



WARRIORS WEEKLY

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16 August
2019

President's Message

Last Sunday we had our Crazy Hair and Sock Day raising awareness and funds for children's cancer research. Thanks to all those who contributed, particularly to the boys who ran on the field wearing the crazy socks and special thanks to Mary-Anne Tanner for organising the initiative.

Congratulations to U15 B1, U16C and U16A who all finished minor premiers, and U14 E who were one point off first place. All teams play semi-finals this Sunday at Nagle.

Finally, congratulations to our wonderful players, managers, coaches and very supportive parents on such a wonderful season. See you at the Presentation Day on Sunday 20 October 2019, time and place to be confirmed.

Good luck this weekend.

Regards
Craig Bell
Randwick Warriors President

Randwick Rugby Colts (U20)

In the first week of the Finals last Saturday, both Firsts and Thirds progressed to the next round of the finals series, however Seconds lost and headed straight to Mad Monday.

Randwick Rugby Grade

Second Grade and Third Grade have progressed to the second week of the finals series.

Match Reports for 11 August 2019 – Round 14

U13 Whites v Easts draw 24-24

Still having the slightest of mathematical chances to sneak into the finals, the U13 Whites descended upon Nagle for their round 14 E Div match with Easts with focus and intent. Right from the kick off the forwards got stuck in and dominated their opposition securing good ball, which the backs used astutely. After about 5 minutes James Fragias continued his try-scoring ways with a 5 pointer from a pick and go at the end of good build up.

True to form all season, our lads then promptly took their foot off the gas allowing their big number 24 to run half the field untouched and score under the posts to go ahead 7-5. That may have been the wake-up call required as our lads quickly got back to work, cleaning out everything in sight in the forwards and running straight and with purpose in the backs, all culminating in a converted try to Dante Macri, putting us up 12-7 which is where the score sat at half time.

After the break Randwick came roaring out of the gates on a mission, with Oscar scoring 2 minutes in after a cracking run down the sideline. Dante added his second five minutes later and we were ahead 24-7. Against the run of play Easts scored to make it 24-12 which is where the score remained for the next 10 minutes. Maybe it was the imminent end of a long season, or maybe we just switched off, but unfortunately their big 24 came back to haunt us scoring two tries in the last 4 minutes and claim an unlikely draw.

Tough to be too upset though, for 46 minutes every single player put in maximum effort and played their best games of the season.

Points this week:

No points were awarded this week, as (last 4 minutes aside) it was a truly comprehensive team effort with every single player doing their job and doing it well.

Alas, no finals series for the Whites this year with a final record of 7 wins, 6 losses and a draw. However, for a bunch of boys who had never previously played together, and absorbed big injury tolls throughout the season, not a bad effort at all and one for all parents to be proud of.

U13 Greens v Manly Vikings def 0-50

Round 14 Vs Vikings

Result 50 nil to the Nords

This is the no-names report – I could just copy/paste from last week's report...and the week before that that the week before that ! The boys deserve credit or at least acknowledgment for the fact that they all turn up on the Sunday morning full of energy smiles and a can-do attitude for this A Div match, either they are extremely upbeat positive, optimistic lads who just love to be with their Randwick clubmates and have a crack or a forgetful like a bunch of Dory's,

because that energy gets us through the first 15mins and then the next 35mins must not make it to the hippocampus (long term memory - thanks google)

To summarise the season, it was most definitely 2 parts, B grade and the A grade. It's important to recognise that if we had continued in B grade we would most certainly be carrying on with inflated ego's based on delusions of grandeur by the way we were trouncing oppositions, in the last half of the season we were then confronted by the 'reality' of playing against physically developed opposition, that unfortunately has led to some of the boys experience self-doubt in their abilities. What is better ?? My honest opinion comes down to knowledge ! knowledge and learning trumps all, if we had not pushed ourselves through A grade then we wouldn't have known any of what we now know about opponents but more importantly about ourselves, so now we are position to see both perspectives and (I'm hoping) we can regroup through the off-season mend, learn and grow (dear lord) !

In the end my only hope is that the boys still enjoyed themselves through season and looking back...I know with this bunch of boys, having been tasked with trying to keep them focused when all they want to do is chat, joke, giggle and wrestle with each other, maybe being Dory's isn't so bad after all.

Get your academy enrolments in by Sunday !!

Thanks

Kurt, Tas and Dave

Ps. Noah you gave us a scare on weekend, we were all grateful to hear the that you were given the all clear (one name dropped but it was in the ps.!)

U14 Whites won v Hunters Hill on a forfeit

U14 Greens v Blacktown (A Div)

A group of boys travelled to Blacktown and, although they couldn't quite field the required numbers for a match, played an enjoyable friendly against the Scorpions to finish the season.

It was a tough year in A Division for this team with injuries and the general size and power imbalance presented by the opposition.

Hopefully the boys and parent group can regroup and recharge for a more competitive season next year in a lower grade. It is important for the boys and for the Randwick District that this talented group of boys continues on the pathway to Colts.

Cheers

Craig Bell, Randwick Warriors President

U15 won v Narrabeen 38-19

Randwick 38 won Narrabeen 19

The U15's went up against Narrabeen in this Div B1 clash at Nagle on Sunday.

We have had difficulty beating this team in the past as we have always seemed to be down on numbers but finally with a full strength team we went into the game with confidence.

That confidence was soon rewarded as the boys quickly got on top of the Narrabeen team in particular in the forward clash with the tight five constantly punching holes in the defence, which opened up opportunities to link up with the backs and before too long Josh Algie scored a good run away try. Two more tries to Oscar Morgan and Baxter Seinor saw Randwick move out to a 19 - 0 lead but Narrabeen struck back just before halftime to make it 19 - 7

The second half saw Randwick step up the intensity and sustained pressure by running with ball in hand allowing Tom Martin to go over out wide after good support play, another try from Narrabeen then one from Hayden Barton soon after from multiple phases brought the gap back to 12 but that only made our boys more determined to put the opposition away.

Some great skills from Ed Sullivan who caught a ball on the touchline that didn't go out from a penalty kick then threw a long pass to the outside backs who ran the ball back and some good backing up saw Sam Walsh go over under the posts. Narrabeen scored a late try but the game was well out of reach by then with our boys running out 38 - 19 winners.

There were some great performances with impressive tackling and strong forward runs from props Nicholas Mantoufeh and AJ Preketes as well as hooker Hayden Barton breaking tackles every time he took the ball into contact allowing him to link up with the backs to run through and around the Narrabeen defense. The team is hitting form at the right end of the season.

U16 Whites won v Wests 17-12

Randwick 17 V 12 Wests Buccaneers

We came into this final round C Div game at the top of the ladder facing a team who were at the other end of the scale and Wests played like they had nothing to lose. For the second week in a row our game was cut short due to an injury in the previous game so we had to make the limited 25 min time we had on the field count. 2 minutes in Vong Rath with some nifty leg work put our first 5 points on the board in a sweet spot for Charlie Worthington to convert. In the next 10 minutes Wests would score 2 tries of an intercept and some poor defence, converting 1 which put us in a position not reflecting the ladder as it stood. Wests were putting on some big tackles but we knew what we had to do and that was slow it down and concentrate on the game.

Good ball control and some positional kicking meant we kept field possession and took control. 7 mins remaining Slobodan Marjanovic burst over the line to get us to 12 all, we still had work to do. With 2 minutes to go our scrum half Jack Kearney took it through the middle with a 50m run and got us to within 3m of our try line, we recycled quickly and Hamish Caple gave us the final try of the game to get us in front.

Congratulations boys on finishing the season as Minor Premiers.

U16 Greens won v Blacktown 37-12

The day before this A Div game, most of the boys played in a school game and won 71-0. Fast forward to the first hit up of the Sunday game and one of our props was pumped into the Nagle

turf by 3 Blacktown defenders. Although our prop may not have realised it at the time, that tackle is why he plays club rugby: it's tougher, more competitive and so, makes him a better player.

We lost the toss as Blacktown kicked off with a stiff westerly behind them in this top of the table clash. This would certainly test our resolve. But these Warriors are good, like very good, and soon we made a long midfield break which was well supported by No 9 Klayton Thorn for our first try. We scored 2 more tries to no 10, Zac McConnell, and backrower/second rower Clem Halaholo, both players playing dominant roles for their team.

When we turned with the breeze in the second half, head coach was very very confident because he knew the boys would follow the game plan. Keep Blacktown down the Maroubra Junction end and suffocate them with defence. And our boys can really tackle let me tell you. Three more really good team tries followed based on our superior field position.

So, we finished U16A Minor Premiers and congratulations to the boys. They have come a long way from U13C, then U14B Premiers, and 4th in U15A last year. Based on a special bond and the love of the game, they have stuck together, and they have improved every year because of the amount of footy they have played and their dedication to training. Now for the Finals!