



WARRIORS WEEKLY

Newsletter Number 1

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2019

President's Message

A warm welcome to Season 2019 and a very warm welcome to our two U13 teams who are enjoying their first taste of teenage rugby.

Transition from the four U12 Village Clubs to Randwick Warriors U13s requires a big effort and a lot of communication and I'd like to thank all those involved, particularly, Mary-Anne Tanner, Kurt Vilo and Bruce Jones. Also, I'd like to show my appreciation to the 4 Village Presidents for their support of the Warriors, which is Randwick Rugby's teenage club.

Finally, a big shout out to the U16s age group which has signed up 11 new players, enabling the Club to register over 50 players and form two very healthy teams. Totally unprecedented. Congratulations.

On the field last Sunday, we had the good fortune to have all our teams playing at Nagle Park in Round 1. All teams, relishing their time with the Randwick Junior Rugby Academy during summer, played some very competitive rugby and had a positive rugby experience, which is what the Club is all about.

Craig Bell
Randwick Warriors President

Sponsors

We welcome new sponsors UNSW and Randwick Rugby Foundation and thank the Senior Club for its support in that regard.

We also welcome back Bakker Built, Your Estate Agency, Addisons Advisory Group, and McGrath Real Estate.

Thanks everyone for your support of local teenage rugby.

Randwick Rugby Colts (U20)

Are up at TG Milner this Saturday v Eastwood.

Randwick Rugby Grade

Play at Coogee Oval this Saturday v Eastwood.

Games at Nagle this Sunday

The final draw hasn't been distributed by Syd Juniors at this stage.

Match Reports for 31 March 2019 – Round 1

U13 Whites won 53-14 v North Rocks

A great start to the season for the U13W in their 1st game for the Warriors. With only two training sessions and an internal trial as a base, we approached our 1st E Div game with some mystery surrounding the ability of the team. Any doubts were soon put to bed with our forwards dominating from the start resulting in a 32-0 scoreline at half time.

The second half was a little closer and credit to our opponents for an improved performance. The pleasing aspect for the Warriors during the second half was the movement of the ball to the wings showing the crowd glimpses of the running rugby we want to play this season. The standouts were Luca Whitaker, Dante Macri & Billy Sultan but the rest of the squad were not far behind them.

A special mention to our seven players who unselfishly assisted our opponents to field a full team. Keep the spirit going boys and you'll enjoy the season.

U13 Greens won 48-7 v Norwest

It was with the world record breaking crowd...of cockatoos on hand to see the season opener, their Jerseys will never be whiter nor boots cleaner - for it was game on for the U13 Randwick Green (Machine) for their B Div match v NorWest.

We received the kick off from the more sizable team from NorWest and, for the first 10mins we were trapped in on our 22m, not being able to make gains through the oppositions defence. It was easy to see why NorWest had made it through their 2018 regular C Div season undefeated.

I wouldn't say that I felt nervous, but it was interesting to see how the boys would handle the pressure, and they managed...I think the pendulum swung with that thumping tackle in mid-field by Tom FJ.

As the game progressed, it was clear that it would be our conditioning that was going to see us through this game, (**mental note, this won't be such a factor when we meet them again later in the season)

It is sometimes players that don't stand out that deserve the recognition and, as with this game, it was Cullum, Marcus, Will, Oskar and Tom J, that were doing a lot of the hard work that helped the team really excel. But this isn't the role these boys will be playing all season, as we were missing a few key personnel and with them back next week, it will lighten the load for them to play a more expansive game.

Watching the game unfold there were knowing nods between the coaches as we saw all the moments we had predicted ..hmm I wonder if they think we would be weak in the middle with Seb and James there and then seeing them attack us and then (2 mentioned) boys drop the bigger NorWest attackers, then seeing Will T. chiming in out wide in backline and its wasn't the typical forward coming in to take the hit up but it was draw and pass to the winger in space for a try in the corner.

I could go on and on....and I will, what about Seb's chip and chase in mid field and for him to tackle the kick receiver, Luca (I think the term GOAT was used a few times) with an impressive physical performance,

that clearly has been pent up over the (non-contact) cricket season, Flynn throwing himself at the defensive line with no regard for his own physical wellbeing, Hab's getting on the score sheet with a cunning snipe from the maul,

Laurence taking his opportunities and darting down the short side and unleash Noah in space at the back of a ruck, Ollie like a trap-door spider at nearly every breakdown stealing their ball, and with the whole pack applying constant pressure at the breakdown, the only regret was that we didn't get a chance to unleash our counterattack from the back 3 with Jesse G and Jordy gaging to receive oppositions kick that never happened.

Throughout the day we tried many different combinations and the result was the same, near faultless rugby, honestly I can't recall 1 obvious error or missed tackle throughout the entire 50mins.

I don't want to get ahead of ourselves, but it just seemed to click, the boys saw opportunities and they took their chances which is exactly what we asked of them.

But I'm reserving the most impressive moment for a special mention. There was a brief play that I'd like to draw attention to that I believe defines this team, a small instance that the coaches observed. Mid-field we had possession and a NorWest player came around off side and grabbed our halfback Laurence. In a split second he was tackled by Ollie Aboud, not overly aggressive, but he used rugby sign language that translates to.. "back off - that's my half back!". It's the type of comradery that you don't expect to see on game 1 of a season but it makes your heart burst with pride and sets a tone for 1 hell of a season.

UP THE WICKS

U14 Whites won 31-26 v Dural

Dural came out of the blocks hard & fast in this E Div game and before we knew it they had put 2x tries on us.

Just prior to half time we were able to hit back & get some points on the board.

Dural kicked off for the start of the 2nd half, Declan caught the ball & ran through their whole team to score under the posts. Game on.

For most of the 2nd Half Randwick lead 24-19. With only a couple of minute to go Dural scores & converted to lead 26-24.

Our boys dug deep & with only seconds remaining, Connor Andrews darted down the blind & scored. Tommy G converted & we won the game 31-26.

Outstanding effort across the board. Being short on numbers a massive thank you to (Luca C & Will T) for helping out.

Man of the match went to Xavier for his fantastic effort in both attack & defence.

U14 Greens won 29-20 v Wests

The U14's had a great start to the season with very good win over West Harbour on Sunday in their A Div match.

The game started with a hiss and a roar with Randwick lads shifting the ball from edge to edge with great skill. Daniel Wright had everything under control and with the speed of Liam Ross and Zac Safarti we had a 17-0 led. Then the wheels fell off and we seemed to let Wests back into the game. Poor tackling and a lack of energy had the Wests players with their tails up and us ahead by just 5.

We had patches of brilliance especially with a well-executed mid field starter play and then a "bounce" kick off shifted from Darcy to Daniel to Matteo to Zac to Liam- grubber kick, toed ahead- TRY! Well done lads! The pick of the forwards were Byron and Ruben with great defence and some very good turnovers. Overall a great win 29-20, with plenty of improvement still required.

U15 won v St Pat's 35-14

The first game of the season for the 15s was against St Pats in their B Div match and you never know how the team is going to play first up, but the boys were relaxed in the warm up and ready to play, which was a good start.

From the kick off the boys showed great enthusiasm to chase the kick and get to the ball carrier, they put a lot of pressure on the St Pats team and did so for the entire game. All the forwards ran the ball into contact strongly and recycled quick ball at the breakdown.

The backs ran good lines in attack, backed up all game and their defence was particularly strong.

The boys had a good all round game first up and ran out 35 -14 winners special mention to AJ Preketes 2 tries, Siteni Taukomo 2 tries, Oliver Morohan 2 tries and Fletcher Bessant 1 try.

U16 Whites won 61-7 v Hills

Well done boys on what was a very positive start to the season in this C Div match v Hills. We welcome some new blood to the team: Hugo Normand, Louis Clech, Xavier Cutmore, Numa Artu , Joe Mison and Jacob Philips. Sam Carr and Nick Elizondo who last year were out for a lot of the season due to injury but returned with a bang-great to have you boys back and see you playing so well.

Outstanding performances this week by already mentioned Sam Carr along with Lachlan Demos who was a wrecking ball up the middle. Kye Xuereb left bodies in his wake with some blistering runs as did Xavier. Charlie Worthington who, ignoring his coaches' pleas to come off in the blink of an eye, goes from not being able to walk to setting up then scoring his own try-A true miracle.

We look forward to round 2 and seeing the team develop into the season. U16 Whites would like to welcome Heath Morley in assisting Simon with the coaching/training duties you are a welcome addition to the team.

Keep up the good work boys.

U16 Greens won on forfeit by Northern Barbarians

The team had a great off season and were fit and keen for their Round 1 A Div match. Unfortunately, the opposition from the Eastwood District forfeited. Until next week!!