



Around the Grounds

Hello fellow Blueeys and welcome to the 2011 kick off.

After another great pre season of hard work and positive attitudes on the dog track, we now get to put it all into action and play for the rewards - starting with Engadine and Vincentia on Saturday at home.

Engadine will take us on in first and thirds and with only two grades to fill they'll have good numbers and will no doubt be a tough challenge first up. Second grade get thrown straight into a grand final replay when they tackle the Van Goghs from Vincentia - who were pipped on the bell by the Blueeys in last year's decider and will no doubt be looking for a square-up.

The coaching staff have done everything they can to prepare us, while the players have responded and got stuck right in - we have no excuses. And there will be plenty to do setting up the field and club house/canteen and running the day - so be prepared to help out.

It seemed like the off season went by like a blur before training kicked in again and it doesn't seem fair that our reign as club champions and 1st and 2nd grade premiers has come to an end. Every team will be coming for us even harder this year - so we'll just have to defend those titles and do it all over again!

But before all that serious stuff and to mark the start of our 2011 season, we will be holding a season launch at the club from 4pm on Friday afternoon. We have invited all associated with the club - including sponsors, supporters, Longhorns, juniors and parents - to come along and meet the players and coaching staff and find out what we are all about in 2011.

The bar will be open, finger food will be provided and Super Rugby will be on the big screen.

See you there!

FRESHER NIGHT

Fresher Night celebrations will follow the Engadine/Vincentia home games at the clubhouse. Welcoming our new Blueeys to the club in this manner is a rich and time-honoured tradition that sets us apart from any other sporting club. The senior-fresher family relationship builds a deep foundation to the club, links new grade players with Vikings' storied past, and maintains a lifelong network of respect and support (and obedience!) between a fresher and his senior.

A door charge of \$30 will cover beverages on the night while we'll throw the hat around and dial in some pizzas later on.

Rugby will be on the big screen, the beers will be cold and the company on fire!

MIGHTY JUNIORS

The Mighty Blueeys juniors kick off their seasons on Sunday at Vikings.

We will have teams in action in the Under 7s, 10s, 11s, 12s, 14s, 15s and 17s for 2011 and if last year's results are anything to go by - it should be another great year to be Blue.

Whilst the seniors experienced some very long and lean years prior to last year's stunning resurgence, the junior club has been going from strength-to-strength in that time, turning out an army of outstanding juniors.

Many of those juniors were the seniors who have led to club back to the top.

The success of the senior club last year and a look through the three senior grades for round 1 shows how important a strong junior program is to the club.

It is a cycle that needs to keep rolling so get down there and support your juniors.



JUNIOR COACHING COORDINATOR

Nick Matts has been appointed the club's Junior Coaching Coordinator, responsible for up skilling our junior coaches and ensuring continuity from juniors through to grade on the coaching and learning of basic skills.

He will also run weekly sessions with the juniors to support their coaches.

This is a paid position, fully covered by sponsorship. However we are seeking additional funding with the aim of expanding Nick's role into the schools in our catchment area to provide a Junior Development and Recruitment-type role to ensure we continue to attract junior players to Vikings.

School visits have already started with Nick and a few of the senior players running three clinics at Mt St Thomas PS on Friday mornings.

The response from the kids and teachers has been fantastic and they have all really enjoyed learning new skills particular to rugby and passing the footy around.

Mt St Thomas PS is already a strong breeding ground for Vikings juniors so the plan is this year to visit many other schools around the area to introduce them to the great game of rugby and provide a pathway to playing.

Upcoming Events

What: Season Launch

Date: Friday 1st April

Time: From 4pm

Details: To mark the start of the season Vikings will be holding a season Launch at the clubhouse.

Food will be provided and the Bar will be operating as normal. All associated with Vikings are invited.

What: IDRU 1st round v Engadine + Fundraising day for "The Riddla"

Date: Saturday 2nd April

Time: 3rd grade kicks off at 12:15pm

Details: This will double as a fundraising day for The Riddla, so get down to the club and support the boys on the field, while digging deep into your pockets to help a mate off the field.

What: IDJRU 1st round

Date: Sunday 3rd April at Vikings

Times:

Vikings U7s – Bye

Vikings U10s v Avondale at 9am

Vikings U11s v TIGS/Uni at 9:50am

Avondale U12s v TIGS/Uni at 10:40am

Vikings U14s v TIGS/Uni at 11:30am

Vikings U15s v Kiama at 12:30pm

Vikings U17s v Kiama at 1:45pm

What: The Riddla Fun and Family Rugby Day

Date: Sunday, 3rd April

Time: 10:00am

Details: Penrith Emus Rugby Club (where Riddy started his "Career") has donated their rugby field for a family fun day. Anyone who has played rugby with Riddy is invited to come up and play in a fun, friendly game. Or otherwise all are welcome to come up, and have a good day with him and family. It is going to be a fun day with a jumping castle, BBQ, etc from 10am, kick off at 11am.

What: The Riddla Sportsman Luncheon

Date: Saturday, 21st May

Details: ANZ Stadium will host this fantastic event. With 500 seats available, they are expecting a full house. 6:30pm kick off, so the plan is to take off straight after the Kiama game on a mini bus. Guest speakers, raffles, auctions, and lots of good food and beer. Sounds like a cracking night!! Cost will be \$120 per person if you get a table of 10 together or \$150 for individual tickets. Have a chat to your mates and if you think you might be able to make it, contact Tim Fisher on 0408696504 to get your tickets. The sooner you get in, the better, so don't waste time!!



2011 Senior Draw

Rd 1 – 2 April
Vs Engadine / Vincentia @ Vikings
Rd 2 – 9 April
Vs Bowral @ Bowral
Rd 3 – 16 April
Vs Avondale @ Vikings
Rd 4 – 23 April
Vs Uni @ Uni
Rd 5 – 30 April
Vs Tech @ Tech
Rd 6 – 7 May
Bye
Rd 7 – 14 May
Vs Camden @ Vikings
Rd 8 – 21 May
Vs Kiama @ Kiama
Rd 9 – 28 May
Vs Shamrocks @ Vikings
Rd 10 – 4 June
Vs Wollondilly/Bundanoon @ Vikings
Rd 11 – 11 June
Vs Shoals @ Shoals
Rd 12 – 18 June
Engadine/Vincentia @ TBC
Rd 13 – 25 June
Vs Bowral @ Vikings
Rd 14 – 2 July
Vs Avondale @ Avondale
Rd 15 – 9 July
Vs Uni @ Vikings
Rd 16 – 16 July
Vs Tech @ Vikings
Rd 17 – 23 July
Bye
Rd 18 – 30 July
Vs Camden @ Camden
Rd 19 – 6 August
Vs Kiama @ Vikings
Rd 20 – 13 August
Vs Shamrocks @ Shamrocks
Rd 21 – 20 August
Vs Wollondilly / Bundanoon @ TBC
Rd 22 – 27 August
Vs Shoals @ Vikings

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Queens Pinch Vineyard
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Rexel Electrical Supplies
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If you are interested in sponsoring Vikings Rugby Club please contact Andrew Barrett on 0403476880 or email info@wollongongvikings.com.au



Sponsor Focus

Towradgi Beach Hotel

Towradgi Beach Hotel is the complete package. Offering dining, functions, live entertainment, a children's playground & kid's cove, accommodation, bottle shop, and a relaxing lounge bar area. This makes the Towradgi Beach Hotel the family friendly entertainment hub of the South.

Plus we are proud to boast the largest big screen TV and beer garden in the Illawarra. We offer our patrons 340 car park spaces & 20,000 square meters of licensed premises. With a complete new look after refurbishments; Towradgi Beach hotel has captured an extensive market.

Towradgi Beach Hotel, is part of the Oscars Hotel group with eight other hotels located in Sydney. It's more than a hotel, it was designed as a destination venue with the whole family in mind!

One Three Designer Homes

One Three's design approach is to think about how people live day-to-day and then incorporate a range of features into a home which meet these lifestyle choices.

Our homes reflect our passion in what we do. We pride ourselves in building homes with flair and style which are both comfortable and practical to live in.

One Three Designer Homes is established on a solid foundation of exceptional experience within the building and associated industries. Based in southern New South Wales, One Three Designer Homes build and design homes taking into account the local climate and lifestyle whilst utilizing the latest trends in the housing industry.

We design for urban contemporary living, countryside rustic charm along with medium density developments that showcase our leading innovative designs.

For further information on any of our Sponsors please visit:
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