

Upcoming Games

FRIDAY 4th May

AUSTAR Rugby Park 1

6.00 U6
6.00 U8 v University
6.00 U10 v University
6.50 U12 v Dragons
7.40 U14 v Dragons

Sat 5th May 11am - 9pm

Sun 6th May 9am - 7pm

Mon 7th May 9am -
12:30pm

AUSTAR Rugby Park 1 & 2

U14, U16 & U18 TIO
NT Junior Championships

SATURDAY 5th May

AUSTAR Rugby Park 1

3.00 Mozzies v NSW Country

SUNDAY 6th May

Moulden Park Oval

3.00 B v Dragons
4.30 A v Dragons

| A Grade Tooheys New Cup | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|--|
| | P | W | D | L | BP | PT | |
| Dragons | 5 | 4 | | 1 | 2 | 18 | |
| Palmerston | 6 | 3 | | 3 | 4 | 16 | |
| Casuarina | 5 | 3 | | 2 | 1 | 13 | |
| University | 6 | 2 | | 4 | 2 | 10 | |
| Souths | 6 | 2 | | 4 | | 8 | |

| B Grade Abel Finance Cup | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| | P | W | D | L | JF | BP | PT |
| Dragons | 6 | 6 | | | | 5 | 29 |
| Palmerston | 6 | 4 | | 2 | | 2 | 21 |
| Souths | 6 | 3 | | 3 | | 2 | 14 |
| Casuarina | 7 | 2 | | 5 | | 2 | 10 |
| Jabiru | 4 | 1 | | 3 | | 1 | 8 |
| University | 7 | 2 | | 5 | 1 | 2 | 6 |

| U18 Colts Standings | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|--|
| | P | W | D | L | BP | PT | |
| Palmerston | 7 | 5 | | 2 | 3 | 23 | |
| Cas-Souths | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 21 | |
| Dragons | 7 | 3 | | 4 | 2 | 14 | |
| University | 7 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 8 | |

Coming Events

Sponsor's Day

Yes it is happening, this Saturday 3rd May @ the Mozzies v Singapore game.

Cate Killiner is putting it all together so please make sure you give her a hand if she asks and say hello to all of our great sponsors.

Home Game

Yes it is also happening **this week-end, Sunday** to be precise.

We have Dragons in A Grade and B Grade at **Moulden Park Oval**.

There are a lot of extra things to be done on home game day so **please offer your services or dive right in** if you are asked to help with something.

Last Week's Games

A v Casuarina

Casuarina 17 d Palmerston 14
Coach Ley was in charge this week while **Coach Bree** was in hiding. Dave's thoughts on the game include:

*'With **Coach Bree** being away the honours of looking after the A Grade where left to me, to try and fill his huge boots. We spoke about wanting to play a structured game and not wanting to play helter skelter rugby.*

Straight after the kick off we broke immediately through Casuarina and went nearly the

length of the field with some good passages of play however this was almost what we didn't want as we were not able to convert the pressure to points and we probably felt that the game was going to be too easy.

*From there it took quite some time to settle down and try and find some rhythm and structure. Our lineout was working very well with **Lee Verrall** and we dominated possession from which we were able to apply concerted pressure. The back line was starting to run very well with **Vili Leqa** making great gains every time he touched the ball. At this stage some discipline and consistent talk started to break down our game. Our game became very scrappy after a series of penalties against us.*

*With solid tries scored by **Ian Hogan** and **Shane Stoeckert** we finished the first half leading 14 nil after some mammoth efforts by **Jah Nayacadraudrau** and a strong performance from **Brett Lenz** but we still could not connect all the passages of play and put points on the board.*

After half time, we set a task to go out and control the game. Unfortunately, this was not to be and far too much chatter was breaking down our performance and we seemed to lose consistent momentum.

Some great passages of play were broken down due to a lack of support and decision

making. We needed to have more patience

Honour Board - 26 April 2007

A Grade Coach's Award: Denny Johnston
B Grade Coach's Award: Damian O'Brien



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Brumby's
Palmerston



and stick to the game plan. It was particularly disappointing to see some great short passages of play go unrewarded. With 30 seconds left to play we were still in front and had a lineout on half way from which we really needed to take the ball down and drive and control to see out the game. Instead we chose to take ball off the top and a sloppy pass in the back line lead to Casuarina securing the ball and scoring under the posts and them winning.

If the team can build on all the great facets of the game and remove the senseless chat and back chat and stick to playing the game of rugby we will have a very successful second half to the year.

Damien Smith had a great game as did **Chris 'Yowie' Yow** at full back.

While **Vili** was Player's Player, **Lee, Jah** and **Brett** were dominant and **Ben 'Cube' Emmett** had some great runs.

A **disappointing result** after so much hard work but definitely a time to reflect on the good work and build whilst we drop the inefficient habits that will cost us if we don't learn from them now.'

Shane Stoeckert and **Ian Hogan** scored the tries and **Shane Stoeckert** converted both of them.

B v University

Palmerston 29 d Casuarina 7

Coach Killiner reports:

'A very pleasing performance, which translated into a 5 try bonus point victory against the 'old enemy'.

Our preparation was a little disrupted with **Leigh 'Staity' Stait** having to leave training on Thursday to receive a few stitches to a nasty cut above the eye (it is a worthy contender for the 'Rusty Needle' Award) and then **Matthew 'Brooksy' Brooks** packing awkwardly in a scrum

session and needing the ambulance to give him a lift home via Royal Darwin Hospital (all scans and tests were clear thank God).

There were the usual last minute changes on game day, with us once again short of a halfback come kick off. Stepping up to the plate this week was **Ricky Hoe**.

There was a lot to like about this week's performance. From start to finish we dominated most aspects of play. We were able to convert possession into territory and then eventually into points. The small defensive lapse just before full time the only blemish.

There were notable individual performances with **Scott Werleman** asked to fill the inside centre position and played a great game, as did **Ricky Hoe** at halfback. **Wise Sekitoga**, back from A Grade, was outstanding in the lineouts and in cover and **Dan Bree** at fly half turned in an impressive performance with his constant running and probing at the line. His ability to carry the ball in 2 hands and take it to the line at pace (?) was a constant threat. It must be said though that once he reverted to a kicking game late in the game, instead of the ball in hand tactics he employed for most of the game we didn't look as threatening. (I think there is a moral in that).

We are continuing to build on our set pieces with both the scrums and lineouts working a treat. As we all know (but sometimes forget) **set pieces are the cornerstone of any good rugby side**. As a club we will continue to work on getting the basics of set piece play right from our first training session right thru to the

Happy Birthday!!

Sean Killiner 43 on 4th May

Blake Bishell 17 on 9th May

Thursday before the grand final.

It was a great all round team performance. I spoke with some over-the-hill Casuarina players from the 1980's after the game and they were very impressed with the standard of rugby played and the all round team performance of Palmy B Grade. **WELL DONE.'**

Key Jones (3), Marshall Rogers and **Todd Harrison** scored the tries while **Gareth 'Cotts' Cotter** kicked two conversions.

Player's Player was Wise.

U18 v Dragons

Palmerston 27 d University 5

Tries were scored by **Kyle Davies (2), Jason Moir** and **Kane Richards**. Kane kicked a conversion and **Paddy Elliott** kicked a conversion and a penalty.

U16 v Swampdogs

Dragons 24 d Palmerston 12

Both tries were scored by **Jesse Villiers** and **Rob Cotter** kicked a conversion.

AUSTAR Darwin Mosquitoes

The AUSTAR Darwin Mosquitoes team was announced earlier in the week for their first game of the season this Saturday against NSW Country.

There are 6 Crocs in this week-end's 22 plus another 3 in the extended 30 man training squad.

This week-end we have **Ben Emmett** at tight head and co-captain of the team, **Jah Nayacadraudrau** at flanker, **Lee Verrall** at #8, **Vili Leqa** at Inside Centre, **Michael Scaturchio**, almost straight off the plane from Italy, as reserve lock and **Shane Stoeckert** as a reserve back.

Ex-Croc **Jono Schwalger**, now from Alice Springs, is also in the team on the wing.



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Congratulations and best of luck to all of these guys.

Adrian Graham, Tom Hurse and **Wise Sekitoga** are also in the training squad.

Finally, **Dave Ley** as Assistant Coach and **Garry Russell** as Team Manager, complete the club's commitment to the team.

Players Needed

As **Coach Bree** pointed out last week, the next few weeks will be critical for us. We have 6 guys unavailable this week-end due to Mozzie commitments and we still need to field two teams.

So **please get to training** and stay in contact with Bernie or Sean.

Training Mishap

This was a **bad story turned good**. During live scrummaging practice between A Grade and B Grade last Thursday at training we had a **scrum collapse**. **Squirter** reported that from the moment the

scrum went down, 'Mayday' was called and all players knew there was a possible injury. The whole incident was **very professionally managed** by all concerned.

He said, thankfully the ARU does a lot of work to educate players and coaches on what to do in the case of a possible spinal injury, and this was **followed to the letter**.

Ben Emmett was packing in with **Brooksy** and Ben stayed **bound** on the ground for **about 30 minutes** with Brooksy until the ambulance arrived, so as not to move him to prevent further injury.

Squirter says the good bit is that **Brooksy is okay** with muscular damage only and will be back playing again in a month.

He **congratulates Cube, Lee Verrall** and **Chris Carlin** for their cool heads under pressure. **Well done.**

Goose Club

It's **Denny Johnston's** team's turn tomorrow night to sell the

Goose Club raffles.

Can all team members please make sure you are there at **5:15pm for a 5:30pm start?** In your club polo shirt of course.

Croc Jottings

The picture below is **Vince Kelly's** excuse for not training on Tuesday night. He also wants to know if this is what happens to everyone who wears the #13?

It also made a nice look yesterday at the **Season Launch** for the **AUSTAR Darwin Mosquitoes** season in front of all of Darwin's media. As Vince said he had been ducking public events all week in his paid job with the Police Association but it is probably OK to be **seen publicly at a rugby event looking like this.**

☺☺☺

Ben Emmett, Lee Verrall and **Jono Schwalger** also looked flash at the AUSTAR Darwin Mosquitoes launch **modeling** the new playing strip.

Career's on the side perhaps?

Nice **colour photo** of Lee & Jono on the back page of today's **NT News**.



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