



WARRIORS WEEKLY

Newsletter Number 9

21 June

2019

President's Message

Despite the deluge on Saturday night and Sunday, all teams were able to play, which was fantastic.

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.

Congratulations to the Coogee Cougars who recently celebrated their 10th Anniversary. Many of the Cougars are dedicated Warriors Mums and so, well done Ladies!

AND THE WALLABIES ARE IN TOWN! They are at **Lower Latham this Sunday 23 June from 2pm** as they start training for the Rugby World Cup 2019. It's a really special opportunity for our Warriors rugby community to see the Wallabies up close and personal and show our support.

Craig Bell
Randwick Warriors President

U20 World Cup

The Junior Wallabies are through to the World Cup Final v reigning champions, France, and local juniors, Will Harrison and Ben Donaldson, have made major contributions along the way.

Good luck boys and bring home the Cup from Argentina! (live on Foxsports at 4:20am this Sunday morning 23 June).

Randwick Rugby Colts (U20)

First Colts remain unbeaten after a nail biter last Saturday v Gordon. Seconds lost but Thirds won.

Randwick Rugby Grade

First Grade lost 19-17 v Gordon, Seconds won but Thirds and Fourths lost.

Match Reports for 16 June 2019 – Round 9

U13 Whites v Hunters Hill won 17-15

When your opponents turn up in a bus it's impressive . When it's a bus from St Joseph's College full of boarders you start to worry you are in for a tough game.

In wet conditions that sadly today's 12 & 13yo's rarely get to experience it was a soggy start to this week's E Div game against yet another team from Hunters Hill. The pre-match rev up in the dressing shed from our Warriors could be heard on Anzac Parade, our opponents not to be out done upped the volume and you could hear it back in the mess hall at Joeys. The game was on and in a typical start to most of our games this year Hunters Hill put an early try on the board to go 0-5. Sadly in the process our forwards leader Max Craven was forced off for the match with a neck injury. With the conditions dictating a forwards game the Whites pack stepped into gear with a try to Luca W (#7) putting the game at 5-5 before another try to the visitors out wide making it 5-10. The scene was set for a tight see sawing affair and again on the back of good forward play Luca went in for his second try and a conversion by Captain Sam (#10) had us 12-10 at the break.

With the rain pelting down & the coaching staff concerned about our hairstyles, we decided to use the sheds for the half time break. It was obvious that this game was going to be won or lost in the forwards and for the next 17 minutes that's where the tussle was fought until our lock Beau taking a break at outside centre decided to pin back his ears & head for the corner. 17-10 and eight minutes to go the game stayed on its track with the occasional movement to our wings, despite the conditions, being the highlights. Hunters Hill scored an unconverted try late in the half and to the team's credit their defence held out until the final whistle for a 17-15 win.

Pleasing this week to see most of the squad available and that when the pressure was applied by a good opponent in difficult conditions that they stuck to the task to win a tight game of wet weather rugby. The other plus was that's Max's neck injury was not as bad as thought despite the special ride home via the emergency ward at Randwick. He's back his week.

1 pt – Billy (#12) some nice straight hard running and solid defence when required.

2 pts – Luca (#7) apart from his 2 tries was everywhere as usual.

3pt – Macca (Lock/#6) effective at the clean outs & always damaging with the ball in hand . A winger last year his conversion to the forwards has proved to be a master stroke.

U13 Greens v Manly Vikings def 0-31

With the long weekend state championships barely behind us, we headed out to Manly to face the nightly Vikings of Manly/seaforth for this A Div match.

With the overnight rain leaving the main oval with more water hazards than your (above) average 18 hole golf course, these weren't ideal conditions but at least they were evenly bad for both teams.

The match started with....well, let's not mention the new contender for the world's fastest try in club rugby, but after the first hiccup our defence shored itself up and as usual, we seemed to control the play very well with the forwards being able to hold possession for 6/7 phases, their effectiveness at the breakdown was a credit to each and every player stepping up and doing what was required, when required.

Once again the score doesn't do the game justice, how we didn't score a try I don't know...well that's not true, I do know because there was a bad case of white-line fever ripping through the forwards. If we could have been able to underplay our dives for the try line and concentrated on quicker recycling of the ball I am sure we could have easily come away with a few deserved meat pies, but it wasn't to be.

With a bit of a shuffled back line, we seemed to lack any great pointed attack. As I mentioned to the boys after the game, individually they are more than competent players capable of great things but at the moment, we are just lacking creativity and aren't giving the ball carrier any options besides running next to him at a slight angle across field. We're better than that and need to put the excitement back into our plays!

Once again I was stopped after the game by a random spectator, and judging by his age and stature, must have been a current Manly senior player - anyway he had to tell me he wished, when he was U13 that he had the skills Randwick showed out there on the deck. The way our players were able to shift, crawl, roll and manoeuvre on the ground and the effective clear-outs, that ensured we maintained possession was extraordinary - and I happen to agree, this was definitely one of the best games our pack had played...individually (collectively we could use some work)

It was great to have our skipper, Ollie, back with us but best on the ground on Sunday was a new contender who stood out, even in a pack of forwards that was on fire, Oskar !!! He well and truly deserved all that accolades on Sunday, he was everywhere, cover defence, clear outs and probing ball carries and still only 2 seasons into his rugby career, he is one up and coming player to keep an eye on.

Best of luck on the weekend boys, unfortunately I can't be there but I hear Tas and Dave (actually it's an away game, so just Tas) is keen to have you boys fired up against the Penrith mob, can't wait to hear how you went.

Up the Wicks !!

U14 Whites v Newport won 15-10

Sunday saw the boys travel once again to the Northern Beaches this time to beautiful NEWPORT for this E Div game.

The rain had passed but the field was very muddy & wet. The plan was to keep it tight & rip in.

Right from the kickoff we knew we were in for an arm wrestle from a formidable foe. About 15 min into the game the Galloping Greens scored a try from some strong forward play. Taking the score to 5-0. Right on the stroke of half time NEWPORT hit back with a converted try & went into the break up 7-5.

Into the second half both teams lifted the intensity & physicality. Unfortunately for Newport they gave away a penalty which Ollie was able to kick. 8-7 Wicks.

Newport weren't done yet & fired right up at our boys. For a little while there I know how they must have felt at the Alamo. Nothing was going our way & Newport were able to take back the lead with a penalty. 10-8 Newport with about 2 mins to go. (By this stage the game had been going longer than Johnny Farnham's comeback tour).

After again pressuring our line, Newport made a mistake that saw the ball end up in Xavier (the saviours) hands. What a mistake that was. In true Randwick running rugby style, Xavier ran 75metres & scored under the black dot. Try converted Wicks 15-10.

You would think that was the end of it. Nope still time on the clock. Newport kicked off & were able to regather from a charge down. They just wouldn't give up. Lucky for us NEWPORT knocked the ball on about 5m from our try line & with the game clock just ticking over the 1hr mark.

Lot of work to be done at training this week but the boys have still kept their unbeaten season alive.

Full Time 15-10 victory to the Warriors.

Up the Wicks!

U14 Greens v Blacktown def 0-24 (A Div)

U15 v Petersham won 32-17

Torrential rain greeted us prior to kick off for this U15s A/B division game v previous B division front runners Petersham.

It was a little difficult to get the boys enthusiastic about this game on a cold and rainy day but to their credit they switched on from the kick off and took control of the game early. Petersham had some much bigger forwards who were effective at charging the ball up to the line and at the breakdown so the boys quite cleverly changed their game plan and only committed a couple of forwards to the ruck which gave us more numbers in the defensive line and we soon negated Petersham's forward dominance.

Our backs still wanted to spread the ball wide in true Randwick style despite the wet conditions which proved to be the difference with the backs scoring regularly throughout the game, some brilliant footwork and pace from centre Siteni Taukamo saw him run in 3 tries with another 2 tries to halfback Tom Martin and 1 to fly half Baxter Seinor. Final score Randwick 32 - 17

U16 Whites v Blue Mts won 29-7

Randwick Warriors U16's was at home at Nagle this weekend and came up against a big Blues Mountains team in this C Div match.

In what was, very muddy and wet conditions the Randwick Warriors forwards took the challenge up front and played tight, wet weather rugby. Baxter steered the forwards pack nicely with plenty of pick and goes that secured valuable metres through the middle. Hamish was first to cross the line with a well-executed line out and some clever pick and goes from Lachlan and Alfie.

From there the Randwick Warriors were able to successfully secure the breakdown and forward momentum through some hard-running from players like Benji, Jack, and Joe. This meant Charlie was able to get the ball on the front foot for his fast running backs like Giles and Numa who were able to take advantage of plenty of gaps in the backline and out wide.

A clinic performance from the Randwick Warriors White U16's which resulted in a comfortable victory in the end with plenty of tries from all players.

U16 Greens v Manly Vikings won 32-14

This week, 16 merry young Warriors turned up to a cosy little ground in leafy Seaforth looking to hang out with each other, play some good rugby and have a bit of fun. Warriors v Vikings, sounds like a good way to spend a Sunday.

After we scored first in the A Div match, the Vikings took the game to us and made some telling inroads until they spread it wide into the hands of our tight head prop, Joe Morris. An intercept! The crowd rose as one as Joe took his hamstrings to places they'd never been before and after 20 metres, Joe, the good footballer he is, started to look for support. It was our no 10, Rasharyn Marr, who appeared on Joe's left shoulder after weaving his way through 4 cover defenders, took the pass and ran 30 metres for a memorable try. Is there a better support player than Rasharyn?

Another try and it was 19 nil and the boys thought they were looking pretty. But the Vikings had other plans and 2 back to back tries gave the Warriors' coaches that very uncomfortable feeling as the score reached 19-12.

But then the Warriors really started to express themselves: a magic Rasharyn long ball to our flying left winger, James "Ricky" Elfes, to score in the corner for his second try; and then a super offload from stand in fullback, Klayton Thorn, to our no 9, Jack Harms, who accelerated, kicked long and won the race to the ball. Brilliant.

Six tries in all including two tries to Braydon Jang, our try scoring machine, and the boys walked away with another positive rugby experience.