



## WARRIORS WEEKLY

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### President's Message

Welcome back to Club Rugby. I hope you had a chance to recharge the batteries over the holidays.

Last Saturday night we held our first Randwick Warriors Trivia Night at a packed Coogee Surf Club. The mood in the room was brilliant and just shows what a strong community club we are. Special thanks to Joe Craven (U13 Whites) who was the mastermind behind the night and put in an enormous amount of work to make the night a success. Definitely locked into the social calendar for next year.

Nearly all our teams will be at Nagle on Sunday 11 August, so that will be our annual Super Sunday where we support the Kids Cancer Project with a Crazy Hair & Sock Day. Details below.

Good luck to all teams this weekend

Regards  
Craig Bell  
Randwick Warriors President

### Crazy Hair & Sock Day

It's time to colour the Warriors from head to toe for the Kids Cancer Project!

We are asking players to go silly with socks to raise awareness and funds for children's cancer research by supporting **Crazy Hair & Sock Day on Sunday August 11**. Socks for the boys to wear during their game will be on sale through managers for \$15. Coaches, managers and supporters are asked to go bonkers with colourful bouffants and pop a gold coin in the fundraising tin. Funds raised by Crazy Hair & Sock Day go toward childhood cancer research to improve treatments and find a cure for the disease that kills more Australian children than any other.

### Randwick Rugby Colts (U20)

Had a bye last week. Play Norths this week at North Sydney Oval (no2) in a Super Saturday.

### Randwick Rugby Grade

Grade had a week off with a bye last week and play Norths at Norths Sydney Oval in a Super Saturda

## Match Reports for 28 July 2019 – Round 12

### *U13 Whites v Lane Cove def 10-26*

There were more than a few dusty heads among the spectators thanks to Trivia Night as we kicked off this early E Div Sunday game of footy against Lane Cove at Nagle Park. However, it appears the dustiest head of all belonged to the SJRU-assigned ref who helpfully chose not to show up. Without another option and in the spirit of getting the game in, coaches on both sides agreed to ref a half each and count the points. (Mental note: ref the 2<sup>nd</sup> half in future if the same situation arises....)

Lane Cove came into this game on a hot streak with some dominant victories so we suspected this would be a tough one, and the first 5 minutes of the match confirmed it. Our forwards were the dominant pack in the set piece and physicality, however missing our top two fetchers in Luca and James proved a burden as we gave up some cheap ball going into contact. After one such turnover, Lane Cove scored to go up 7-0. In good spirit though, our lads went straight up the field after kick off and finished with a try in the corner to Darby, putting the score at 7-5.

Unfortunately, over the next 15 minutes, despite completely dominating scrums, lineouts and the rucks that we got to on time, Lane Cove managed another two tries out wide, sending us into the half time break down 5-19.

At half time we advised the boys that we had them in the forwards and let's work it through the middle, get to the ruck, keep it away from their backs and no more spinning it out wide when on the back foot. Seems the boys got the message as after receiving the kick off the forwards proceeded to rumble up field about 50 metres over a series of about half a dozen rucks before Dante broke loose, sprinted the last 20 and scored a great try in the corner. Score now 10-19, game on.

The next 15 minutes we saw the game we had expected – two teams near the top of the ladder going toe to toe with neither side giving an inch. We had them in the set piece and the tight stuff, they had us in the loose and out wide, but neither side broke. Lane Cove spun the ball wide off an uncontested scrum and scored a try to go up 26-10. With the game now out of reach, our lads showed great resilience and character and continued to pound it up the middle, crossing the line in the final minutes, which was ruled as a dropped ball.

Lane Cove was the better team on the day and our boys now know what it will take to make any noise in this comp. With two games to play our equation is simple – win them both and we play finals footy, anything less and our fate lies with other results.

Points this week:

1 point to Lorcan Jones – in a forward-dominated contest scrapped for every bit of possession and made some solid darting runs

2 points to Peter – was a force in the tight stuff throughout with punishing runs and hits

3 points to Christian Elfes – played 10-15 minutes either side of half time and was the very definition of super sub, making an impact with big ball carries, work in the rucks and good tackling

### **U13 Greens v Rockdale def 7-50**

Nothing good happens in the Winter 3 week July school holidays.....(keep quiet skiers !) it's cold but doesn't rain, most families whilst appreciate the non-school routine mornings, work through the day only to come home to the set of Chernobyl at home, tax returns need to be done, the heater and Wi-Fi... (if you I may ostracise the mothers here for a moment) are more over worked than the best prop in second grade who plays his guts out for his team only to see the first grade prop get stretchered off from the opening kick-off ! anyway back on track, after the emotional highs of an away triumph against the Raptors we met the top of the table Rockdale team in our A Div match...and I blame the 3 weeks off for the loss.

I'm going to skip to the highlights here, Max VB constantly get in the face of the opposition and coming away with a face full of claret for his trouble, Will Tanner almost dancing his way through the defence on several occasions but alas for the last defender ! Callum the courageous (or outrageous) dismissed the 3 week hoodoo by once again playing out of his skin, he made more meters than anyone else but only because he did 23 pick-and-goes that made 5-6 meters all in behind the defence to keep our momentum and against a formidable pack Cooper 'Mad-dog' Habler was on another level, he came on from the bench and threw his body (and most of his soul) and the big Rockdale forwards to drop them. Play of the day, from our lineout (orchestrated all by the boys) they called a short lineout, secured the ball spread it to Seb who drew the opposition 5/8 wide, got on his outside shoulder and glided a ball to a flying Luca Cleverley who raced through the chasm created toward the try-line but needed an over the head pass to Tom FJ, for him to finish in the corner.... my Randwick friends: THAT is a team try !!! if you want me to explain how Rockdale scored their tries it was a single phase, their forwards running at/over/through our smaller players to score...

There was a near miss that broke our hearts though, if there was anyone more deserving of a try it would be Oliver Neate, (what's the saying always the bridesmaid never the bride) he is always right there when a try is scored and this time early in the game he finally got the ball in space shimmied around the defence to put the ball down in the corner but alas he was deemed to have shimmied too hard and found the touch line.

Once again we played some great rugby for most of the game but couldn't keep the intensity up for the entire 50mins, my only hope is that we learn to capitalise on the times that we do get some momentum, like when one of us make a big tackle (Tom FJ style) and instead of watching and congratulating him whilst standing on our heels, we jump to his support and drive

forward in the maul to finish the job, that is going to be how we are going to roll bigger teams i.e. lifting when needed and committing as a collective unit.

Bring on Round 13

Thanks

Kurt (stepping off his soap-box), Tas and Dave

### **U14 Whites v Easts def 20-27**

Sunday saw us travel to Woollahra Oval to take on our Local Derby foes in the E Div game.

The Wicks scored first after a few minutes of solid pressure but unfortunately that's as good as it got.

Easts scored 4x very quick tries due to our very ordinary defence & things were looking grim.

Just prior to half time we were able to close the gap a little with a good build up by the forwards that lead to a try.

Half time we were down 22-10.

The whites got a fair rev up at half time and were able to fight back with 2x good tries. Unfortunately our defence again let us down & East scored another easy try.

Final score 20-27. Lot of work to be done in the coming weeks

### **U14 Greens v Hills def 5-48**

### **U15 v Chatswood won 34-21**

The first game back from the holiday break saw the U15's head across the bridge to take on Chatswood in the B Div game.

The boys must have still been in holiday mode as they started the game slowly and were off the pace for the first 15 mins, Chatswood were full of running and their forwards were controlling the ball, this gave them the opportunity to run in 2 quick tries in that time. The Randwick boys got one back through some great individual running from halfback Tom Martin and some slick backline passing just before halftime saw centre Grant Stein stroll through a gap in the defence to score under the posts. Chatswood held a slim 2 point lead at the break.

The second half was a different story and the boys worked out what they had to do to take control of the game, the forwards decided to commit more numbers to the breakdown to ensure good quality ball for halfback Tom Martin to utilise our bigger faster backline, some

strong forward running from AJ Preketes throughout the game resulted in him scoring 2 tries in the second half.

The boys had the majority of possession and territory in the second half and restricted Chatswood to only 1 try. Sam Walsh was on the end of another backline raid and scored the final try of the game to ensure Randwick ran out 34 - 21 winners and secure confident that we have a team that can be successful at the right end of the season.

### **U16 Whites v Hills won 33-14**

We were a bit slow to get fired up after the holiday break but once we got going we started to look the goods in this C Div match.

A nice try assist from Charlie Worthington in the 12<sup>th</sup> minute saw Giles Provost score our first try between the posts. In the 18<sup>th</sup> minute Baxter Flynn tucked the ball under his wing at the breakdown launching himself over the defence and scoring our next try also in a good position for a conversion.

With our game cut short due to an injury on the opposition's side, we still had work to do. Hamish Caple took a quick tap 25m out upping our tally to 3 tries to 2. 29 mins in a great run down the wing from Jack Hassanein opened up Hills defence wide open and a superb pass back inside to Charlie Worthington in support who stretched our lead up 4 tries to 2. The icing on the cake was our final try from Jack Garratt scoring in the corner cementing our win for this round 12 game.

Big game next weekend boys where we need to pay particular attention to ball security. Keep up the good work.

Up The Wicks

### **U16 Greens v Camden won 45-10**

After we hosted Camden at Maroubra earlier in the year it was our turn to trek out to rural Camden for this A Div game. We saw our first cow after 53 minutes of driving so it wasn't too much of a trek really – thank goodness for the M5.

With injuries mounting, some of our players now playing First XV at school, the Rep season still upon us, and a strong Camden forward pack, a game in Camden loomed as a bit of a danger game for us. And throw in a traffic jam on the road into Camden caused by a tractor on fire for good measure!

So Head Coach of the Warriors was seen to be pacing nervously around the picturesque Camden ground an hour before the match interested to see which players would actually turn up. What Head Coach hadn't factored into the equation was the L Plate Factor! Clearly there

was an added incentive for Warriors to travel out to the game: no better way to clock up the required hours than a bit of time on the M5!

In the end we had the required 15 players and an assessment of the side during the warm up indicated that this was indeed a "quality side" such is the depth of the squad. And so it was as the Warriors played some brilliant football in first half passing the ball just wide of Camden's condensed defence leading to well taken tries under the posts by inside centre, Bradley King, prop forward, Joe Morris and no 7, Alex Elder.

Plenty of players were playing out of position: one of our forwards, Charlie Rich, had a barnstorming game on the wing and Klayton Thorn showed his versatility by playing this game at No 10 with precision passing, kicking and goal kicking. There were further tries in the first half: including fullback, Adar Barhaim and no 9 Jack Harms showing their speed to touch down. 40-10 at halftime.

Camden kicked off for the second half, and after we dropped the ball while running out of our own half, Camden spent most of the second half in our half. When we tried to run it out of our own half, we dropped the ball, which wasn't great viewing. That said, our defence was outstanding with the Warriors holding up Camden's big forwards over the tryline no less than 5 times to render Camden scoreless in the second half. Inspirational stuff.

With about 5 minutes to go, Clem Halaholo, our no 6 and consistently one of our best players, took his game to another level. It seems one of the opposition players really pushed his buttons causing Clem to really, really step up and make some enormous tackles to deny the opposition from scoring. Then with a minute left, Clem grabbed the ball, shook off 3 defenders and carried one over the line for a memorable try. All of his special attributes were on display in that 30 metre run including athleticism, strength and will to succeed. We are glad Clem is on our team.

Special mention this week to Ethan King, Klayton Thorn and Darcy Sullivan who showed great commitment and resilience to back up for a full game against a physical Camden after a full game for their school First XV at Queens Park the afternoon before.

Up the Wicks!