

This Week's Games

FRIDAY 19th August Optus Park 1

| | | | |
|------|-----|---------------------|--|
| 5.45 | U6 | | |
| 5.45 | U8R | v Swampdogs | |
| 5.45 | U8B | v Casuarina | |
| 7.05 | U12 | v University | |
| 7.50 | U14 | v University | |
| 8.45 | U16 | v Casuarina | |
| | | Optus Park 2 | |
| 5.45 | U10 | v Casuarina | |

SATURDAY 6th August Optus Park 1

| | | | |
|-------|-----|--------------|--|
| 12.00 | C | v Police | |
| 12.30 | B | v Souths | |
| 2.00 | Old | v Older game | |
| 3.10 | A | v Souths | |

| A Grade XXXX Cup | | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|--|
| | P | W | D | L | BP | PT | |
| Souths | 16 | 14 | | 2 | 9 | 65 | |
| Uni versi ty | 17 | 11 | | 7 | 9 | 53 | |
| Dragons | 16 | 10 | | 6 | 6 | 46 | |
| Pal merston | 16 | 5 | | 11 | 8 | 28 | |
| Casuari na | 16 | 0 | | 16 | 0 | 0 | |

| B Grade Abel Finance Cup | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| | P | W | D | L | JF | BP | PT |
| Dragons | 19 | 16 | | 1 | 2 | 10 | 66 |
| Uni versi ty | 19 | 12 | | 7 | | 5 | 53 |
| Palmerston | 19 | 9 | | 10 | | 12 | 48 |
| Jabi ru | 19 | 7 | | 12 | | 6 | 34 |
| Casuari na | 19 | 6 | | 13 | | 8 | 32 |
| Souths | 19 | 7 | | 12 | 2 | 9 | 29 |

Coming Events

Old v Older Game

This Saturday as part of the 30 Years of Rugby celebrations there will be an Old v Older game for those who have done it all before and aren't doing it anymore. Could be interesting.

Junior Presentation & Palmy Family Fun Day

Sunday 4th September is the day, Berry Springs is the place. Early start is the plan. Watch CrocTales for more information.

Senior Presentation

In keeping with tradition, the Senior Presentation night will be held on Saturday 17th September, the week-end after the Grand Final. It will be the normal semi formal or better function and will kick-off at about 6.15pm.

Mark your diaries (and if necessary get out there now and find yourself a partner for the night).

Last Week's Games

A v Dragons

I, and I'm sure every member of the team, was looking forward to this game to see how we were travelling leading into the finals. It all started well but **everything went wrong in the 2nd half** and we ended up with a **10 - 19 loss**.

Dave Ley saw it this way: *'Injuries aside we had no excuse for the loss on Saturday. We had enough ball to win the game but were unable to construct the score from possession. A couple of turnovers while in an attacking position and we found ourselves standing behind our own try line. The disruptions forced through injury did not prevent us from fielding a very strong team who are more than*

capable of winning games. With one game left before the semi finals it's now or never in terms of converting opportunities into points and having the passion and determination to fulfil our potential. The team can still take heart that stringing a couple of wins together in a row would place us in the Grand Final. All teams above us are very beatable if we play to our full capacity and minimise turnovers and errors. A high level of frustration was certainly felt on Saturday with large passages of play going unrewarded. A special video session held on Wednesday should show some areas which need improvement.

Michael 'Scratch' Scaturchio, Todd Harrison and Matt 'Fang' Pheeney all had strong games with **Damien Collie and Tom Hurse** trying hard. **Brock Evans** also was effective and chased hard even in the latter stages. *It's now or never with a week until the finals. Only 3 games count for the whole year. It's our choice as to how we look back on 2005 in September.*

Ben Emmett scored our try while **Damian** converted it plus kicked a penalty. **Player's player was Todd.**

B v Dragons

As with the A Grade this game was the perfect opportunity for the B Grade to make a mark going into the finals. Dragons have been the stand-out B Grade team all year and if they had bothered to travel to Jabiru during the season would have



at least another 16 points on their total.

We matched them all game but unfortunately right at the death they managed to score a try to break the 19 all deadlock and leave us with a 19 – 24 loss. Our **tries** were scored by **Peter Winton, Rod Mulhearn** and **Gareth Felton**. **Rod converted 2** of them. **Player's player** was **Paddy Killen** with another strong performance at halfback.

C v University / Police

And this week we made it 3 games in a row although we are certainly doing all of the running. Even with about 6 – 8 of last week's C Grade being promoted to B & A Grade to cover injuries etc we still managed to get about 11 guys along. Unfortunately the Police didn't have any and University only had 2. I was not to be deterred however and (leading from the front) managed to convince all they needed to get onto the paddock. **Jacob Barlow** needed to get another senior game under his refereeing belt.

The final result was **30 (6 tries) to us and 15 (3 tries) to them** and a good time for all.

Tries were scored by **Alan Babbs, Terry Kirstenfeldt (2), Robbie Taylor (2), Rei Barlow (2)** and **Garry Russell (2)**. Who's this new Palmerston recruit?



It's that past **Casuarina champion** and police pilot, **Roger Rudduck**, enjoying a game with his partner **NTRU Life Member – Dennis Bree**.

U12 v Swampdogs

Coach Jacko tells me that the U12s didn't have the best pre-game preparation, they only had 8 players 2 minutes before kick-off, but fortunately 2 more turned up at the last minute and we were able to field a side to play Swampdogs, even if it was our 10 verse their 12 and their 4 reserves.

Be that as it may, Jacko assures me that the **boys had a fantastic game**, really putting it to the opposition and only being behind by 1 try when the full time whistle was blown.

Best player was **Jarred Donovan** who played out of his skin after returning from representative duties.

U8 Blue v Swampdogs

Coach Jamie provided me with the following information on the U8 Blue game.

Palmy Blue played the Swampdogs on Friday night and won 10-nil. This is their 4th win in a row.

Palmy Blue took the form of hungry wolves on Friday night; the hunger for the ball, (and the win) pushed everyone to the peak of their ability. Chasing the Swampdogs backwards and giving no quarter was the theme of the game with a very physical Palmy side gaining confidence by the minute.

Support, running, defence, just about everything clicked.

The ball handling showed some inventive passes, (such as the "quick" lineout style pass in the middle of the field), and a previously unseen desperation for the ball which caused some skill levels to drop but some great "stacks on" when the ball got loose.

In the second half, Palmy ran the Swampdogs ragged with an elevated level of fitness, (and to think Kylie reckons I make the kids run laps because I don't like them!) that kept the

Swampies from scoring or at times, even moving the ball.

Best Players were the whole team, Riley, Liam, Kai, Kerrin, John and Ben.

Touch Judging

After a huge effort in C Grade (I'm sure I ran at least once in the game), I had my post game re-hydration session interrupted on Saturday to help out as a **B Grade touch judge**. Rest assured I scanned the Palmy stand carefully but couldn't see any other better equipped soul.



Fortunately for all those that will follow me, **John Killen** was in attendance with his trusty digital camera and he was able to record this occasion as a lesson for others.

Note the keen gaze, the erect stance and the attention to detail (I remembered the flag and my re-hydration fluid).

Darwin Cup

Unlike these gentlemen who seemed to be completely unprepared at the recent **Darwin Cup** race meeting.



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