

VIKINGS RFC

STIRRER MAY - 2010

Fish's Corner

Where do I start?

Should it be the rejuvenated 3rd grade who have 15 – 20 blokes to every training session? A variety of young and old, new and experienced players, going out on to the field and playing with enthusiasm and confidence in notching up 2 wins and 3 loses (one only by 2 points) to sit just out of the top 5.

Or should I mention our dynamic 2nd grade who sit in equal 5th with 4 wins and 2 narrow losses (against two teams who will no doubt be in the mix at the end of the season)? A team that plays with confidence with a young, fit forward pack and backs that run all day and back themselves at any given opportunity to make the opposition pay?

Maybe I should talk about 1st grade who now have won 3 consecutive games against highly fancied opposition. Not only have they beaten, but in some cases embarrassed teams that are expected to be in the mix when the finals come around. They now sit comfortably in the top 5 on the ladder and will no doubt look to push home their form in coming weeks as they approach more tough opposition.

I could talk about training where there is a regular attendance of 50 players who are all showing fantastic attitudes, commitment and focus in working towards the common goals the club is aiming to achieve.

Or maybe I will just settle for telling you about how the players are over the moon with the support that they have seen on the hill at home (and away) games. Seeing new and old faces, fresh, young and slightly weathered faces.... The rush they receive by looking up on that hill and seeing people appreciating what they are doing out on the field is reward enough for the hard work they are putting in!

The season is only young and there is still much to be gained or lost. To the players, you must continue to work hard each and every week to ensure the work already done and results achieved so far continue to improve.

Cheers
Fish

Clarifying the difference between halfbacks and 5/8s...

The Half back

The half back provides the ball to the backs when the forwards are damn well ready for the strutting backs to knock it on. The forwards have grudging respect for the half back because he tries hard and is not afraid to get dirty with the rest of the forwards. The wise half back should drink and buy beers for the forwards to maintain his favoured position with them.

The 5/8

It is rumored that the 5/8 has the best vision, hands, kicking ability, and overall tactical decision making ability in the side. The forwards do not understand or trust this individual. The hard-working forwards generally expect and anticipate a knock forward from the 5/8 so they can have the pleasure of yet another scrum.

Latest results...

Vikings vs Engadine
3rd Grade – Win 19 - 14
2nd Grade – Win 27 - 3
1st Grade – Draw 34 - 34

Vikings vs Avondale
3rd Grade – Loss 27 - 12
2nd Grade – Win 22 - 17
1st Grade – Win 38 - 6

Vikings vs Camden
3rd Grade – Loss 22 - 0
2nd Grade – Loss 15 - 6
1st Grade – Win 23 - 11

Vikings vs Shoalhaven
3rd Grade – Loss – 17 - 15
2nd Grade – Win 50 - 7
1st Grade – Win 45 - 0

Vikings vs Vincentia
2nd Grade – Loss – 20 - 5

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Latest news...

Sadly we have already lost one player for the duration of the season. Pommy Nathan Smith who had impressed all the boys at training and early in the season, tore his ACL against Avondale. Unfortunately for the big back rower this means he has to head back to England to get a knee reconstruction. He will be a big loss to the club, but word has it that he has vowed to be back next season once he gets himself fixed. We wish him all the best with the operation and look forward to seeing him soon.

There remain only about 12 players who are yet to pay their fees in full for season 2010. While this is a fantastic achievement in one hand, it remains a burden on the club on the other. So, the decision has been made that this weekend will mark the last opportunity for players to pay their fees before a scenario of **“NO FEES, NO PLAY”** is implemented. Of course the club does not want to get to this stage so please make sure that all fees are paid so that the club can move on to more important issues.

I have had some serious cases of déjà vu since season 2010 began. For those of you that were involved in the club in the early 90s, many of you would remember a bunch of kids on the sideline every weekend playing footy, running water, running out the kicking tee (or sand back then!), but most of all having a great time watching and dreaming of one day being a Vikings grade player. The surnames of those kids were Lawson, Dawson, Cornford, Hamilton and Fisher and it has been a thrill for me to see those born and bred Vikings boys out there now doing the things they once dreamed of.

Rumour has it that Toby Dawson would have been a shoe-in had he trialed for a place on Baywatch. No one would argue with the fact that he has the slow motion running down pat. It seems to come so naturally to him!

The Country Cockatoos have caused a huge upset over the Brumbies Runners just last week. Under Coach Jay Tregonning and with 5 Illawarra representatives the Country team ground out a gutsy victory knocking off their more fancied opposition 16 – 13. Good job boys!

Bowral Rugby Club has made the gutsy call to withdraw from the IDRU 1st grade competition. After being beaten 70 – 0 in their first 2 games and then having to forfeit their 3rd game, the decision was made for the safety of their young players coming through to focus only on playing in the 2nd grade competition. From all accounts the club has strong ambitions of returning to the 1st grade competition and once again being a force. I am sure we all wish them the best in their efforts to make this a reality.

Chris Nanasi, last years 1st grade best back and leading try scorer recently underwent surgery on his torn ACL. Traditionally this surgery takes players 6 months or more to recover, but with new technology, recovery can be as quick as 12 weeks. He has vowed to make a return to the blue jersey at some stage this season. We hope he is right!

THIS SATURDAY MARKS A HUGE DAY FOR THE CLUB

Firstly, lining up against our arch rivals and one of the top teams in the competition in Shamrocks.

Secondly, this day coincides with our “Sponsors Day”, where Vikings take the opportunity to thank all of our wonderful sponsors for season 2010. A marquee will be present at the Northern end of the field and all sponsors are welcome to come along and enjoy a wonderful day of running rugby.

Thirdly, our wonderful supporters the Longhorns have made this Saturday a “Back to Vikings Day” where all the old boys will reunite and relive the glory days as they see the new generation continue the long standing tradition of battling the “Green Slime”.

Finally, our long awaited new kits have arrived. With a slight change in jersey make as well as new sponsors, the new kit will get a spectacular initiation against the old rivals.

Next weekend will be a huge day for the club... Let's make sure we are there in numbers to support the club in battling the undefeated Rocks!!!

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A little misunderstanding...



Vikings Juniors 2010

Vikings Juniors have headed into the 2010 with 6 teams representing the club. This year we have U8's, U10's, U13's, U14's, U16's and U 18's. With the first round completed, the Juniors are looking good with the following results:

U8's vs Bowral Lost 20 – 0

U10's vs Bowral Won 47 – 24

U13's vs Camden Won 69 – 0

U14's vs Bowral Won 74 – 5

U16's (Match postponed due to Rep)

U18's vs Camden Won 29 – 17

Vikings Juniors are still searching for more players, so if you know anyone who might be interested, ask them to contact Merrick Mildenhall on 0412 522442.

Anyone ever sucked a toe?

There are about one trillion bacteria on each of your feet.

Joke of the week

Judy and Ted got married and had 13 children. Then Ted died of Heart Disease.

She married again, and she & Bob had 7 more children.

Bob was killed in a car accident, 12 years later.

Again Judy remarried, and this time

She & John had 5 more children.

Judy finally died, after having 25 children.

Standing before her coffin, the preacher prayed for her.

He thanked the Lord for this very loving woman and said,

"Lord, they are finally together."

Ethel leaned over and quietly asked her best friend, Margaret:

"Margaret, do you think he means her 1st, 2nd, or 3rd husband?"

Margaret replied: "I think he means her legs, Ethel..."

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... Even now we have entered our season we are still looking. Remember "Many hands make light work!

Coaches, managers and players for our juniors for 2010 (see contact details for Merrick Mildenhall above).

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Club website

The new club website will be operational in less than a fortnight. The new website will be www.wollongongvikings.com.au and will host a range of information. So over the next few weeks keep an eye out for it! Also, from the next stirrer onwards, a link will be sent to you via email indicating that the latest stirrer is available. This link will send you too our website where you can not only read the stirrer, but also catch up on all the latest news.

Upcoming events

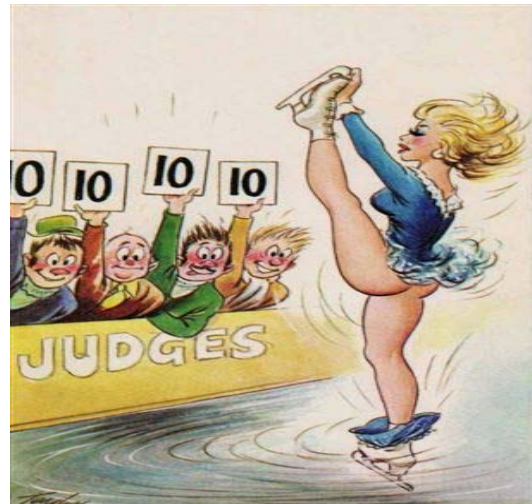
I have again attached a document outlining the social calendar for season 2010. Please take the time to read it and even print it off to ensure you don't miss out on some of the fantastic events that are heading our way in 2010!

What goes through your mind when someone says "Let's go for a drink."

2010 Season Draw

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

The girl's got talent!!



(For the record the caption down the bottom says.... "Thank God you're a man")

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Club Sponsors

With many fresh faces to our club there is a real opportunity to approach this season as a new beginning. The club has certainly taken that approach by appointing Andrew Barrett as Club Marketing Manager. Andrew has already been responsible for gaining new sponsorships and donations as well as confirming old commitments. You will notice that the below list has changed significantly and will continue to be added to in coming stirrers.

Andrew has asked me to pass on his contact details and has asked any readers who are interested in sponsoring or donating to the club to make contact. Just for interest.... 4 Longhorns each donated \$500 after Andrew recently contacted the Longhorns list... A big thanks to those guys... But how about some others jump on board... Every bit helps!!

To contact Andrew Barrett please call - 0403476880

Thankyou to all our valued sponsors both new and old:

Towradgi Beach Hotel

Greenlife Landscapes

SJ Cornford Painting

Better Floors Pty Limited

R and F Ziems Pty Limited

One Three Designer Homes

Jet Screen

Print Media

Fashion Only

Go Hire

Doug Symes Share broker

Queens Pinch Vineyard

U-Brew-It Wollongong

Baimed Physiotherapy

Playmore Sports

Bob Jane T-Marts - Wollongong

Berkeley Hotel

Mt Kembla Hotel

Shepherd Miller Accountants

Ian Brownlow Electrical

Wollongong Conveyancing

KPMG

Maguire and McInerney Lawyers

Stoddart Building Products Pty Ltd

Field Furnace Refractories

Total Construction P/L

Unanderra Hardware Man

Bears Auto Hospital

Raine and Horne Wollongong

Concept Chemical Corporation Pty Ltd

Southern Fluid Sealing

Thought of the week.

If an atheist has to go to court, do they make him swear on the bible?

Catch you on the hill...

Fish