



THE REDBACKS NEST

Editorial #1 – April 2010

Greetings fellow Redback players, supporters and families and welcome to the first newsletter for 2010. Our intention is to have regular communication in order to keep you in the loop to what is happening at our club.

Contributions are encouraged and welcomed and we'll try to include everything that's fit to print. I will be so bold as to promise greater things as the year goes by. All help is welcome. If you have anything you'd like to have included.

Cheers

A Note from the President

As the commencement of the second season with me at the helm of this great Club is upon us, I might take a moment and share what we have achieved over the past year and where we are heading as a Club.

I would take this opportunity on behalf of the Players, officials and BRUFC faithfuls to say a heart felt thanks our key Sponsors Penrite Oil, OMG! Creative and Hilditch Oil Blends. Without your ongoing commitment and support we would have not had the backbone to tackle the challenges of both past and present.

The 2009 Season was full of huge challenges that I am pleased to say we tackled head on and in fact laid the "naysayer's" down and left them in our tracks. It was a year where we had to call on all of the history of our great Club and align the forces to ensure we were treated with the community respect that we deserved. Without dwelling on the issues the upside highlight successes were as follows:

- Inclusion in the VRU Premier One competition
- A Premiership for our Mighty Thirds
- Over 120 Players registered for senior Rugby
- Inclusion of a Colts team in the 2009 Competition
- The establishment of a true Sponsor program and the development of a sustainable financial platform for the Club
- The refresh of Committee and the establishment of roles and responsibilities that go with the appointment
- The refurbishment of our Club House
- A players reunion for all past players

- Respect for our past via the development of a Club History by Historian and Club Life member John Woodhouse

Throughout the year, and despite the some times desperate condition of our ground, we have served the Victorian Rugby community via

- Providing a training ground for the Victorian Axemen with open thanks by Axemen coach Josh Philpot
- Providing a training ground for Vic Rugby referees
- Providing our Clubrooms for Vic Rugby referees training

In all a sensational year. But there is still much to do!

This year our commencement platform is fiscally solid, totally reliant on Sponsorships, Functions of Importance and player registrations.

- Sponsorships: Key Sponsors of Penrite through the generosity of Brendan Bourke, OMG! Creative and the on going support from Peter Murphy and Hilditch Oils continue into their second year with the Club. We are also launching new platforms of philanthropic support namely

Redbacks 100 Club

Each member of Redbacks 100 Club will receive annually

- Redbacks 100 Club polo - Numbered
- One membership of the "Tankard Club" (see below)
- A "place at the table" at each of Presidents Luncheon during the course of the season:
 - Speakers and guests of significance
 - Featured home games of significance
 - Minimum of 2 events
- A "place at the table" at the Clubs annual Senior Presentation night
- Recognition on The Redbacks 100 Club page of the website
- Recognition on all sponsor documentation
- Exclusive One on One or Group session with Club Director of coaching throughout the season
- Season 2010 added incentive
 - A copy of the soon to be released best seller from John Woodhouse about the history of our club including recognition in the book

Cost per season \$500 including GST

The Tankard Club

- A Club tankard personally engraved with your name, preferred nickname and tankard club membership number and Tankard Club logo. Secured at the Club for your use.
- Tankard filled with beer or soft drink for your first drink any time you, The Tankard club member, attends the club rooms. Eg: training nights (when open bar), game days, feature events
- Recognition on the website.

Membership cost per season \$250 including GST

- Functions of Importance: In season 2010 we will continue with our theme of creating functions that have significant importance that we create BRUFC interest and in turn produce Club revenue. Our functions of Importance for this year are annotated in this newsletter.
- Player registration: It is our intent to try to create a club where registrations and subscriptions are Free of charge to players. We are some way apart from this dream at this stage but we are committed to get there. This can only happen when the revenue streams for the Club are solid and sustainable and that can only happen when players, families, officials and supporters are united on community effort that brings income. We will continue to work on this over the year.

Our playing ranks are expanding and we will continue to add players. In particular welcome the lads from the UK that have moved to Australia to develop their knowledge of international Rugby and have chosen BRUFC as their home boasting the playing ranks of our Colts team. Welcome boys!!

We have increased our investment in Coaching with Club favourite Mark Robinson heading the contingent as Director of Coaching. Changes at the highest level see Sone Sooaemalelagi as head Coach which has been welcomed and embraced by the senior squad.

And finally our position within the Rugby community continues to be well accepted as Victoria heads into a "Rebels Phase". We have been conditionally supportive of the VRU throughout this difficult phase, citing community Rugby relevance and endorsement as the underpinning for that support. I take this chance to publicly thank past VRU President Gary Gray for his leadership, tenacity, patience and drive over the securing of the Victorian licence, and on behalf of our club thank him for his stewardship and reconnection of Rugby forces within Victoria. Gary thanks!

I also take this chance to congratulate new VRU President Tim North on his appointment at last months AGM and offer an open invitation to BRUFC.

Yours in Rugby



Craig Lovett
President
BRUFC

Competition: We are searching for the right name for our newsletter and ask all to consider. Please forward your thoughts to the editor



First Home Game Vs Moorabbin Rams 24th April By Scott Baker

The first game of the season sees us up against the old foe - Moorabbin Rams for the Jack McDavitt Cup. Jack McDavitt was a life member of the Moorabbin Rugby Club and a devoted volunteer to Victorian Rugby, in particular the juniors. If it was one game Jack would have liked to win, it would be against Boroondara (Kiwis)!!

Of years gone by, the two clubs have had many hard fought battles, none more than last years 22 all draw. Grand finals, home and away games, there is never a dull moment when these 2 teams clash. This game should be no different.

Boroondara has been strengthened in the off season with the inclusion of several recruits, particularly in the back division which should see cover for injuries throughout the season and numbers have been promising with an average of 40 to every session.

Coaching Director Mark Robinson is excited about the clubs prospects "With the attendance at trainings and the quality of recruits that has added to the existing squad, there are no excuses this year and I'm excited about this first home game against Moorabbin which should be a cracker!!"

Moorabbin will be licking their wounds after bowing out in the Preliminary final in 2009 and will be looking to make amends for their failure last season. This game should provide the spark to kick-start their campaign. Moorabbin Coach Eric Tom Jnr said "Of years gone by, these 2 great clubs have played out some epic battles and I looking forward to another chapter in the clubs rivalry with kiwis and no matter where these teams are on the ladder, you can expect a close match"

Looking forward to seeing you there...

GO REDBACKS!!

Bakes

The Other Lifeblood of the Game! – Volunteers

I know you're wondering how it all happens. The line marking, the retail staff, the managers, the gear being organised. How does it work that all these things get done?

Well, the answer is that we all do it. The club needs everyone to put a shoulder to the wheel we love your subs, we love your playing and we love your vocal support but we need people to give us an hour or two here and there to make the whole thing work.

We NEED wives/mums/dads etc to dig in and help the club - this is where they can assist.

Juniors - Need Helpers for: Equipment Procurement/Distribution, Helpers for functions of importance, Committee Members, Junior Team Managers

Seniors - Need Helpers for: Team Managers, Canteen Volunteers & Manager, Field Set Up/Dismantle/Line Marking, Equipment Procurement/Distribution

Those of you who have not been assigned a task will need to email Mel Panteli on mellypanteli@hotmail.com.

Sponsorship 2010

Boroondara is fortunate in having some very generous sponsors this year. Our major sponsor is Penrite and our partner sponsors are "OMG! Creative" and Hilditch. Cleanevent are again on deck and the junior rugby of the club will be sponsored by Quick Access. In future issues of the newsletter we will be doing some profiles on our sponsors. Quite simply, club rugby is nothing without sponsorship and we are very grateful for the support of these great companies.



New Clobber

The 2010 jersey has been released (see below) and it is very schmick. More details on new merchandise including Jerseys, stubby holders, all playing accoutrements and pricing etc will be available soon on the club website.



Supporter Hoodies & Senior Team Jerseys

Club Supporters Jerseys - \$70
Shorts- \$25
Socks-\$12

Polo-\$35
Hoodie-\$55
Stubby Holder-\$10

Are Your Eyes Painted On?

While fly halves and prop forwards believe there would be no rugby without them, the truth is that there would be no game without referees. Like the tree of liberty, the tree of officialdom constantly needs to be refreshed by the life blood of volunteers. To this end the club needs to provide 3 people for a referee pathway program. This involves you doing a short 4 hour course then getting some groovy FREE referee clobber and refereeing a few very junior games (with help). At the end of this you will be able to go on to be a fair dinkum, you beaut whistle blower.

The two courses are coming up pretty quick and we need 3 candidates. You're not joining the foreign legion for 5 years by doing this; it's only a pathway course. You might even enjoy it!

The VRU will be running two courses:

- **Sunday 18 April** – Moorabbin Rugby Club, 12:00pm – 4:00pm
- **Sunday 2 May** – Footscray Rugby Club, 12:00pm – 4:00pm

The course has been reviewed from last year and slight modifications have taken place. Each participant will receive:

- A free of charge Course designed for starter referees, minimum age being 15 years of age – with handout resources being a Law Book, Smart Rugby DVD, Smart Rugby Booklet, and additional Referee information. At the completion of the Course, participants will be Smart Rugby Compliant and registered accordingly. Before a participant is appointed to officiate a match he/she must complete the online Law exam.
- A Green Polo shirt, navy blue socks, and a whistle – free of charge. The only item of uniform to be supplied by the participant is white shorts.
- Mentoring by a representative of the VRRRA- with assistance from the Home Club on each occasion.
- Competency based assessment, after five games, for accreditation as a Level 1 Referee.
- Cost reimbursement based on \$30 per competition game.

If interested send an email to chris.evans@vicrugby.com.au no later than **Thursday 15 April**.



Membership Packages

The “Redbacks 100” Club

The 100 Club has been a source of fantastic entertainment to rugby tourists the world over and at Boroondara we are no different. We believe that Redbacks 100 Club at Boroondara will prove to be just as rewarding during the course of the year. More importantly it embodies the true spirit of club rugby in the modern day and allows everyone to engage in a club that continues to give so many people so much enjoyment. Please read on and discover how you can support our great club.

We are looking for sponsors to get involved in what we believe are a unique club with a proud history and we want you all to be a part of it. **How it works.....**

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The Tankard Club

In keeping with having a social drink at your rugby club, and the fact that you want to make a contribution to the on and off field success, we have developed “The Tankard Club” for that purpose!

Everyone likes to have a drink with their mates at the club and what better way than to have a personalised tankard to share a cleansing ale or lemonade with your mates. The social aspect of our club is without doubt the ability to catch up with old friends and foes from playing days or to meet new people who share a similar passion for the greatest game of all.

To share a drink and reminisce on the “good old days”, stories of past conquests

and great rugby experiences, or to discuss the performance of the on field battle - what better way to spend a Saturday afternoon. **How it works.....**

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Get Out Your Diaries!!!!

Pencil them in, a range of important dates for games (both Junior and Senior) and all important club functions. Grab a pen and some whiteout. If you see something in your diary that clashes with a Boroondara event, well just whiteout over that wedding date! We must give a very special mention for the president's lunches. If you ain't getting muddy with the footy, get a seat booked. Get your mates and book a table.

- 10th April – Developmental Training Session (refer to Craig Barr or Michael Hawkins)
- 24th April – First Game of Season

- 22nd May - First President's Lunch

- 3rd July – Mid-Seasons President's Lunch
- Mid July – Under 16's match vs. Dermalon College from Canberra
- 31st July – Final President's Lunch – Match vs. Box Hill

- 1st August – Club Auction/family Day
- 7th August – Return to Kiwi's reunion for ex-players – Match vs. Moorabbin
- 21st August – Senior Club Presentation Night – Last regular season match vs. Power House

Junior Dates

1st May is the first competition game for the season for the juniors

24th April is the Junior 10s Carnival for the juniors where they play a round robin competition for the day

17th April is our only official practice match vs. Box Hill at Box Hill for the Under 12 – Under 14 - Under 16

2010 Draw – First 5 Rounds

As you will see from the junior dates above, there is not a formal draw for the next 5 weeks available at the time of going to print. Watch the website for updates as they come in.

For seniors, Premier 1, 2 and 3 are pretty well together. Note that when we play Southern Districts, their third grade side is Cerberus.

Week	Times Premier 1, 2, 3	Opponent	Venue
1. 24th April	Noon, 1:30pm, 3:10pm	Moorabbin	Boroondara
2. 1st May	Noon, 1:30pm, 3:10pm	Melbourne Uni	Boroondara
3. 8th May	Noon, 1:30pm, 3:10pm	Harlequins	Harlequins, Ashford
4. 15th May	Noon, 1:30pm, 3:10pm	Powerhouse	Powerhouse, Albert Park
5. 22nd May	Noon, 1:30pm, 3:10pm	Southern Districts	Boroondara