

Upcoming Games

FRIDAY 23rd June

Austar Rugby Park 1

6.00 **U10** v Swampdogs
6.50 **U12** v University
7.40 **U14** v University
8.40 **U16** v University

Austar Rugby Park 2

6.00 **U6**
6.00 **U8** v Swampdogs Red

SATURDAY 24th June

AUSTAR Rugby Park 1

4.30 **C** v Stubbies
5.30 **B** v University
7.00 **A** v University

See the full draw in the [Resource Library](#) on our webpage.

A Grade Tooheys New Cup							
	P	W	D	L	BP	PT	
Dragons	10	6	0	4	7	31	
Uni versi ty	9	6	1	2	4	30	
Palmerston	9	5	0	4	6	26	
Souths	10	5	0	5	3	23	
Casuari na	10	1	1	8	0	6	

B Grade Abel FInance Cup							
	P	W	D	L	JF	BP	PT
Palmerston	12	11	0	1	0	7	51
Dragons	12	7	0	5	0	5	33
Uni versi ty	11	7	0	4	1	4	28
Casuari na	12	5	0	7	0	6	26
Jabi ru	10	4	0	6	0	4	23
Souths	11	0	0	11	0	1	4

Coming Events

C Grade

This Saturday, 24th June, at 4.30pm sees **game 2 of the fortnightly** (well approximately) **C Grade** series between us and the Darwin Stubbies plus anyone else who wants a run. Get it in your diary.

PRUC Sponsors Box

This Saturday, during the A Grade game against University, we will be **hosting our major sponsors** in the corporate box at the top of the grandstand. I'm sure they are looking forward to seeing the club in action.

School Holidays

School holidays start this Saturday, 24th June and finish on Sunday 23rd July. There will be **no junior rugby during the holidays**. The first games back will be on Friday 28th July.

Royal Darwin Show Garbage Services

As many of you will remember we have an **annual gig at the Darwin Show**, picking up rubbish and emptying bins.

This year our commitments run from Thursday 27th July to Sunday 30th July. We don't have any senior rugby this week-end.

This is a **major fund raiser** for the club (over \$5,500) but we need **lots and lots of helpers** (about 50 in total) over the 4 days.

At this stage I really need people for **Friday, Friday night, Saturday and Saturday night shifts**. I ask people to give me a full day (7:00am – 5:00pm) or night (5:00pm – 1:00am) shift if at all possible. It isn't really that hard (now that we have a few years experience under our belt) and there is time to stop

and have a cool drink / look around the pavilions / watch the action in the main ring as well as getting the job done.

Give me a call NOW on 0401 111 700 and nominate yourself and a couple of mates for one of these shifts.

Last Week's Games

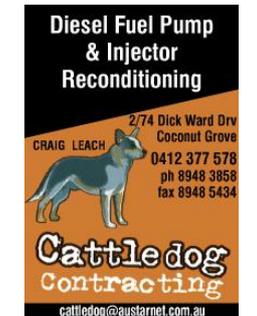
B v Jabiru

Well it was bound to happen, a **LOSS**. We lost 5 – 26 to Jabiru at Jabiru last Saturday.

A lack of players and late players appears to have had some role in the demise but full marks to Jabiru on their win.

Vice Pres, Col 'Gecko' Hillery, drove the bus and provided the following view of the game.

"The Killer B's ("KB's), as they have become affectionately known due to their exemplary 11-0 win loss record prior to the game, lacked a bit of sting on the weekend due to a variety of factors. However the main factor was a shortage of young, keen, playing personnel as we only rocked up with nine players on the bus. Luckily some others made their own way down, including Dennis Bree, and we took the field with 13 players. I am reliably informed that the props (i.e. Bree & Graetz) had a combined age of 110.



Before the game our spiritual equivalent of the Dalai Lama, **Dallas Graetz**, had some wisdom to impart which was, "A beer always tastes better when mixed with Victory!"

Damien Smith was awarded the **captaincy** for some running rugby in recent times and off we went. As you can imagine, the team struggled a bit with only 13 and Jabiru scored a converted try before **Damien Collie, Glen Tanonef** and **Mark Ryan** turned up – it was like manna from heaven to have 16 players.

There were some good passages of play early on by the KB's, which included some good runs & moves from **Adrian 'Sluggo' Graham**, our fly half. Our Dalai Lama, or **Dallas Lama**, was like the real Dalai playing with a lot of heart & committed to his cause but copped a bit so we rested him and put Mark on. The game was tough and tight with everybody giving their all but unfortunately a couple of defensive lapses resulted in Jabiru scoring another **two relatively soft tries** to lead 21-0 at half time.

It must also be noted that **Dennis Bree** sustained a cut above the right eye during the first half and we taped him up and back out he went – pretty gutsy in my book except that he looked like Backdoor Benny Elias.

The second half started well with the KB's camped deep within enemy territory, and for what seemed an eternity we launched attacking raid after attacking raid on their line but couldn't score. We could smell a try but alas Jabiru put up some great defence and simply refused to crack. With 10 minutes or so to go we were once again in an attacking position and I was screaming to **Robbie Taylor** to get the ball to come his way as we had numbers. They got the message, the ball went through some quick hands and **Robbie Taylor** caught a slightly bad ball to score in the corner. In an effort to play catch up the conversion was rushed and we missed to make the score 21-5.

With 5 or so minutes to go the **Austar Siamese Twins, Tom Hurse & Brock Evans**, appeared and Brocky almost took the field with a ciggy in his mouth. Jabiru scored a late try to win 26-5. So after half time a vastly improved effort saw the KB's draw the second half 5 all!

Still, the disappointing thing is seeing us take the field undermanned with old guys making up the numbers.

Dennis & Dallas played their guts out, but they should not have to play nor should they probably be playing against much younger opposition.

Playing rugby involves commitment and that includes playing wherever and whenever we play, not just when we're playing at home. Sure it's a long day, but how much more fun would the trip have been if we had a full bus and a few supporters? (The bus was half empty as we had a 25 seater).

Man of the Match for us was **Shaun Jolley** and strong performances were also put in by **Ashley Binding** with some great runs, **Mick Taylor** – Robbie's brother who hasn't played for six years or so played very well, **Damien Smith** also with some great runs and **Karl McFarland** who made some incisive runs and is a much better fullback, but not better looking, than last year's model that was put out to stud.

Also thanks to **Shane Cotton** for coming down and running the sideline, **Ian Hogan** for being the team gofer, and **Dallas** for leading the dirty ditties on the trip back."

PRUC v NT Schoolboys

Well history was made. No, not the fact we got a team together to give the Schoolboys a run, but the fact that we included a **woman in our team**.

A few minutes to kickoff and we are still looking a little



This week-end at the Top End Hotel

- Thursday nights - Trivia with Shelley from 6.30pm, then stick around for the Footy Show on the big screen.
- Friday Lunches @ Honey Pot Club - 12 - 4pm (\$60) 3 course meal plus show
- Chase the Ace @ Lizards Bar this Friday 5-8pm - Over \$1,000 up for grabs
- Friday night - Music playing from 8pm
- **Goose Club Raffle @ Lizards Bar - Fridays 6-9pm for Palmerston Rugby Union Club**
- Live music from 8pm on Saturday
- Darwin Cricket club Raffles - Saturday night from 6pm
- The Sunday Sesh is back - Music from 4pm.



light on for players (sound familiar Ben?) when **referee Roberta Barnet** tells me **Joy Wells** has her gear and is keen for a run. Joy is a member of the NTIS training squad and is off to the **Woman's National titles** soon. We needed a flanker and she plays there so it seemed a good match.

I had to leave before full-time so I didn't manage to get any feedback from the male players but there was discussion at the start about weather or not she was going to jump in the lineout and who would be doing the lifting.

Thanks to all the guys who turned up and gave **Matty O'Brien** some running practice. He looks in awesome form so let's hope he maintains it throughout the championships.

Paddy Killen also put in an eye catching performance at inside centre showing a lot of pace to score at least one try. I didn't particularly sight **Michael Killiner**, so he must

have been going well and doing what all good locks do, working hard in the rucks and mauls.

Blake Chadwick had the pleasure of running with both the schoolboys and the Crocs during the game and was solid on the wing.

Thanks to Crocs: **Kev Jones, Damian Smith, Vili Leqa, Karl McFarland, Glen Tanonef, Shaun Jolley, Leigh Stait, Denny Johnston, Ashley Binding, Dan Simmonds and Jed Watson**. To future Crocs, **Matthew ? and Craig Bury** and to **Joy and Damian Heath** from Casuarina.

U16s v Souths

The U16s took on the Darwin Dragons last Friday night and came away with a **hard fought 31 - 17 win**.

Co-coach Robbie saw the game as follows.

"We really didn't play like normal but the boys showed that they can get the points even when we are not playing our best rugby. The

Dragons started the game with 12 players. To their credit they came out and played some really hard rugby. Our boys just didn't seem to be switched on throughout the game.

*Our first points came through a **try to Freddy Norris**. It all came about by using the tram tracks.*

***Freddy** managed to pick the ball up from the back of the ruck and broke the Dragons defence to run 70 metres to score what was the **best try all night**. **Kurt Collie-Whakave** converted to make it 7 - 0. A few minutes later we were back down deep in the Dragons half thanks to some good work by the backline. **Kurt** picked the ball up from the back of the ruck, threw a good dummy, and ran through the massive gap to **score the 2nd try for us**. **Robbie Cotter** converted this try.*

Unfortunately that was about the highlight for us. We really didn't play all that well. But I must say I am very pleased with the boys

*because they still managed to come away with a good win. Every team has a bad game, and the Colts just had one of those nights. The boys know where they went wrong and are keen to fix it up. **Heads up boys, you all did well.***

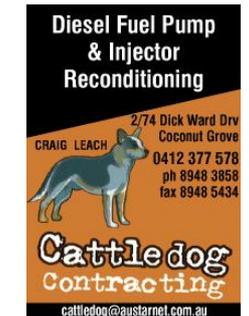
*The standouts for the Crocs were **Jye Wyles-Kelly and Blake***



Alexa Fears & Sam Johnson's Wedding Party



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TOP END HOTEL



Bishell as usual. Others who did impress were **Ben Smith, Roddy Barua** and **Jack Kypreos**.

The **try scorers** on the night were **Freddy, Kurt, Robbie Cotter, Cody Barry** and **Jack Kypreos**. Conversions went to **Kurt (2)** and **Robbie (1)**.

While I have the chance, I would like to welcome a couple of new boys to the club. **Clayton Anderson** and **Nick Salamito** played their first games last week for the Colts. Well done and welcome boys."

Connop's Corner

I look forward to seeing all senior players back at training this week (last week was a bit slow with the A Grade bye) as we have a **big game against University** on Saturday. I hope every one had a good rest over the bye weekend and looked after any injuries.

★ ★ ★

Thanks to the guys who **committed and traveled to Jabiru**. It is critical that we make the effort to get a good team there twice a year because they do it every second week.

★ ★ ★

I have started training for the **NT U16 indigenous team** this week on Monday and Wednesday. Training starts at 5.15pm for a 5.30pm run.

★ ★ ★

I also would like to **congratulate the Crocs junior coaches** and all of their many helpers as they have been doing a fantastic job each and every week.

Enjoy your mid season break and recharge for the second half of the season.

The juniors are our future in rugby.

Goose Club Roster

This Friday night it is turn 2 for the **A Grade backs**, next Friday it will be the B Grade backs turn.

I'm not sure who this week's team leader is so just be there by 6.00pm in your club shirt.

The Advantage Line

The ARU linked up with a few academics in 2004 to study the volunteer management practices in club rugby. This study finished in early 2006. Last week they released the summary report from the study, The Advantage Line – Identifying better practice management in community rugby clubs. What a mouthful.

The report is available in the [Resource Library](#) on our website.

A few things in the report caught my eye.

- Many volunteers are **currently just surviving**, and increased demands on their time and **additional compliance requirements** are overwhelming volunteers. Increasing levels of bureaucratisation and formalisation brought about by changing Federal, State and Territory legislation, increased liability concerns in sport and society generally, and increasing expectations from rugby players, members and spectators are perceived as creating additional pressure and workload on current club volunteers. There is a perception at the club level of a lack of support for volunteers in coping with these added requirements.

Hear! Hear!

- The most important reason people volunteer is the enjoyment of being part of a club rather than a requirement to feel needed or to feel important. Volunteers' decisions about continuing to volunteer appear to be influenced by **opportunities to have fun** when volunteering and being part of a club rather than motives of altruism, concern for the community and personal development.

We just want to have FUN!!

- Sustainable growth in rugby participation rates is dependent, to some extent, on the effectiveness with which clubs recruit and retain volunteers in roles such as board or committee positions, coaching, team management and other formal positions.

The bigger you get the more people you need to make it happen!!

The report goes on to make a range of recommendations that are focused around making things as easy as possible for volunteers so they can continue to have **FUN**. **We need to keep this in mind at all times at our club.**

Croc Jottings

Good luck to the NT Schoolboys team at the National Division II Championships in Geelong from this week-end.

Especially Crocs players, **Paddy Killen, Michael Killiner** and **Blake Chadwick**, and ex-player Stephen Bartholdt-Green.



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