 – 25**. Our tries were scored by Jye Snowden and Christopher Cornwill. Best players included

Ashley Theyers, Mitchell Bartlett and Joshua Russell.

It was a big week-end for the U6s. They played on Saturday as a curtain raiser to the Mossies game and again on Sunday at the home game. Try scorers on Saturday were Mahlia Snowden and Tom Callaghan while Brett Mullin and Koby Snowden showed lots of enthusiasm. On Sunday Blake Windler, Michaela White, Elijah Kereama, Tom Callaghan and Brett Mullin all scored tries while Jami Barnes, Mahlia Snowden, Brad Bartlett, Gavin Anderson and Koby Snowden all had a strong go. Thanks to all of parents who made the effort to come along on both days.

Thanks

As great as HOME games are, they also bring with them a lot of extra work. **Thanks** must go to **Lyn Cotton** and her army of helpers including **Pauline Wyles, Karen Donovan, Tanya Mullen, Kylie Grainger & Louise Bishall** for organising the food on the oval. They were there from 8.00am getting it all going. Another team including **Bryony Bree, Lavina Mills, Sonya Bree, Marcia Russell & Sean Killiner** cooked up the feast we enjoyed afterwards in the clubhouse. Finally, thanks to the boys at the bar, **Todd Harrison, Tom Hurse** and helpers. I'm not sure if the rest were helpers or customers but they certainly added to the atmosphere.

Croc Jottings

A pearl of wisdom from Squirter *"With the opening of the railway line we have just witnessed the return of the caboose. Good to see him running around in the C grade victory on Saturday."*

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