

VIKINGS RFC

STIRRER MARCH - 2010

Fish's Corner

Well things are well and truly heating up as we head into the final few weeks before season 2010 begins. Numbers at training have been pleasing with 30 – 40 guys attending most sessions. At this stage we have had over 70 guys to training, with many new faces; there is great cause for optimism.

Of course nothing comes without hard work. But I can from my own experience, say that the coaching staff are certainly making the boys work hard. Things are certainly looking good as the coaches aim to have all 3 grades up and firing for our first round of the season.

We should however always aim to improve. With players returning in the coming weeks from rowing commitments and with the cricket season drawing to a close, we need to make sure that all those who are able to attend training do so. We need to ensure everyone is working towards the style of rugby our coaches are wishing us to play in 2010.

Cheers

Fish

Clarifying the difference between back and forwards...

Forwards

Eight handsome burly guys whom you'll gladly give your beer and food to, and you'd want to marry your daughter. They are intelligent, elegant, sensitive, and sweet. Truly the ideal men.

Backs

Seven guys who will steal your beer while you're not looking, take advantage of your women folk, barnyard animals, and all tubular household objects. Often dine on quiche, brie cheese and wine. Favourite show tends to be reality TV such as "So You Think You Can Dance". Regularly take blow dryers on road trips, wear bikini underpants, and carry STDs (AVOID AT ALL COSTS).

Latest news...

Fees for season 2010 are now due. To encourage players to get their fees in early a payment incentive has been created.

Basically those players who pay before Saturday, 27th March (the 1st round) will have to pay \$150 in fees. Those who pay after this date will have to pay \$200. Already we have 12 payers paid in full. Make sure you get your money in ASAP to save yourself in the long run and to save the club wasting time chasing guys for payment!

On Saturday, 27th February, with our trial against Gordon cancelled; coaches saw an opportunity to repay our new sponsors Towradgi Beach Hotel. Kick off was at 4pm with an excellent turn out from all who came. I personally lost count at 50! Everyone is raving about the new venue, especially with our clubs aim at encouraging more involvement from wives, girlfriends and families. Towradgi Beach Hotel is a wonderful place for all, and is still a short trip to town for those wishing to party on!

In training recently Adam Tucker was brought to a screeching halt as he tore his hamstring. This is a fine example of why front rowers should not ever commit to sprinting! In all honestly though we wish "Pup" a quick recovery and hope to see him on the field sooner rather than later.

Big thanks to those players, coaches and supporters who turned up to our recent Working Bee at Vikings. For those of you who have not seen the club and field recently, it is amazing. Slight changes have occurred to the field placement allowing for larger area at the Southern End for training. The Perimeter fence has been repaired while numerous other housekeeping jobs have been done. As for the condition of the field, well let's just say you would be proud if it was your front lawn! As Phil Green mentioned to me "With the field the way it is, I am almost tempted to come out of retirement to play on it.... Almost!"

Training sessions have now reverted back to our traditional Tuesday and Thursday night sessions. Training will continue on the "Dog Track" for as long as is possible (light permitted) before we head back to Vikings as the season gets closer.

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The only thing missing from our field that are due to arrive any moment are our new goal posts. These will be up and operational shortly and will get their first work out when the Illawarriors play Western Plains from 3pm on Saturday, 20th March in the first round of the Country Championships.

A further working bee has been organised for this coming Saturday, 13th of March starting at 8am. Further work (constructing the goal posts being one) is required to have the field prepared for the Illawarriors game, so if you are available please lend your time and support for a few hours. Contact Phil Green for further details.

As mentioned above – Illawarriors quest for the Country Championship begins at Vikings on Saturday, 20th March. This game gives Vikings an opportunity to “show off” our fantastic facilities not only to the rest of the Illawarra but also to our guests from the Western Plains. On the day, we require many people to assist with various jobs. If you are available please contact Tim Fisher via this email address or on 0408696504 so that I can put your name to a job to ensure that the day is both a success for the District and for the Club.

Last Saturday, Vikings seniors had their first trial of 2010. They traveled to Shoalhaven and played three 25 minute thirds (or three 25 minute quarters as Andrew Barrett told me!) against Vincentia, Shoalhaven and Milton. The feedback from players and coaches has been very positive with all agreeing that the day was extremely worthwhile. While some skills were a little rusty, the boys couldn't do anything but benefit, especially considering the temperature was into the mid thirties!

Phil Green and Jay Tregonning are currently in discussion with several potential coaches for our rejuvenated third grade. We have all but confirmed both coaches and a manager for third grade, however if you have an interest in helping please contact Phil Green. It is the hope that if we have four or five people to work together coaching / managing thirds, the work load will be spread meaning more time for working toward success on the field.

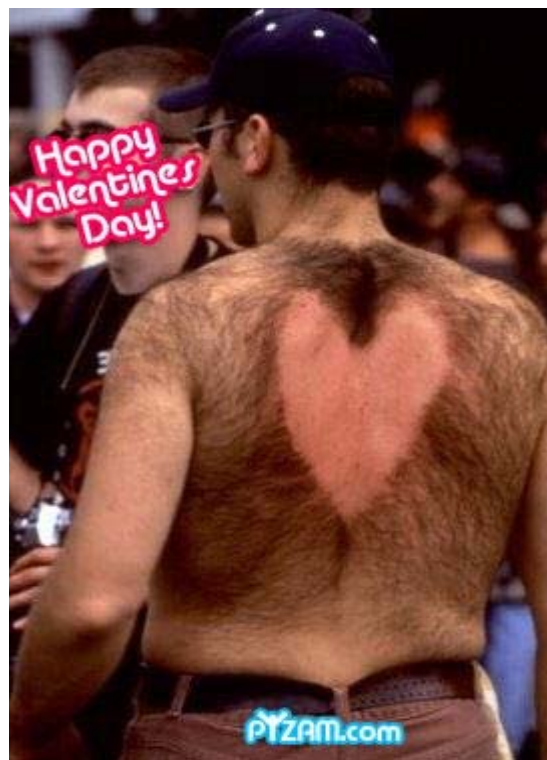
With an abundance of talented backs in our club this year Mitchell Wakeford, Vikings 1st

grade Centre / Fullback / 5/8 over the last few years has put his hand up to play in the second row. Of course competition is tight in the forwards too and Mitch is working hard to learn the ropes in time for the season opener. All of us have great faith in Mitch of course. He has all the credentials to make an excellent second rower – Height, Weight, The ability to jump and most importantly a head that can't get much uglier!

Vikings Juniors 2010

Vikings Juniors are again looking strong as they prepare for season 2010. However they still have a vacancy for a coach in U16s. These are the future of our club and I encourage anyone with some spare time and interest to contact Merrick Mildenhall on 0412 522442.

Adam Tucker is a romantic at heart. This was his Valentines gift to Tory only a few weeks ago...



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Joke of the week

Over drinks one afternoon Jake Bazzano and Shane Frigo were discussing former "loves". Jake told Shane that he once broke-up with a girl long ago because she had a seemingly incurable speech impediment.

Shane said, "Jake, I'm shocked. I never knew you to be one to be prejudiced against handicaps. What was the girl's problem?"

Taking a sip, Jake paused and reflected. "She couldn't say 'yes'."

Didn't do any excursions like this when I was at school!



Players, coaches and managers wanted

We are constantly on the lookout for players, supporters, coaches and managers for 2010, so if you know of anyone who might be interested... Talk to them... There is no harm in asking!

Coaches and Managers for our juniors for 2010 (see contact details for Merrick Mildenhall above).

Club website

A new club website is in the process of being developed, so if the current one seems a bit behind then it is because we eagerly await the new, improved version. Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available.

Upcoming events

What: Working Bee and Club Training

When: 8am Saturday 13th March

Where: Vikings RFC

Info for training: All available players are expected to attend an additional training session this Saturday morning at Vikings. The session will be held in conjunction with the working bee so bring your kit for training as well as some extras for working. **Info for working bee (for supporters):** Just turn up! Everything we require will be at the ground and ready to go. The perimeter fence needs to be attached to our new posts and the goal posts will need to be erected (Yes I know that word is funny!)

What: Illawarra vs Western Plains

When: 2pm Saturday 20th March (Games beginning at 3pm)

Where: Vikings RFC

Info: This is a fantastic opportunity for the club to show off our facility to Country Rugby while also making some handy cash for the club. If you are available please contact Tim Fisher on this email address or on 0408696504.

What: Trial vs Clovelly Blowflies

When: 12pm Saturday 20th March

Where: Vikings RFC

Info: Bring all your kit for a trial match against The Clowie Blowies!

What: Valkyrie Reunion

When: 6:30pm Saturday 10th April

Where: North Gong Pub

Info: All past players and supporters are encouraged to attend currently there are 20 confirmed starters. Anyone wishing to find out further details contact Jess Cooney on jesscoon@gmail.com

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2010 Season Draw – Print it off and stick it on your fridge!!!

Round 1 – 27th March
vs Kiama @ Vikings
Round 2 – 10th April
vs Engadine @ Engadine
Round 3 – 17th April
vs Avondale @ Vikings
Round 4 – 24th April
vs Camden @ Camden
Round 5 – 1st May
vs Shoals @ Vikings
Round 6 – 8th May
vs Vincentia @ Vincentia
Round 7 – 15th May
vs Shamrocks @ Vikings
Round 8 – 22nd May
vs Uni @ Uni
Round 9 29th May
vs Wollondilly @ Vikings
Round 10 5th June
vs Tech @ Vikings
Round 11 – 12th June
vs Bowral / Bund @ Bowral
Round 12 – 19th June
vs Kiama @ Kiama
Round 13 – 26th June
vs Engadine @ Vikings
Round 14 – 3rd July
vs Avondale @ Avondale
Round 15 – 10th July
vs Camden @ Vikings
Round 16 – 17th July
vs Shoals @ Shoals
Round 17 – 24th July
vs Vincentia @ Vikings
Round 18 – 31st July
vs Shamrocks @ Shamrocks
Round 19 – 7th August
vs Uni @ Vikings
Round 20 – 14th August
vs Wollondilly @ Wollondilly
Round 21 – 21st August
vs Tech @ Tech
Round 22 – 28th August
vs Bowral / Bund @ Vikings

Thought of the week.

Sex takes up the least amount of time and causes the most amount of trouble.

Club Sponsors

The club wishes to thank its many sponsors. Your support is greatly appreciated by all players and supporters.

Towradgi Beach Hotel
SJ Cornford Painting
Unanderra Hardware Man
Bears Auto Hospital
R and F Ziems Pty Limited
Better Floors Pty Limited
Shepherd Miller
Mt Kembla Hotel
Ian Brownlow Electrical
Playmore Sports
Wollongong Conveyancing
Ray White City Real Estate
KPMG
Maguire and McInerney Lawyers
Calderys Australia Pty Ltd
Stoddart Building Products Pty Ltd
Field Furnace Refractories
Total Construction P/L

Finish this sentence... As happy as.....



Fact of Life (how did they research this?)

The average human will eat 8 spiders while asleep in their lifetime.

Catch ya around...

Fish