

## Upcoming Games

### SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> July AUSTAR Rugby Park 1

3.30 **B** v Souths  
5.00 **A** v Souths

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

A Grade Tooheys New Cup							
	P	W	D	L	BP	PT	
Dragons	11	7	0	4	8	36	
Palmerston	10	6	0	4	7	31	
Uni versity	10	6	1	3	4	30	
Souths	10	5	0	5	3	23	
Casuarina	11	1	1	8	0	6	

B Grade Abel Finance Cup							
	P	W	D	L	JF	BP	PT
Palmerston	13	12	0	1	0	7	55
Dragons	13	8	0	5	0	6	38
Uni versity	12	7	0	5	1	4	28
Jabiru	11	5	0	6	0	5	28
Casuarina	13	5	0	7	0	6	26
Souths	12	0	0	12	1	1	0

## Coming Events

### Junior Restart

Junior games restart after the school holidays on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July.

### Royal Darwin Show Garbage Services

This year our commitments run from **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July to Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> 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 still 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

### A v University

Was the A Grade going to be able to keep up their great form after the **interruption of the bye?** That was the question in my mind going into last weekend's round and at half time, **with us behind 5 – 6**; I was still a little concerned. At half time I was asked what I thought the final result was going to be and I confidently proclaimed that **we would win by 20 points**. I was confident we would again be able to power home in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half and power home we did, 4 tries and a lone conversion to their lone penalty goal, for a **27 – 9 victory**.

A sign of their respect for our defence (the best in the competition by 60 points) was the fact that at every opportunity they chose to kick for goal rather than try to build some pressure and score a try.

**Coach Connop** thought the A Grade played **sensational rugby**. After winning so many games in a row he thought they may have had a psychological barrier to overcome with the pressure to keep winning building. It didn't seem to worry them in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half once they got their game going again.

**Tries** were scored by **Tom Hurse (2), Damien Smith, Jono Schwalger and Nick Barlow**. **John Sullivan** kicked our only **conversion**.

**Ben Emmett** won this week's **Coaches Award** and **Nick Barlow** won the **Player's Player award**.

9 different players received votes in the Player's player award this week reflecting **another great team effort**.

### B v University

B Grade jumped straight back on the **winners list, 27 – 5** over University, last weekend after the fall at Jabiru. **Coach Blyton** saw things this way: *'I was worried about numbers for this game with the school boys away on representative duty plus several regular players getting the call up to A Grade to cover for injured players plus a few injuries of our own. Fortunately, a few old faces answered my SOS call.*

*Thanks to **Ricky Hoe** and **Jamie Fleming** who both played their 1<sup>st</sup> game of the year and 1<sup>st</sup> game for quite some time. To be fair to Ricky he did get changed*

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Moulden



**Brumby's**

Palmerston



once before to play this year but the body gave out during the warm up that day.

B Grade also welcomed back **Gareth Felton** and **Kevin Jones** after missing the last few games in A Grade due to injury and illness and 3 new army guys, **Aaron Parker**, **Gareth Cotter** and **William Gathercole**, who made their Palmy debuts.

Again our boys played well and we dominated large parts of the game with only our turnovers and mistakes keeping University any where near competitive. **Adrian Graham**, **Leigh Stait**, **Matt Pheaney**, **Kevin Jones** and **Aaron Parker** all had strong games.

**Kevin Jones** was the **Player's Player**, playing out of position at flanker.

It is my view that several of the **B Graders are pushing for places in the A Grade team**, particularly in the backs, but you will only get there by being consistently at training. With numbers at training, the B Grade can also train as a team instead of just holding the tackle bags for A Grade which is what is sometimes happening now. The backs in particular, who currently are our strength, would greatly benefit from some team work drills etc to sharpen their cohesion.

We now have **7 games to go before the finals**, competition for places will be tough and some very hard decisions will need to be made. From the team that played on Saturday

there could be up to 10 possible changes in personnel with the school boys to come back in, people returning from A Grade and people returning from injury / leave etc. These decisions will **largely be decided by the numbers at training** so do not let yourself down by not coming to training.'

Tries were scored by **Adrian Graham (2)** & **Brad Naylor (2)** while **Paul Veach** kicked 2 conversions and a penalty goal.

As per the A Grade, it was a great team effort with 8 different players scoring votes in the Players Player award.

### U16 v University

The U16's played University last Friday night and to date this season hasn't managed a win against them, until now. **Co-coach Robbie Taylor** saw the game this way: 'The Palmerston and Rural Colts got a **20 - 15 win over University**.

The boys played an awesome game of rugby to come up with the win. During the week leading into the game, Snogga and I had been really pushing the boys to fire up for the big game. When the boys rocked up on Friday night, they were immediately all together and that's the way it stayed until we started warming up. **These boys are all mates and really seem to enjoy playing well for each other**. They were very disappointed in their game against the Dragons

and wanted to make amends for that performance.

Everyone was switched on right from the very start of the warm-up. **There was an extremely positive vibe buzzing through them all**.

Our starting 15 ran out onto the paddock and from the very first whistle showed a lot of aggression at the breakdowns. Our forwards were using the **"pick and latch"** well and were gaining yards through that. Our boys up front like **Blake Bishell**, **Gilbert Wosomo** and **Brendan Russell** were playing their backsides off. From the back of our scrums, our loose forwards, **Jye Wyles-Kelly**, **Jacob Collins** and **Vincent Secker-Allison** were running a-muck. As usual the locks, **Ben Palmer** and **Ben Smith**, were going about their business as usual by being at the majority of the breakdowns and making an impact every time they were involved in the play.

The backs were getting good clean ball early, and took full advantage of it. Our game plan was working well. The boys knew that the closer we got to the try line, the wider we attack. By using this tactic to perfection, both of our wingers, **Steven Rawson** and **Jack Kypreos**, scored tries.

**Kurt Collie-Whakave** played his best game all year and was making all the right decisions at scrum half. Our inside backs, **Robbie Cotter**, **Tom Pavone** and **Rodrigo Barua**, were all damaging in



## 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 + Music playing from 8pm
- **Goose Club Raffle @ Lizards Bar - Fridays 6-9pm for Palmerston Rugby Union Club**
- Darwin Cricket club Raffles - Saturday night from 6pm + Live music from 8pm on Saturday
- The Sunday Sesh is back - Music from 4pm.



defence. As a unit they went up together and put massive amounts of pressure on the University attack. As usual **Brett Noakes** at fullback was having a wow of a game. Not one error all game.

At halftime we were up 10-0, and were looking ready to explode in the second half. A few changes were made at halftime so as to have fresh legs out there to keep the boys rolling. Our reserves have been making an impact on our second half performances all year.

We came back out in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and played some really enjoyable rugby. The boys were playing with confidence and were running the ball from all over the paddock. This resulted in an early second half try to **Robbie Cotter**. But unfortunately we got a little to comfortable and started to make a few errors. University capitalised and started to claw their way back into the game to score two tries in the middle part of the second half. **Blake Bishell** scored a try with about 10 minutes to go to put us back out to a 10 point difference. But to University's credit, they scored again with about 5 to go. **The last 5 minutes our boys defence really switched on and made sure that we weren't going to hand over the win.**

The team deserved this win and celebrated accordingly. There is still a little bit of work to go, but these boys are starting to reach their peak at the right end of the season. Great work boys, now let's go on with it.

**Try scorers** were, **Jack Kypreos, Steven Rawson, Robbie Cotter and Blake Bishell**. The entire team played extremely well, but a couple of the boys really stood out. Some of our best were **Rodrigo Barua, Robbie**

**Cotter, Ben Smith, Ben Palmer, Kurt Collie-Whakave and Jye Wyles-Kelly. Player's Player** was **Jye Wyles-Kelly**.

*I want to just quickly welcome back **Tom Pavone** (broken wrist) and **Vincent Secker-Allison** (personal matters) from their lengthy absents. Welcome back boys and well done.'*

#### U14 v University

I understand that the U14s also had their first win of the season over University on Friday night. It was a **big 29 – 0 win** and moved the U14s into 2<sup>nd</sup> place on the table behind Dragons.

**Tries** were scored by **Dean Staunton (2), Aaron Cotton, Henry Burgess** and **Jacob Kerr-Barlow**. **Jacob** and **Dean** also kicked a conversion each.

#### NT Schoolboys

The NT Schoolboys are going very well at the National Division II Championships in Geelong. In their first game last Sunday they **upset the co-favourites of the tournament, Western Australia**, 22 – 19. I wonder how much their game against us helped them to get this flying start. I'm sure somewhat.

On Monday they played a non-competition match against **South Australia** and again **triumphed 17 – 12** with **Paddy Killen** finishing well on the wing to score a try.

Their third game was against the **Lloyd McDermott** team and again they secured a **victory, 22 – 14**, to finish top of their pool and secure a spot in the competition final against Victoria TODAY.

#### NTRU Devt Officer

Congratulations to **Cathie Brinier** on her selection as

the new **NTRU Development Officer**.

Cathie has previously worked for the NTRU as a part time Development Officer in Alice Springs prior to relocating to Darwin. She has also been helping out with a whole lot of things at Palmerston including coaching juniors, strapping, first aid etc.

#### PRUC Sponsors Box

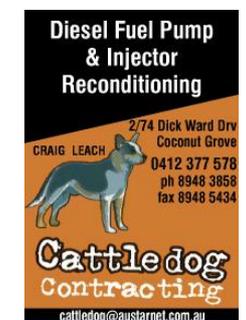
A good time was had by all in the PRUC Corporate Box last Saturday. It probably had something to do with a strong performance by the B Grade and a great 2<sup>nd</sup> half by the A Grade to run in 2 good wins. It couldn't have been related to the drinks.

Thanks to **James Mansfield** and **Neil** from **Ensign Laundry**, **Gail Barlow** from **m&I financial**, **Matt Cabot** from the **Bank of Queensland** and **Dallas Graetz** and **Karen** from **Graetz Grass Cutting** for their ongoing support of the club.

**Lost – Mobile Phone**  
**Alison Snowden's** mobile phone **went missing** at the U8 rugby game last Friday night. Did anyone pick one up or see one lying around. I'm told it has a **distinctive ring tone**, like a baby crying. Call me on 0401 111 700 if you can help.

#### Connop's Corner

Congratulations to **Ben Emmett** on his game and winning this week's Coach's Award. He did a lot of work on the field. (including a great link piece where he backed up and caught and passed to **Tom Hurse** for one of his tries). **Ben** and many others are **playing super rugby** and I'm finding it hard to pick the Coach's Award each



week. I also thought **Nick Barlow** played sensationally at full back and of course **Tom Hurse** had another great game at flanker including scoring two tries to show off in front of his Mum. Very well done all around to all of the A grade players, keep up the good work as you guys have put in the hard work and deserve to win each week.

A special thanks to **Ben Blyton** for coming off the bench and the other reserve players who were there if required. I couldn't help but notice **Adrian 'Slugger' Graham** itching to get a run to try and get himself a spot in the A grade team. He had played very well in B Grade scoring two very good tries.

We also have a couple of legends, **Craig Leach** and **John Sullivan**, in the team with 200+ A Grade games each. They have both been playing super rugby and deserve a very special mention. These two guys show their wealth and depth of experience week in and week out and I would like to **thank them both personally**. They have also been very instrumental at training in organising the players and keeping them on track, making my job of coach so much easier. **Captain Todd** has also been leading well in the games each week and deserves a pat on the back. **Well done Todd!**

We now have to prepare for the Souths game and need every player, both A & B Grade at training as we need to keep focusing on / refining the game plans, maintain the discipline and keep up the

communication and positive talk.

**If you can't make training please let myself or Ben Blyton know.**

I would like to thank **Adam Harley** as our guest coach last week for assisting with the line outs. Adam will also be at training TONIGHT and will be assisting us with scrummaging and lineout techniques.

## Croc Shop

**New Stock!!**

**PRUC ties** - \$40

**PRUC Kit Bags** - \$10

Check them out at the clubhouse tonight or see Ben Emmett or Craig Leach.

**Limited stock so be quick.**

## Croc Jottings

**Bernie Bree** forwarded the following couple of comments.

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What do you do when you want to make a scrum go forward? Look for experience of course and on the weekend **Coach Connop** had a 2<sup>nd</sup> row pairing of **Ben 'Burley' Blyton** and **Craig 'Squirter' Leach**. Between them they have **over 500 A Grade games**. That's experience!

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I really enjoy watching **Kev Jones** tackle. On the weekend, University forward **Karl? Bader**, decided to use a bit of weight and aggression around the edge of rucks to take the ball forward but each time he ran into **Kev who lifted him up and drove him backwards** then thumped him onto his back.

**Kev** has no respect for age and **Bader** must wonder how it happened that every time he looked up there was **Kev**.

Apparently he is seeking counselling as he is having

some pretty nasty dreams about Fijians.

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## The Laws of Rugby

The A Grade referee on the weekend, **Roberta Barnett**, confirmed that she had looked up the **Laws of Rugby** and it is in fact **compulsory to wear underclothes** while playing.

**Roberta** has complained in the past about a couple of the Palmy players who do not wear underclothes and, due to the unusual positions that players can find themselves in from time to time, she was **not happy with the view**.

I pointed out that she always enforces correct tags by a boot inspection before the game and so perhaps she should also **inspect for underclothes** but she declined.

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**Squirter** tells me that **Burley Ben Blyton** has always dreamt of '**playing outside him**'. Well, his dream came true on the week-end when he went on and played **outside 2<sup>nd</sup> row** while **Squirter** was **inside 2<sup>nd</sup> row**. I'm not sure that is exactly **what Ben dreamt of!**

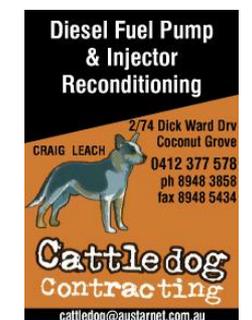
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According to the **Leading Points Scorers** table in the NTRU Rugby News, there is quite a competition developing amongst our players in the try scoring department. As best I can work out, **Tom Hurse** has rocketed to the front with 7 tries. He is closely followed by **Jono Schwalger** on 6, **Shane Stoeckert**, **Vili Leqa** and **Nick Barlow** on 5 and then **Todd Harrison** on 3.

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Note the new sponsor logo – **Shamrock Homes**.

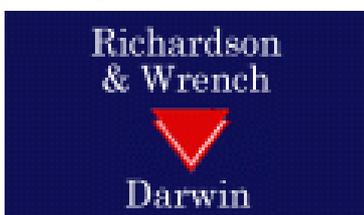
Thanks & welcome aboard! More about their support next week.



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