

Upcoming Games

SATURDAY 9th September
Austar Rugby Park 1

11.00 **U8** v Swampdogs Bl

12.30 **B** v Dragons

3.50 **U6** v Swampdogs

5.15 **U14** v Dragons

Coming Events

Juniors

Presentation Day

This **Sunday, 10th September**, straight after the Grand Finals is Junior Presentation Day. It will be at **Berry Springs** with plenty of space for our growing numbers of juniors.

The plan at this stage is to **get underway at 9:00am**.

BYO a chair, breakfast / brunch and swimming things (if you're game).

PRUC Presentation & 30th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday 16th September.

It will be held at the **Long Tan Club** which is right out at the end of the point inside the **Larrakeyah Navy Base**. An absolutely beautiful location.

This brings with it some special security challenges. That is, **NO TICKETS at the DOOR** and everyone will need to arrive within an agreed timeframe, **with photo id**, and be checked off the list at the gate.



Tickets are \$130 a couple, \$80 single and \$55 for non-drinkers.

Last Week's Games

A v University

Preliminary Final

Last week, I wrote at the start of this piece. 'Well what can I say about this one?' I have the same feeling this week except this time **we were on the losing side** after a titanic effort.

Again this week we struggled to get our game together in the 1st half and found ourselves behind 10 – 24 (I think) at half time.

University was very committed and had no intentions of giving us this game, **we were going to have to earn it and take it**.

The first 15 – 20 minutes of the 2nd half were **a disaster**. We gave away 4 penalties in a row in easy kicking distance and University obliged by kicking all 4 to go to a **34 – 10 lead**. I suspect all the supporters were sure that was it for another year.

But just as we were getting despondent, the **team kicked back into action** and **ran in 4 tries** in the last 20 minutes to level the game up at 34 – 34 at the end of normal time.

Both teams looked out on their feet and there was 10 minutes each way of extra time to come.

We took the lead during the first 10 minutes with a try in the Palmy corner and we all hoped that would be enough.

Unfortunately, cramp, fatigue and a never say die University scored twice in the second 10 minutes to run out 49 – 39 winners.

Tries were scored by **Vili Leqa (2), Todd Harrison, Nick Barlow, Tom Hurse** and **Pete Burnheim**. **Nick Barlow** kicked **three conversions** and a **penalty**.

The **Coaches Award** and the **Player's Player Award** went to **John Sullivan** for another fine performance.

Blyton's ByLine

*'This week will see the **B Grade play Dragons** in the **Grand Final** and while I am looking forward to the game, it has also given me many sleepless nights.*

In particular, team selection for the big day.

*This year we have had **94 players play B Grade** and **over 50 qualify for the finals** so unfortunately some deserving players will miss out on their dream of playing in a Grand Final. **For those that miss out (and I am one), I apologise.***

I wish that we could all play, maybe 50 a side with a 35 man forward pack - that way most of us could play in our rightful position, flanker, instead of filling in the 2nd row or front row as is the current situation. Now that would make for a great TV game.



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I am sure that the team that plays the Grand Final will uphold the high standards that the B Grade has set for themselves this year. There is a team spirit that exists within the side, the great attitude of **playing and having a go for each other and playing out the whole game regardless of the score.** This attitude has led to several come from behind wins and turned some games where the scores have been close into big wins. **Once the game starts, B Grade you are very easy team to coach.**

As I look back at the year, I am grateful to many people who have made by job as B Grade coach easier. These people include but are not limited to **Wayne Connop, Bernie Bree, Garry Russell, Dan Macintyre, Robbie Taylor, Cat Waite,** along with too many players to mention. I should also thank **my wife, Selina, and family, Jacob, Alexandria and Connor,** for the support I get which allows me to continue my involvement with this great club.

I also would like to congratulate **Jack Rotticci.** Jack played less than half the season but still finished up **highest point scorer for B Grade, Highest Individual Try Scorer for all grades and runner up in the NTRU B Grade Best & Fairest.** I am sure that Jack would have loved to have played out the full season with us but unfortunately his parents thought he should return to America to continue his studies.

To the **A Grade, bad luck,** it was a pity to see you go out with your loss in extra time to University last week. In truth though, although we all would have loved a win, I am not sure my health could handle another game like the last two, especially in a Grand Final. **Those two comebacks have taken years off me.** Call me old fashioned but I like it better when you are front runners and win the games easily. **Congratulations to Jono Schwalger** on your deserved award **ABC Player of the Year.**

To the **supporters,** I hope you can be there on Saturday - remember the **earlier kick off time at 12.30** - It would be great to see the Palmy stand full. The last two weeks have been great.

B Grade Grand Final Team

1. Dan Simmonds
2. Ian Hogan
3. Gareth Felton
4. Denny Johnston
5. Dave Cairns
6. Leigh Stait
7. Michael Killiner ©
8. Sean Killiner (vc)
9. Glen Tanonef
10. Damian Collie (vc)
11. Damian Smith
12. Paddy Killen
13. Hunter McGee
14. Kopu Hita-Duval
15. Paul Veach
16. Vince Kelly
17. Chris Carlin

18. Ashley Binding
19. Brock Evans
20. Chris Yow
21. Tom Hurse
22. Shaun Gill
23. Tom Grieve
24. Anthony Lees

Reserves are subject to change depending upon availability etc.

Goose Club Roster

This Friday night it is the **B Grade backs** turn to do the honours. Be there by 6.00pm to do your duty.

Next Friday it will be the **Committee, Coaches** etc turn.

NTRU Presentation Night

This was held last Saturday night and again we were strongly represented at both the evening and in the award winners.

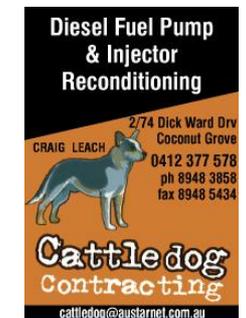
It was a sold out night with over 120 people in attendance and 25 of these were from PRUC.

We had some very deserving winners.

Jono Schwalger was



named **ABC Player of the Year** and in my opinion would have also won the Eric Johnson Medal if he had not



This week-end at the Top End Hotel

- Friday Lunches @ Honey Pot Club - 12 - 4pm (\$60) 3 course meal plus show
- Chase the Ace @ Lizards Bar this Friday 5-8pm
- **Goose Club Raffle @ Lizards Bar - Fridays 6-9pm for Palmerston Rugby Union Club**
- Music from 8pm on Friday and Saturday night



been sent off a couple of weeks ago.

John 'Sully' Sullivan was runner-up in the **Eric Johnson Medal**.



Jack Rotticci also engraved his name on the competition with his half season in B Grade. Not only did Jack win the **B Grade Point Scorer Award**, he also won the **competition (A & B Grade) try scoring award** and came **second in the B Grade Best & Fairest Award**. Imagine what he would have done if he had played a full season!! **Congratulations and thank you to Jono, Sully and Jack.**



Tom Hurse heading for the try line

Squirter's 300th

The final word on this fantastic achievement should of course go to the man himself.

"Thanks to the many past and current players for their good wishes and support for my 300th, and Palmy's big game. It was excellent to see some old faces down to cheer the Crocs on to a mammoth comeback victory. What a fantastic way to celebrate Thanks also to the proud Palmerston players on the field who never gave up and pushed us home, to the best



Shaun Jolley flies high as part of a fine performance

comeback win I have seen. Thanks again Squirter".

