



## WARRIORS WEEKLY

Newsletter Number 5

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2019

### **President's Message**

This year we are having a year long Raffle to raise funds for the Club with prizes to be drawn at the Presentation Day later in the year. If you can donate a prize, please contact Joe Craven on 0449 021 975. The Warriors will also be at Coogee Oval on 8 June 2019 for the game against Sydney Uni selling the raffle tickets.

I have been receiving a lot of feedback regarding the lateness of the weekly draw. Unfortunately we cannot control these things as it is in the hands of the Sydney Juniors. It seems some of the problems in the first 5 rounds have been caused by teams folding, joint venture teams being established and re-grading of teams. Hopefully, as we head towards June, these problems will disappear and we can receive the weekly draw earlier.

Craig Bell  
Randwick Warriors President

### **Randwick Rugby Colts (U20)**

Last weekend, Firsts Colts forged ahead with their unbeaten season with a dominant victory this time over Warringah 47-12. 344 points in 6 games, not bad! The other Colts won.

Colts v Manly away this Saturday.

### **Randwick Rugby Grade**

First Grade took on Warringah last weekend at Rat Park and came away with a very close loss. Second and Third Grades won but Fourths lost.

Grade v Manly at Coogee Oval on Saturday.

## **Match Reports for 12 May 2019 – Round 5**

### **U13 Whites v Lane Cove won 39-17**

It was a sunny late morning as the crew descended on Tallanton Oval in Lane Cove for this E Div game. All the mothers were particularly happy and eternally grateful to the SJRU for blowing a 3-hour hole right in the middle of their Mothers' Day. The news got better as we found out that Lane Cove could only field 11 players, so, after much back and forth, it was agreed we would lend them two players, play 13 on 13 and drop the flankers.

The boys wandered out on to the pitch to start the first half, clearly not noticing the whistle went as Lane Cove ran in a fast try. Seemingly now awake, we quickly responded with a couple of rumbling tries to our props, Peter and Dante to take the lead. However, for the next 15 minutes a strange belief took hold. Our backs believed that the quickest way to the try line was to run sideline to sideline first, and our forwards believed the ball would magically appear at the back of the ruck without anyone driving over. Smelling blood, Lane Cove went on a rampage scoring two tries. Half time could not come quickly enough as we went to the break 10-17 down.

At half time the coaches quickly reminded the boys that they were playing rugby and how it worked, also suggesting that if we couldn't take Mum to lunch, we could at least put on a good performance. It was a different team out there in the second half. The forwards buckled down and started blowing through rucks and winning the contest, the backs ran hard and straight, giving the ball to their outside man in good position and space. Following good, tough forward play that delivered quality ball, the backs put it to good use early with both Kalani and Oscar crossing for tries in the first 5 minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> half. From there we turned the screws, forwards were rumbling, backs took it to the line hard, letting the forwards come in and rumble some more. No one rumbled more than Dante who added another three tries, two of them from the halfway line, to put the result beyond doubt.

Overall a good win by the boys who continue to improve every week, and if we can get focused for the full 50 minutes every Sunday, will threaten in this competition. Big thank you to the boys that showed great sportsmanship and had a run for the opposition – Oscar, Kalani, Jamie, Mitch, Lorcan, Kane and James.

Points this week:

1 point to Oscar for great running, tackling and effort – for both teams!

2 points to Luca who made a huge impact playing two positions that he doesn't normally play.

3 points – you can't go past Dante and his 4 tries, though he is in serious danger of being booted from the front rowers' club.

Highlight of the match: in the last play of the game Peter getting smoked in a tackle by his twin brother who was playing for Lane Cove at the time.

### **U13 Greens v Hills won 47-5**

The pressure was mounting on the boys for promotion to A grade, what with a victory against our nearest rivals last week and so 'somehow' the draw came out that we were set to face the 'freshly demoted A-grade' team.

We were facing a much bigger pack (nothing new here) in this B Div match and despite that we seemed to have the better of them, our pick and drives around the ruck were much improved

from last week although what was missing was the teamwork and interplays within the forwards, yes there were gains made but very few offloads, fast ball to keep momentum going and get the backs some clean ball is going to have to be our game plan in future.

The player highlights... Luini stepped it up a level, honestly there is no one who can catch you from behind, whether it's their motivation 'not' catch you or your 6th gear but if you are in the clear....shut the gate !! Oskar everywhere there was a ruck/maul you were in amongst it grafting away, you are really growing in your presence on the field, Will Tanner with the "fastest feet in the east", every week you push the boundaries of what a 'former' front rower is capable of, a clean set of heals , clear out, catch and pass all well and truly is part of your repertoire, Evan Brill the go to yard gainer, if there is meter to be gained, close to the maul he'll find it....and some !!

The backs enjoying the time a space Hills gifted them and very early on showed a willingness to use the ball and have Hills chasing them. Hills also kicked more than the usual Div-B team and highlighted an area to work on in the coming weeks....back 3 must always think, what would happen if they kicked now ?? what would I do, can I run forward on to the ball or have to run back (ie too shallow).

We spoke about intensity at training and hopefully the boys understand a little more after facing off against the U14's why it's important to train properly and the reason behind the drills and getting yourselves in the right body position in the simplest of drills - ie passing with your weight forward seems boring and trivial....until your come up against bigger opposition and you lean back to pass and find yourself flat on your back with a large human on top of you after your pass.

Anyway it was certainly a good game by all standards but another for the highlight real was the kick chase by Jordan (once again a player adding another string to his bow, a halfback playing out on the wing) that resulted in him regathering and then showing his pace to jinx step and out-sprint everyone for a try under the posts.

Anyway as it stands...we face our first game in A grade on Sunday, can we mix it with the best or we are only good to dominate lesser opponents, let's find out Sunday 10:30 at Nagle – every team loves testing themselves against a Randwick and this weekend will be no exception !!

#### **U14 Whites v Hunters Hill won 34-0 – E Div**

#### **U14 Greens v Penrith RSL def 7-70 – A Div**

#### **U15 v Southern Barbarians won 57-12**

It was an early B Div game on Mother's Day with a fantastic show up from the Mums to trek down to sunny Sylvania with their boys.

After a great win over Chatswood on Tuesday night, the boys were on song early with two quick tries to Siteni and Grant with one conversion to lead 12-0. The game then tightened and became a tough forward battle: Henry, Ollie and AJ were in the middle of everything. Southern Barbarians hit back with a converted try against the run of play to close the gap. The boys then

pulled together with some of their best Rugby this year to put on three more converted tries to Solomon, Grant and Siteni before the half-time. We led 33-14 at the break.

In the second half, we clicked into gear again piling on plenty of points with tries to Tom, Ed, Grant and then Tom again and, although Sylvania crossed for one more try, we ran out convincing winners 57 – 21.

A really good performance right across all 21 boys, our scrum was strong, line-outs well organised and our backline ran in some fantastic tries, well done 15's.

### **U16 Whites v Wests won 48-0**

Alfie Carr set the tone for the C Div game very early on in the piece by ploughing through the middle of Wests and getting a try in the first minute or so. We never took the foot off the throttle with tries in quick succession from Kye Xuereb, Hugo Normand and Hamish Caple, who backed up Jacob Phillips after a 50m run try assist.

Heading into the second half 24-0 with some gritty work from our flankers Baxter Flynn and Rhys Johnson saw us pile on more tries, 2 by Benji Greenstein 1 by Vong Bice capped off with the 8<sup>th</sup> try by Charlie Worthington leaving Wests scoreless.  
Keep up the good work boys.

### **U16 Greens v Blacktown won 21-19**

We have had some classic matches against Blacktown since the U14s but the boys were a bit sleepy out at Seven Hills this Mothers' Day morning. That was until Blacktown's big left winger came in and put a massive Welcome to Blacktown tackle on an unsuspecting Ethan King. Ethan got up and dusted himself off. Righto, game on!

Blacktown, in this A Div match, scored first and then suffocated us with their defence until our tall athletic No 6, Clem Halaholo, used his strength and footwork to bust through the brick wall into open air, chased by our no 10, Sharn Marr, who was chased by four would be defenders. Nice left to right pass by Clem and Sharn wasn't going to be caught. Some more field position in the first half saw the Warriors work the overlap to outside back, Braydon Jang, who scored near the posts for our second try.

14-12 at half-time and the fans were pushing forward as both teams were poised to deliver another classic match. Blacktown scored a third try and down 14-19, the Warriors did what they have done so many times before: they lifted, with second rowers Cameron Vakuata and Spencer Kapos in particular putting up their hands to charge into the defence.

Five minutes left and we were where we wanted to be: pounding their line phase after phase until our fullback, Damon Askie got outside his man, dummied the winger and was over out wide on the other side of the field. 19-19 and it was that man Damon who confidently took the ball for the kick. Silence, silence and then kick and more silence until Damon yelled out "YES" well before the ball was near the posts. He nailed it. 21-19.

These tough games against teams like the Blacktown team have made the Warriors better players. No question. And when they gather in 10 years time, they'll still be talking about "that tackle" on Ethan and how Damon nailed that kick. That's rugby.