

Upcoming Games

FRIDAY 27th April

AUSTAR Rugby Park 1

6.00 U6
6.00 U8 v Swampdogs Red
U12 Bye
7.40 U14 v Swampdogs
U16 Bye

AUSTAR Rugby Park 2

6.00 U10 v Swampdogs Red

SATURDAY 28th April

AUSTAR Rugby Park 2

3.00 U18 v University
4.30 B v Casuarina
6.00 A v Casuarina

Senior Draw

<http://ntru.rugby.net.com.au/default.asp?id=102311>

Junior Draws

<http://ntru.rugby.net.com.au/default.asp?id=98001>

A Grade Tooheys New Cup						
	P	W	D	L	BP	PT
Dragons	5	4		1	2	18
Palmerston	5	3		2	3	15
Casuarina	3	2		2	1	9
Souths	5	2		3		8
University	5	1		4	1	5

B Grade Abel Finance Cup							
	P	W	D	L	JF	BP	PT
Dragons	6	6				5	29
Palmerston	5	3		2		1	16
Souths	5	3		2		2	14
Casuarina	6	2		4		2	10
Jabiru	4	1		3		1	8
University	6	1		5	1	1	1

U18 Colts Standings						
	P	W	D	L	BP	PT
Palmerston	6	4		2	3	19
Cas-Souths	6	3	1	2	2	16
Dragons	6	3		3	2	14
University	6	1	1	4	2	8

Coming Events

Sponsor's Day

With the demise of the Mosquitoes game against Singapore and the availability of some sponsors, **this event is in transition.**

Cate Killiner is working with people to remake arrangements and the exact details are still being worked out.

Last Week's Games

A v University

Palmerston 22 d University 19

Coach Bree's views on the game include:

'It was a game of not very good decisions. We gave away 19 penalties (people tell me I missed a few) and that makes the game really hard. Apart from this other areas are improving greatly.

Once again the forwards were dominant in the scrum and this sets a good platform. **Tommy Hurse** was full of running and having a loose three of **Craig Leach, Jah Nayacadraudrau** and **Tommy**, all of whom have such good ball skills gives us some interesting possibilities especially when **Wise Sekitoga** came on after half time as a reserve.

Vili Leqa proved a handful for University and always got over the gain line (and the try line for the winning try). **Damian Smith** tackled well and his opposite number probably felt

a bit battered by the end.

*Losing our hooker so early in the game was tricky as the B grade had just finished a very tight and hot game. **Scott Werleman** hadn't even finished his medicinal scotch when he was asked to go on. **Scotty** gave it all until heat exhaustion got the better of him and he was replaced by **Ryan Dustings**. Ryan had a **great game** especially considering this was his first run in the northern heat and he had played B grade.*

***Chris 'Yowie' Yow** coming in from full back made many, many metres and got us on the front foot. **Adrian Graham's** half back game has given us some extra room to move and **Shane Stoeckert** used this well.*

*The **final play** of the game was **a beauty**. We ran it out from our 22m area and worked up field. The ball was spun wide to **Brock Evans** on the wing who quickly realised the pace wasn't there to make the corner. He came back in and **Shane Stoeckert** was there to **put the hammer on** and drive towards the line. They were pulled up a few metres short but **quick ball** went to **Vili Leqa** who somehow put the ball down before being driven over the side line. **Try time!** And full time! **Not very good for the heart but a win.'***

Tries were scored by **Shane Stoeckert (2), Vili Leqa** and **Tom Hurse** while **Shane**

Stoeckert kicked a conversion.
The **Player's**



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Honour Board - 19 April 2007

A Grade Coach's Award: 'Jah' Nayacadraudrau
B Grade Coach's Award: Kyle Davies



player award was shared by **Chris Yow** and **Tommy Hurse**. Neither of whom can skol a beer well.

Club Captain Squirter might have to organise some skolling training sessions I think.

B v University

Palmerston 18 d University 17

Coach Killiner writes about last weekends B Grade game.

*'Well what can I say? By now you would have read the A Grade match report and their spectacular come from behind win. Well lightning struck twice in the same place at University Oval last Saturday afternoon and the **Killer B's had a come from behind 1 point victory**, thanks largely to the goal kicking prowess of **Gareth 'Cotts' Cotter**.*

(Did he just say we won a game because of the goal kicking? It's been a while since that happened. Ed.)

Once again Palmy started well out of the blocks and dominated both possession and field position. We raced to a 15 to nil lead after 20 - 25 minutes with two tries, a conversion and a penalty goal.

Our first 20 minutes or so of each game this season has been fantastic. But somehow after that we seem to take the foot off the peddle and let the opposition back in. On a couple of occasions they have got enough of a sniff to continue on, nudge their noses in front and come away with a win. We talked before the game about our ability to dominate early and then continue playing out the full 80 minutes but once again we let the opposition back in.

With Palmy holding a 15 to nil lead late in the first half, University were able to turn that into a 17 - 15 lead with a try on either side of half time and a penalty goal. The score remained that way as most of the 2nd half was a bit of an arm

*wrestle. With just under 5 minutes remaining Palmy were pressing hard on the University line and received a deserved penalty. Enter **Cotts** with what looked like a regulation shot for goal, but alas the kick went wide and a nervous coach on the sideline thought that may have been our last chance. But within moments we received another penalty in a similar position - obviously on **Cotts'** preferred side as he slotted it straight between the posts. University had time enough for a kick off and a couple of tense moments as we scrambled well in defence. They threw everything including the kitchen sink at us, but as emphasized we must play out the full 80 minutes and we did.*

***Our discipline throughout the game was a highlight** and with University having 3 of their players sent to the sin bin, we need to maintain our composure even if we feel the referee in us is calling out to be heard.*

***Brett Lenz** and **Rodney Winikerei** were solid in defence and both were rewarded with their strong running games with a try each. (Team sheet says it was **Anthony Thomas** who got the try not Rodney Ed.)*

***Ryan Disting**, in his first game for the club, was outstanding until he started to over heat - the effects of a hot Darwin afternoon. It was also great to see **Ben Mitchell** (aka Bob Hatfield) back in a Palmy jersey after his stint in Afghanistan.*

*The biggest thank you of all goes to **Damian O'Brien** for his versatile performance at half back. Damian was due to run on in the second row but with 15 minutes until kick off*

*and no half back Damian answered my call (from left field) and quickly made himself acquainted with **Dan Bree** (No 10). He is thinking of shaving his head and spending a week under a sun lamp so that he is better prepared next time.*

Anthony Thomas and **Brett Lenz** scored the tries while fullback **Gareth 'Cotts' Cotter** kicked a **conversion** and **2 penalty goals**.

Players Player was **Cotts**.

U18 v Dragons

Dragons 29 d Palmerston 17

Coach Cotts says:

*'A disappointing score line but one we can come back from. With 4 players out with injury or work commitments we were always going to be up against it this week. The guys **tried hard all game** in hot steamy conditions but with 14 players we knew it would be hard to win.*

*We opened the scoring with a solo try to **Robbie Cotter**, 10 minutes later **Kane Richards** scored to make it 10 - 0 then Dragons got the ball wide and their nippy backs tore us apart.*

***Kyle Davies** scored in the second half and **Paddy Elliott** converted. **Tom Cummins** and **Kyle** led from the front, **Jacob Collins** was outstanding again, **Kane** and **Robbie** didn't stop trying all game, **Jai Wyles-Kelly** had a blinder in the centres and **Anthony Smith** had a brilliant game at fullback.*

All we need to do now is to turn up to training and work on the things that are letting us down on game day.'

U16 v Swampdogs

Palmerston 35 d Swampdogs 0 on forfeit.

Coach Bishell said:

'We still managed to have a scratch match and this enabled us to work on our match fitness. This was really needed after the 3 weeks break over Easter.



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Happy Birthday!!

Ben Munro 16 on 26th Apr



The boys played exceptionally well and managed a score of 87 – 0, this is not a bad effort considering we gave a number of our better players to the Swampdogs to make it a competitive match.

It was good to welcome back **Dean Staunton**, who slotted into half back like he had never missed a game. This allowed **Robbie Cotter** to shift to fly half, this position suits Robbie's running game and he was able to set the foundations for a number of tries.

The points this week went to **Dean Staunton - 3, Braedon Cunningham - 2 and William Tink - 1.**

U10 v Swampdogs

This week we have an U10 game report from co-coach **Peter Rutherford**.

'Both teams were evenly matched and the game ended in a 17 all drawn game.

*The game started with a slight pause with Palmerston receiving the ball on the kick-off however this soon resulted in a run away try for Palmerston scored by **Riley Hogan** before both teams settled down into the game.*

Swampdogs soon struck back, scoring 2 unconverted tries.

*Not to be outdone, **Pieter Beukes** crossed the line before ½ time.*

10 points all at ½ time.

The 2nd half was hard fought with both teams going back and forth threatening each others line. Swampdogs managed to cross for a converted try in the middle of the half. Palmerston fought back, crossing the Swampdogs line a couple of times unsuccessfully.

Still undaunted Palmerston continued to increase their intensity, putting pressure on the Swampdogs line. In the dying minutes of the game, Palmerston was awarded a line-out 3 metres from the

*Swampdogs try line. The ball was received by **Luke Rutherford** who burst through the centre of the Swampdogs line, resulting in a push over try in the corner. After a successful dropkick for conversion the game ended in a 17 all draw.'*

Co-coach Jamie Akers thanks all of the parents who help the team by running water, providing advice and generally supporting the team, in particular he thanks **Peter Rutherford** who has stepped forward to coach the team while Jamie is on placement with university. Peter's great work has the Palmerston U10 team in a far stronger position than it would otherwise be.

Bree's Bits & Pieces

A big thanks to **Cate Killiner** who has been employed as the B Grade Manager.

Cate backed up and organised everything for A Grade as well last Saturday. This was **much appreciated and needed**. She even got **Michael Killiner** to run the water. Michael wasn't feeling too well but did the job anyway. Perhaps you don't argue with Mum.



A new player **Ryan Dustings** is from Logan City south of Brisbane. He found us after being pointed our way by **Mike Wilson** who played for our club many, many years ago. After hearing about Ryan's heat complaints, I'm sure Mike is **shaking the head and telling tales** of the tough old days when we played rugby in the middle of the day in the Wet season and often backed up for a second game. "Toughen up!" I hear him say.



Players Needed

The next few weeks will be critical for us. The players in the Mosquitoes squad won't be available and we will have

to field two teams. There may be up to 9 Palmerston players in the AUSTAR Darwin Mosquitoes squad so please get to training and stay in contact with Bernie or Sean.



Bloodless Coup

You probably read in the NT News about the bloodless coup at Moulden. **Ben 'Cube' Emmett** has been announced as the 'player coach'.

The good news is that I am still alive and well but have gone into hiding due to fears for my life.

Goose Club

It's back to the start of the roster and **Ben 'Cube' Emmett's** team's turn again to sell the Goose Club raffles this week.

My golden oldies team (and young friends) have set the bench mark with a 400 ticket effort last Friday night. Now it is up to the other teams to better this.

Bernie tells me there was a smart strategy employed last Friday. First of all there was **always a pair out selling tickets**. No drinking as a full team until the draw is done.

Secondly, the older gents put their efforts in early while it was still light and the noise hadn't reached a dull roar. Their eyes and ears don't cope well later in the dark, noisy spaces. That's the time to send the youngsters out. Well done **Sam Johnson** and **Ian Hogan**.

Croc Jottings

Jacob Kerr-Barlow did, as reported in last week's CrocTales, referee our B Grade game last week-end. And what a magnificent effort he put in, **three sin bins** for University.

Where they there cheering you back onto the plane on Sunday morning?



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Palmerston

