

# 2008: The Year in Review

Welcome to our year in review and thanks for being a part of Goulburn Rugby in 2008.

For the second year in a row, we have the honour of publishing this report as reigning premiers. It truly was a sensational year, and club president Matt Klem, Tablelands Reds coordinator Peter Greaves and first grade coach Matt O'Rourke have each supplied us with reports on the season that was.

Congratulations to all of the players who contributed to the great success of 2008 and also to the coaching staff - coaches Matt O'Rourke and Jeremy Hunt, managers Gary Stephens and Geoff Shepherd and strapper Anthony White - for keeping the players on deck and well prepared.

The recent grand final successes have certainly been sweet but there have also been great successes off the field. The names of the people who have helped with the ongoing growth and success of the Tablelands Reds, Fizzy Reds and Dirty Reds appear in the column to the right and so I won't list them all again here other than to say , as with most clubs, the consistent and often unacknowledged work of the few has greatly benefited all of us.

Two names, however, do deserve special mention - Matt Klem and Liz McLoughlin. Their ongoing efforts at every level of the club's operation continue to set the standard for others to follow. When jobs need doing, and no-one volunteers, it's to them that tasks often fall.

Matt sustained a career ending injury in 2008 (although we've seen a lot of comebacks in this club) but he still continued with a heavy workload that included ensuring junior rugby remains a club priority, along with the development of club facilities and amenities. Matt, along with his brother Scott, Greg Hucker and a cast of a dozen or more committed workers, played key roles in preparing the ground for it's opening back in 1996 and 13 years later, their work and vision will soon be rewarded with the clubhouse, due to open in 2009.

As with previous years, this book relies heavily on the efforts of two men - Gary Stephens and Peter Oliver. Stepho not only completes all the usual tasks of a manager with help from his assistant "Geoffro", but has also maintained playing records for each match since 1999 so that we have accurate statistics and records. And Pete, through his insightful match reports and the kind permission of the Goulburn Post, has supplied us with match reports for each match. Through no-one's fault, a few matches didn't see the light of day in the Goulburn Post but all of the points and other statistics have been recorded and appear in these pages along with best and fairest points and the results of the club's presentation night.

But there is no rugby club without the rugby family - the supporters, sponsors, fans, and tragics that give their time and money to follow and assist our great club. The club's success has been thanks to all of you. Once again, it has been a truly remarkable year for the club and we hope you enjoy reflecting on it with us.

**Chris Gordon** 

# **GRU Life Members**

John Bell
Bruce Bailey (dec)
Gordon Cabot
Nick Els
Bert Geissler (dec)
Win Healey (dec)
Greg Hussey
Kevin Kara
David Klem

Matthew Klem Dr Doug McCulloch Brian "Snow" Maloney



John Osmond Ken Player (dec) John Shiel Gary Stephens Terry Tilden Sam White

### **President**

Matt Klem

### **Senior Vice President**

Liz McLoughlin

### **Junior Vice Presidents**

Robbie Cosgrove Aaron Wild

#### Secretary

Peter Oliver

#### **Treasurer**

Paul O'Rourke

### **Publicity Officer**

Peter Oliver

### **Public Officer**

Terry Tilden

#### **Committee**

Gordon Cabot Bob Whittaker Rob Sheekey Peter Greaves Jack Cunningham Col Groves

#### Registrar

Liz McLoughlin/Gary Stephens

#### **Fizzy Reds Co-ordinator**

Jack Cunningham

### **Tablelands Reds Co-ordinator**

**Peter Greaves** 

#### **Fermented Reds Co-ordinator**

**Gary Stephens** 

#### Coach (1st Grade)

Matt O'Rourke

### Coach (2nd Grade)

Jeremy Hunt

## **Managers**

Gary Stephens Liz McLoughlin

## **Assistant Manager**

**Geoff Shepherd** 

### <u>Strapper</u>

**Anthony White** 

### **Grounds Marshall**

**Bob Whittaker** 

### **Website**

Chris Gordon

# **President's Report**

The following is the text of the speech given by Club President Matt Klem at the 2008 Presentation Night dinner

Good evening and welcome to the 2008 Dirty Reds Presentation Night. A special welcome to our life members, committee, supporters and players of the 2008 Premiership side. 2008 has been a scintillating and successful year.

Thanks to all the sponsors, our major sponsor being the Soldiers Club, a couple of others who are here tonight:

John Thomas from Blue Hills Corner Store Sam White Boyce Accounting

Without the support of our sponsors, clubs such as ours would not operate to level the Reds do. Along with all the other sponsors who are listed on the program, thank you again for your kind support, it is much appreciated.

### **Fizzy Reds**

2008 saw the Fizzy Reds return to Carr Confoy. With Jack Cunningham once again fulfilling the Presidents role.

Thanks to Jack and his team of willing volunteers for another fine job of organising and running a successful Friday night comp.

### **Tablelands Reds**

2008 was the third year for the Tablelands Reds. Congratulations to Peter Greaves, coaches, managers, players and supporter of the U18s, U16s and U14s.

The Under 16s were coached by Super Coach Jack Cunningham and Anthony Vitnell, and they tasted grand final glory when they took out their division in the ACT junior comp. Awesome result guys!

The Under 14's were coached by Smirk, Greg and Sam, and they narrowly missed out on their first premiership, going down in the grand final against Royals 15-10

The Under 18's had a strong year finishing 5<sup>th</sup> in their competition.

Once again well done to all of the Tablelands teams on a very successful season and we look forward to seeing you all back again next year.



Matt Klem and former first grade stalwart Ross Copland at Poidevin Oval watching the 2008 grand final

### **The Dirty Reds**

It was always going to be a tough ask to live up to the accomplishments of 2007 but look at what we achieved:

Monaro Club Champions Minor Premiers – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Premiers – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Another outstanding achievement claiming back to back premierships! Congratulation to all involved.

Thanks to Matt O'Rourke for taking on the 1<sup>st</sup> Grade coaching position again, it is a huge commitment that Chook has given to the club travelling from Canberra every training session, sometimes to find 10 blokes at training on a cold winters night. Well done Chooky.

Thanks also to Jezza - Jeremy Hunt - for putting in a strong effort with the assistant coaching role. He discovered just how frustrating it can be!

Thanks to "fingers" White for all your efforts throughout the year. Without Whitey 's talents many players would not be able to take the field each week, thanks for attending to our injuries on a week to week basis and advice. Thanks mate.

Thanks to Stevo for all of your hard work and continual commitment and support to the Dirty Reds throughout the year. Thanks also for compiling all of the stats for the season, once again, a great job! No doubt your McDonalds frequent flyer points would be worth a bit by now!! And standing by Stevo's side all year as usual, was Geoffro, Stevo's sidekick, and quality control officer for McDonalds. As always, it was a great effort from Geoffro who is our number one supporter and without Geoffro, the team would be in a drought. Well done Geoff.

Congratulation All of the Monaro players who were selected to play on the Country Weekend. A special mention must also go to Anthony Allport for being selected in the honorary team.

Thank you to all the players and supporters, for your commitment shown over the 2008 season.

Congratulations to all of the players in achieving another club championship. Second grade finished third and were unlucky, only to b knocked out in the preliminary final against Cooma. First Grade finished minor premiers for the second year in a row and won the major semi to secure another home grand final. After a hard fought game against Cooma, the Dirty Reds prevailed and claimed victory. A great club effort.

Thanks to all the helpers on the day, without your support it would not have happened. A special thanks to the guys on the BBQ and ladies in the canteen, one of our busiest yet. A special thanks to all the supporters that turned up on the day and throughout the season, it was appreciated and we know that you were all as excited in the Premierships as the players were. Another day to be remembered in Goulburn Rugby History!

#### **The Fermented Reds**

Have they retired or are they hibernating. Where have you been?? The Fermenteds supported the club well, we just hope to see them back on the paddock before long.

## The Rugby Ball

The Rugby Ball was another great night. 420 people attended to let their hair down, and they did. Thanks to the sponsors for their donations and memorabilia items for the auction.

Thanks to the Soldiers Club, Thanks to all of the helpers with setting up. Thanks to Sheekey for the MC. Thanks to the auctioneers, Nico, Nev and Joel, these four guys did an outstanding job, a credit to you all.

To Gordo and Pete, thanks for all your photography and filming for 2008. Gordo has done a splendid job in producing this magnificent DVD presentation of the Club games of 2008 as you have witnessed tonight. Gordo thanks also for your time in the canteen this season.

Due to me unfortunately breaking my ankle in the second game of the season, I was not mobile for part of the season. On a personal note, thanks to everyone for your help and overwhelming support during this time. It was very much appreciated.

Thanks to the committee;

Liz – Thanks for all your work as registrar from Junior to Seniors, work in the canteens, keeping me sain, and all of work behind the scenes. Thanks mate.

Col – Canteens and the book of knowledge on the constitutions.

Chooky senior – The GST and cash man, I have a few bills to present on Monday mate.

Bob – The ground marker marshal Bob did another superb job. Always there to lend a hand and keep the yahoos in control.

Cossy – First Grade premiership player, thanks for all you do at Friday night juniors canteen, watering the ground and always there to lend a hand.

Tetley – The ghost, he must have been somewhere with the Fermenteds... Thanks for your help mate.

Kev, Greavsey, Sam and Jack – Fizzy's through to Senior's always there to lend a hand and senior guidance throughout the Club.

Newby – The serial pest, First grade and Club Captain, Well done on another successful year mate.

To the committee, thanks for an outstanding year. It is a thankless job, once again thanks for your efforts this year.

Last but not least, to my family, Trudi, Zach and Toby, thanks for allowing me so much time to give to this great Rugby Club.

As President for 2008 it is a year not to be forgotten.

Another Premiership, a great bunch of blokes to play and watch footy with, and, The Dirty Reds family.

Thanks for the season. Enjoy your night.

Matt Klem

# **Tablelands Reds Report**



2008 was a very successful year for Junior Rugby in Goulburn. We raised three junior teams this year with the U16s premiers and the U14s grand finalists.

The 14s this year were coached by Ian McIntosh and assisted by Greg Turnbill. The team manager was Sam White. The side as for previous years was a combination of age groups and consisted of 20 players - 6 of them eligible for U13,s. They played in a ten team second division competition, playing against a mix of private schools and club sides.

The 14s played well above their weight all through the season and finished the competition rounds in second place behind Royals. Their Grand Final was played at Canberra Stadium, once again against Royals, and were unfortunate to go down to 15 to 10 in a hotly contested but very wet Grand Final that the boys will long remember.

The 16s also had a mixture of players with half the side eligible to play in the U15s competition. They were coached by Jack Cunningham and assisted by Anthony Vitnell and Evan Dougall. The Managers this year were Helian Foreman and Annette Ohlbeck. The 16s had 7 teams represented within their third division competition and they finished the competition rounds as Minor Premiers.

The Premiership round was played at O'Connor against Daramalan in a thrilling Grand Final win to Goulburn. Scores see-sawed until the end of the match, where both sides found themselves locked together in a draw. The deadlock was only broken when Goulburn was awarded a successful penalty kick in the last minute of play.

The U/18s had a tough start to the season with the loss of eight players, four scalped to the Queanbeyan Club, one to Crookwell Seniors, one to Taralga Seniors, one to the Goulburn Seniors and the loss of Ben Rabjohns through injury during his representative duties. However we managed to maintain corps of eighteen players and put a side on to the paddock every week.

The 18's attended the preseason training with the senior club and this proved to be a very positive step in the bonding process and blooding of players for their step up into the senior grades. They were coached and managed by Peter Greaves and assisted by Kevin Kara. They played in an 11 team, second division competition and finished eighth on the table.

In closing I would like to congratulate the U16 team and Jack Cunningham in particular for winning their Grand Final, and all players who were selected for representative duties.

I would also like to thank all the coaches and managers who do a fantastic job with the training and organising of teams, quite often a thankless and ownerless task, generally carried out by the same people year in and year out.

Thanks also to the Goulburn Rugby Club and in particular the Committee for their support throughout the season.

Yours in Rugby

Peter Greaves Coordinator Tablelands Reds JRU Coach U18s

# Coach's Report

# The following is the text of the speech given by First Grade Coach Matt O'Rourke at the 2008 Presentation Night dinner

The ongoing success of the club must be recognised as an excellent club effort. This was perfectly Illustrated with the 11 reserves who made themselves available to sit on the bench during the grand final, the guys in the canteen, those who set up and pack up the field, sweep out change rooms, and of course the supporters, wives, children, girlfriends, parents, former players can all take some credit and satisfaction for the success of the club this year.

Gary Stephens, Anthony White & Geoffrey Shepherd were once again unfailing in their roles. The sacrifice they all make is another one of the vital cogs that keep a club moving forward. Having seen some of the highs and lows over the years it is only appropriate these guys share in the success of the current team who will also fall back into the history of the club and make great conversation in years to come.

Bob Whitaker in setting up the ground sets the scene for successful Saturday afternoons at Poidevin Oval. Bob, in his typical unselfish manner gets the ground set up before spending the remainder of the afternoon keeping the place in order and repeatedly asking enthusiastic coaches, reserves and some supporters to stand behind the rope as we are required to do. Thanks Bob, the Reds wish yourself & Holly all the best with your upcoming marriage.

Anthony Allport, had a fantastic game for the grand final and was probably a lineball decision for man of the match. The grand final was his last for the club and his performance was a great way to farewell the club, demonstrating the quality player he is. Congratulations to Anthony and Stacey on their recent engagement and I'm sure the club wishes them a long, happy & healthy future together, your energetic presence will be missed around the place.

Matt Klem's final game as a player was an unfortunate way for a player of his calibre to leave the game. His reputation as a quality player has been well known throughout the competition for many years. His contribution as a club man is without peer and the club will continue to benefit whether he is on or off the field.

Dave "Jack" Anable and the "old grey mare" Geoff "Shermo" Caldwell continue to set a great example to most of those younger than them with their high standard games and unfailing dedication to the team. They both have been crucial parts of the team and will leave a large void when and if they decide to call it a day. I hope they continue as the club is much richer for their involvement.

Robbie Cosgrove had to deal with not running on in the starting team for the grand final, circumstances that all players would dread. As a coach these decisions aren't easy make as I'm aware of the effort and contribution Robbie made all year. Robbie must be commended for the grace in which he took the decision. His work for the club is tireless, in setting up the ground and cleaning up the

change rooms long after most have left for home or the club. His contribution to the team must not be lost simply by him not running onto the field.

The team itself had it's own challenges throughout the season, losing 6 players from last years successful team, doubling up to fill the holes in seconds on occasion and a lack of consistent competition throughout the season made it difficult at times to develop a game plan. Despite these challenges, we were still able go through the season with only suffering one loss to Cooma, fortunately the guys shook themselves down & regrouped to put together their best performances in the latter pat of the year, culminating in the hard fought grand final win, I'm sure you will all agree it was a more satisfying win than the 55-0 result of the previous year.

Seconds by and large had a disappointing year, with some glimpses of better things. The lesson for seconds is you must prepare for games to be successful and whilst you are continually short at training you will come up short on Saturdays. Seconds are the foundation of the club by giving the essential depth required for success. This was evidenced by the 6 or so players coming up from last years seconds grade team to contribute to the success of this year's first grade team. On a positive note, the numbers were stronger later in the season and they were able to match the two teams in the who appeared in the second grade grand final. I hope these guys turn up at for another crack next season and deliver some of that promise which is sitting just below the surface.

I believe it is important for the club members strive to maintain the current strength of the club. Recent premierships, the ever evolving junior competition, and the expansion of the facilities of Rugby Park place the Dirty Reds as the outstanding sporting club in town. This doesn't happen just because we think it should, it is the culmination of much hard work, most of which is unseen. This includes turning up at training and doing things over and over again, so when the game day comes, most of the mistakes are left behind on Tuesday or Thursday night so those vital tackles are made or passes caught.

This year was particularly satisfying for me for a number of reasons, foremost by having my beautiful daughter Cate. I must acknowledge the massive contribution from Helen who allowed me to coach this year, meaning her Tuesday, Thursday nights and Saturdays were taken by looking after our daughter while is was at Rugby. I now fully understand the massive effort this takes and I thank you sincerely for allowing me to continue my involvement with the Dirty Reds.

To all the wives and girlfriends who gave your valuable time to allow the guys to get to rugby week in & week out, I extend my thanks to you all and hope the club continues to provide a source of enjoyment to players and supporters alike.

# **Season Draw 2008**

<u>20</u>	00	8 FIRST	DIVISION	<u>1</u>	Final Draft
			Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
				7-Jun Comp Bye	
			3-May	14-Jun	19-Jul
Tugg/Royals Cooma Goulburn	v v	Yass Hall/West Bye	Phillip Cooma	Yass Hall	Tuggeranong Cooma
			10-May	21-Jun	26-Jul
Hall/West Cooma Tugg/Royals	v v	Goulburn Yass Bye	Goulburn Yass	Hall Cooma	Goulburn Yass
			17-May	28-Jun	2-Aug
Goulburn Tugg/Royals Yass	v v	Cooma Hall/West Bye	Cooma Hall	Goulburn Tuggeranong	Cooma Aranda
			24-May	5-Jul	9-Aug
Goulburn Yass Cooma	v v	Tugg/Royals Hall/West Bye	Goulburn Hall	Tuggeranong Yass	Goulburn Hall
			31-May	12-Jul	16-Aug
Tugg/Royals Goulburn Hall/West	v v	Cooma Yass Bye	Phillip Yass	Cooma Goulburn	Phillip Yass

Finals Series Dates: 23rd, 30th August & 6th September

# **Season Match Results 2008**

# **FIRST GRADE**

Round 1	3/05/2008		ВУЕ				
Round 2	10/05/2008	Home	Goulburn	26	def	Hall	5
Round 3	17/05/2008	Away	Goulburn	17	def	Cooma	15
Round 4	24/05/2008	Home	Goulburn	57	def	Tuggeranong	0
Round 5	31/05/2008	Away	Goulburn	19	def	Yass	15
Round 6	14/06/2008		ВУЕ				
Round 7	21/06/2008	Away	Goulburn	31	def	Hall	0
Round 8	28/06/2008	Home	Goulburn	27	def	Cooma	5
Round 9	5/07/2008	Away	Goulburn	45	def	Tuggeranong	0
Round 10	12/07/2008	Home	Goulburn	42	def	Yass	7
Round 11	19/07/2008		ВУЕ				
Round 12	26/07/2008	Home	Goulburn	39	def	Hall	5
Round 13	2/08/2008	Away	Goulburn	7	lost to	Cooma	12
Round 14	9/08/2008	Home	Goulburn	83	def	Tuggeranong	0
Round 15	16/08/2008	Away	Goulburn	59	def	Yass	0
Maj Semi Final	23/08/2009	Home	Goulburn	32	def	Cooma	17
<b>Grand Final</b>	6/09/2008	Away	Goulburn	17	def	Cooma	10
			FOR	501		AGAINST	91

## **RESERVE GRADE**

Round 1	3/05/2008		ВУЕ				
Round 2	10/05/2008	Home	Goulburn	19	def	Wests	12
Round 3	17/05/2008	Away	Goulburn	14	drew with	Cooma	14
Round 4	24/05/2008	Home	Goulburn	5	lost to	Royals	69
Round 5	31/05/2008	Away	Goulburn	10	lost to	Yass	17
Round 6	14/06/2008		BYE				
Round 7	21/06/2008	Away	Goulburn	19	lost to	Wests	22
Round 8	28/06/2008	Home	Goulburn	12	lost to	Cooma	39
Round 9	5/07/2008	Away	Goulburn	7	lost to	Royals	64
Round 10	12/07/2008	Home	Goulburn	26	def	Yass	0
Round 11	19/07/2008		ВУЕ				
Round 12	26/07/2008	Home	Goulburn	55	def	Wests	7
Round 13	2/08/2008	Away	Goulburn	15	def	Cooma	13
Round 14	9/08/2008	Home	Goulburn	5	lost to	Royals	8
Round 15	16/08/2008	Away	Goulburn	14	def	Yass	12
Min Semi Final	23/08/2008	Home	Goulburn	26	drew with	Yass	26
Final	30/08/2008	Home	Goulburn	3	lost to	Cooma	17
			FOR	230		AGAINST	320

Saturday, 10 May 2008

# Reds stand and deliver against Bushrangers

THE Goulburn Dirty Reds' victory song rang out twice across Poidevin Oval on Saturday, with both grades making a successful start to their title defences.

The Reds ran in four tries in their 26 -5 win over the Hall Bushrangers, earning their first bonus point of the season. The win was also built on the tenacious, scrambling defence that became the Reds' trademark last season.

It took a while for the Reds to blow the rust away with the ball often going through the hands before some poor finishing saw some wasted opportunities.

The constant pressure on Hall's defence saw them stretched once too often in the corner, with winger Jay Butler opening his account for 2008. Mikael Webber added the extras for a 7-0 lead.

The momentum swung back in Hall's favour, applying plenty of pressure, but the Reds' defence on their own line was stoic, constantly turning over Hall ball at crucial moments.

The match became a real arm wrestle, with Webber crossing the Hall line, only to be held up. Number 8 Ben Pearson scooped the ball up from the scrum, ran the blindside and offloaded to scrumhalf Jeff Caldwell, who strolled over untouched.

Webber made a big break down the left flank before the scrambling Hall defence managed to catch up. However they couldn't stop fullback Dean Thompson crashing over in the corner a few rucks later.

The pressure obviously became too much for the Bushrangers, with their number 19 earning an early shower after racing in to punch one of the harder Reds' heads on the field during a maul.

Nathan Hewett showed why he was selected in first grade after busting

himself during the preseason, with a streamlined Hewett making several incising runs through the Hall backline. A break down the middle of the paddock saw Hewett put through a gap and he raced away to score under the sticks for the Reds final try.

Hall crossed for a late consolation try right on full time to take the score to 26-5.

Young flanker Ben Moore made a successful step up to first grade, earning his first best and fairest award. The Reds will be better for the hit-out, which blew the preseason cobwebs out and should see them primed for a second win next week.

Goulburn Dirty Reds 24 (Caldwell, Butler, Hewett, Thompson tries; Webber 2 conv) bt Hall 5.

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The Reds' second grade side also opened their account against Wests, notching up a confidence-boosting come from behind 19-12 win.

The Dirty Twos trailed 12-0 at the half time break, with the afternoon heat taking the sting out of both sides. The half-time chat from coaches Matt O'Rourke and Jeremy Hunt reminded the players of the game plan, and the

Reds came out firing in the second half.

Fielding a large, powerful, but less then mobile pack, the Reds utterly dominated the Wests scrum, constantly pushing them backwards. The front row of Matt White, Jordan Chandler and Aaron Wild were superb at the set piece, and could form a very formidable combination as the season goes on.

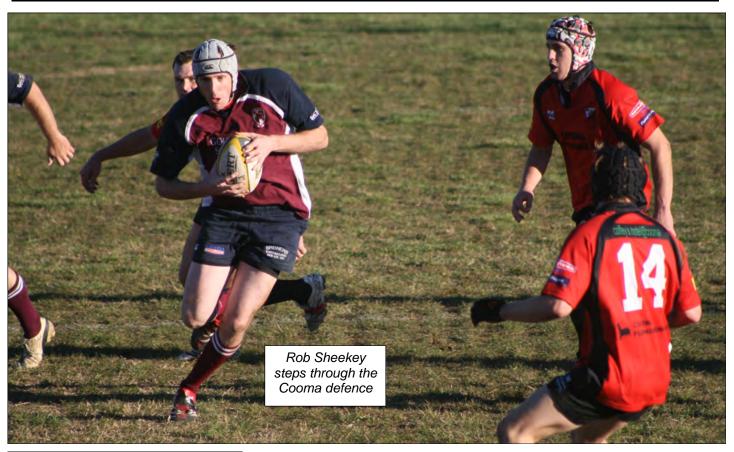
Chandler was outstanding in a man of the match effort, constantly hitting the ball up and bending the Hall line backwards.

Wests elected to take uncontested scrums, allowing the Reds to take the quick tap instead of being awarded a scrum, but some poor handling and decision making means the Reds were unable to build up some phase play.

Tries to the evergreen Jeff Caldwell, Jay Butler and the rampaging Chandler in the second half put the Reds in front, where they held on for a scrappy win. Both sides will board the bus and head down to the high country to take on the Cooma Red Devils next Saturday.

**Dirty Twos 19** (J Chandler, J Caldwell, J Butler tries; J McPherson 2 conv) **bt Wests 12.** 





Round 3
Saturday, 17 May 2008

# Reds remain unbeaten but at a massive cost

IT was tough, torrid and tense, but the Goulburn Dirty Reds managed to keep their unbeaten streak alive against the Cooma Red Devils. But the loss came at a cost, with fly-half Matt Klem breaking his ankle in the first half, requiring surgery to insert pins and a plate.

The win wasn't sealed for the visitors until the final minutes, when the Reds' scrum barged their way over the line and a scrambling Chris Kilby dived on the ball to overtake Cooma and secure the victory.

Cooma got on the board first with a penalty, but the Reds hit back through Mikael Webber to get a 5-3 lead. Martin Browne then came on to replace the injured Klem, with Webber moving infield.

It was torrid stuff out there, with both sides having a crack, with the Reds throwing the ball out-wide and the play would break down. One of these mistakes led to a Cooma try, with the Red Devils scooping on the loose ball and countering, throwing it wide and going through some flimsy defence to score.

Captain Anthony Allport urged his team to dig deep, but it wasn't enough as Cooma crossed again.

The real battle was at the breakdown, with Cooma constantly killing the ball and slowing down the Reds' play. The referee eventually had enough of this, yellow carding the Cooma blindside flanker on the Reds line.

From the tap young tighthead prop Dave Hook powered over the line next to the post for his first Dirty Reds try. Hook had to leave the field with a leg injury afterwards and was replaced by the experienced Ben Pearson.

Goulburn players were baffled by decisions made by the referee, including ruling Webber held up over the line after he had grounded the ball. But from there the Reds scored the final, match-winning try. Goulburn ran down the clock until the final whistle, earning a character-building victory.

Goulburn Dirty Reds 17 (D Hook, C Kilby, M Webber tries; M Webber conv) bt Cooma 15.

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Second grade was equally as tense, coming away with a 14-all draw against Cooma.

Hard-running second rower Justin Benn scored a bustling double to keep the Reds in the game, with young half-back Joel McPherson kicking both goals. McPherson slotted one conversion from wide out into the teeth of a powerful gale.

Ben Pearson earned a 10 minute rest for brusquely brushing away a Cooma player's arm during a maul, with the Red Devils' player also shown the yellow card after taking exception.

Cooma eventually over-ran the Reds after injecting several first grade players into the game, with one scoring what turned out to be the levelling try.

McPherson had a chance to kick a penalty to win the game for the Reds, but the howling gale carried his tough attempt wide as the final whistle blew full time.

**Dirty Twos 14** (J Benn 2 tries; J McPherson 2 conv) **drew with Cooma 14.** 

# Round 4 Saturday, 24 May 2008

# Two hidings at Poidevin Oval

THERE were two good old fashion hidings dished out at Poidevin Oval on Saturday afternoon.

In first grade the Goulburn Dirty Reds hammered last year's grand finalists Tuggeranong 57-0, with Mikael Webber and new fly-half Jay Butler notching up hat-tricks.

The Reds showed plenty of confidence to throw the ball wide on a day perfect for attacking rugby, and backed this up with some tremendous support play.

They showed intensity at the breakdown, providing the backline with plenty of clean ball.

The Reds posted points early and never relented, with plenty of straight, strong running. Ben Green lead the way from each kick off he received, pinning his ears back and throwing himself into the Vikings' defence.

The Reds never allowed the pressure to lift off the Vikings, who never seemed to have the numbers needed in defence.

Fullback Dean Thompson made a solid bust down one side and threw the ball out to Martin Browne, who flicked it back into Thompson before he was brought down just short of the line. From the scrum the Reds number 8 Chris Kilby went the blind side and pushed himself over.

The Reds kept their expansive game going with Butler launching a wide ball from a lineout to Robbie Cosgrove on the wing. Cosgrove powered over the line, but couldn't get the ball down and managed to palm the ball off to Butler who fell over the line to extend the lead to 24-0.

The biggest cheer of the day was saved for the next try.

The Reds threw the ball through the hands out to hooker Anthony Allport outwide, who put the foot down and sprinted to the line. The cover defence came across and Allport offloaded to big Dave Anable who rumbled over the line untouched.

Goulburn Dirty Reds 57 (Webber 3, Butler 3, Kilby, Allport, Anable tries, Webber 5, Allport con) def Tuggeranong 0.

Sadly for second grade, it was a different story in their grand final rematch against Royals.

Second grade took the field one man short and were never in the game, conceding 11 tries in a 69-5 hammering.

Andrew Tivey was a standout on the wing with some strong runs while scrum-half Joel McPherson showed some fine vision to spin the ball out wide under pressure.

The Reds' only try came after they managed to string some phase play together and pressure the Royals line. Lock Dougie Webster managed to burrow himself over the line from close range to get the Reds on the board.

Royals 69 def Goulburn Dirty Twos 5 (Doug Webster try).



Saturday, 31 May 2008

# **Tight Win over Rams**

### By ALLISON REDMAN

A FLAT second half performance almost proved costly for the Goulburn Dirty Reds on Saturday as Yass staged a late comeback.

With three tries apiece, the difference came down to the goal kickers. While Goulburn's Mikael Webber managed to convert two of the Reds' tries, Yass were unable to convert any over their chances.

The Reds played an expansive brand of football to start the match, switching the ball from right to left and making use of their wide runners.

It wasn't long before Goulburn posted first points, with Dave Anable rumbling over from close range after five minutes.

While Goulburn had early dominance over their opposition Yass was struggling to maintain possession with the Reds regularly forcing turnovers.

Unfortunately the Reds were unable to convert their sustained pressure into points with several tryscoring opportunities going to ground. Despite this, the Reds were next to score through Webber after good support play. Joel McPherson split through the Rams' defensive line and found Webber in support to score.

At 12-0 the Reds were looking comfortable against their opponents, who heading into the match, have yet to win this season.

But Yass, to their credit, fought back into the game with some enterprising play. A long kick into space almost paid dividends for the side, but Jeff Caldwell covered the play well to put the ball into touch.

Shortly after, the home side finally managed to put points on the board through a long range



It wasn't long before the home side was on the board through a long-range effort from Will Grogan. Grogan ran 50 metres to score in the corner and narrow the gap to 12 -5 at the break.

The Reds came out strongly to start the second half and were rewarded with an early try. The ball was spun wide from a maul, eventually reaching Webber, who jinked and weaved past several Yass defenders to score.

After the try the game degraded into a sloppy affair with both sides displaying poor ball handling and simple errors. The majority of the half was a quiet affair with neither side able to gain an advantage, until the final 10 minutes.

Yass began to get some phase play together in the late stages of the game and crossed for the first of their second half tries.

Shortly after they were in again after a short chip over the Reds'

defensive line was cleanly regathered by Luke Donnelly.

At 19-15 Yass could sniff a potential win and lifted their intensity even further. The Reds were struggling to contain the Rams forward thrust and a penalty in the final minute was no doubt a relief as the clock wound down for the Reds to keep their unbeaten streak alive.

Goulburn Dirty Reds 19 (Mikael Webber 2, Dave Anable tries; Webber 2 conversions) def Yass Rams 15.

In second grade, the Dirty Twos were unlucky, going down 17-10 in a close contest.

The Dirty Reds now have twoweeks off due to the long weekend and a bye. Their next game will be June 21 against Hall/Wests away.

Yass Hoggets 17 def Goulburn Dirty Twos 10 (B Pearson, A Allport tries).

Saturday, 21 June 2008

# **Bushrangers held up**

A BRACE of tries by Nathan Hewett has seen the Goulburn Dirty Reds extend their lead at the top of the Division One table.

The Reds comprehensively downed the Hall Bushrangers 31-0 on Saturday, earning yet another bonus point win.

The first half was a fairly dour affair, with Mikael Webber and Jeff Caldwell getting on the board after some solid build up work by the Reds' forwards.

Ben Pearson, filling in for the unavailable Anthony Allport, was unlucky not to score himself following a trademark run close to the line. Webber got the ball from the ruck and crossed the line to improve the conversion for himself.

Caldwell's try was another solo effort, with the scrum half's legs still showing plenty of grunt after filling in for second grade, taking the Reds to a 14-0 lead at the break.

The second half was an explosion of action. Captain Boyd Newby managed to barnstorm his way over, while Hewett showed a bit of toe to

finish nicely in the corner for his two tries.

Benny Moore again showed that he's not afraid to roll the sleeves up and do the dirty work in another standout performance. Moore was a pest at every breakdown, and Hall's frustration at him showed when one of their flankers lost his cool and put on a stink.

The quick break in play seemed to fire the Reds up, who appeared to lift in intensity. Big Dave Anable looked like he'd been inspired by The Incredible Hulk and got angry, smashing any Hall ball runners stupid enough to run in his direction, while Ben Green was typically brusque in attack, charging like a wounded bull into the defence all day.

It wasn't all smooth sailing for the Reds though, with the referee penalising them at nearly every scrum in the second half. However, some determined defence meant that Hall was unable to capitalise on this. In the end the Reds' class was far too much for Hall, who ran out of puff.

Goulburn Dirty Reds 31 (Hewett 2, Webber, Caldwell, Newby tries, Webber 3 con) def Hall 0.

In second grade the Dirty Twos went

down narrowly to Wests, 22-19.

Led by Andrew Ginn, who has returned from Sydney rugby, the fastfinishing Reds were unlucky not to overhaul a tiring Wests outfit.

The game was a real arm-wrestle in the opening exchanges, with neither team getting any momentum. Wests broke the game open with a couple of quick tries through some brittle Reds defence to lead at the break.

But the Reds struck back in the second half, which they dominated.

Nathan Hewett's first try for the day was a strong solo effort, with Hewett swerving, verving and stepping down the sideline to score in the corner.

The next try was a result of a bit of luck, when Pete Oliver forgot to lift in the lineout, but somehow managed to come down with the ball. From the ruck the Reds spun the ball out wide and Ginn cut a swathe through the Wests defence to score.

Ginn scored again later in the match, but it wasn't enough to secure a much needed victory.

Big Justin Benn revelled in the front row, constantly destroying the Wests scrum and wheeling it around, while Adam Marshall found himself off the wing and into the pack after Doug Webster suffered an ankle injury.

Hall 22 def Goulburn Dirty Twos 19 (Ginn 2, Hewett tries, Gray 2 con).

It' will be a full day of rugby this Saturday at Poidevin Oval, when first and second grade take on the Cooma Red Devils.

The day will begin at 10.30am, when the Under 14s Tablelands Reds take on Royals.

This will be followed by Under 16s against Marist at 11.30am, before the local derby of Under 18s Tablelands taking on Trinity at 12.30pm.

Make sure you get out to Poidevin Oval for a sensational day of rugby, and watch the up and coming talent of Goulburn Rugby on show.





Round 8
Saturday, 28 June 2008

# Dirty Reds stake their claim

The Goulburn Dirty Reds have asserted themselves as the team to beat in the Monaro Division, with a dominant second half display against the Cooma Red Devils. The win sees them skip well clear of the second placed Cooma and a home semi final becoming a reality.

The top of the table clash promised plenty, but it was a dour first half, peppered with half chances and solid defence. The Reds threatened to crack the Cooma defence several times in the first half, but a lack of quick ball often saw these breaks turned over.

The Reds were strong at the set piece, holding their own in the scrum and at times wheeling the Cooma pack.

Cooma had the early intensity at the breakdown, often beating the Reds to the pill or blowing them back off the ball.

The Reds weathered the early Cooma storm, and Webber slotted first points after Cooma were pinged

for being offside.

Anthony Allport tried the referee's patience once too often, and had a 10 minute break for repeat infringements at the breakdown.

Taking a 3-0 lead into the break, it seemed like the game could still go either way. But running down hill in the second half worked wonders for the home side, who piled on four tries to blow Cooma clean off the park.

Goulburn came out firing, earning an early penalty in the second stanza. From the lineout Chris Kilby took the ball off the top and flicked it down to a rampaging Boyd Newby, who was impossible to stop from short range. Webber took too long over the ball and had the conversion charged down for an 8-0 lead.

By now the floodgates had opened and Cooma couldn't withstand the tidal wave of the Reds' attack.

It didn't take long for the Reds to cross again, with a poor clearance kick by Cooma allowing Jeff Caldwell to run the ball down the sideline.

A quick offload to Nathan Hewett saw him draw and hit the winger, before popping the ball up to young prop David Hook, who barged over in the corner. Webber added the extras to extend the lead to 15-0.

The Reds' set piece again set the platform for a try, rolling the maul from the line out and Allport got over in the corner for a 20-0 lead.

The Reds complemented their attack with some ferocious defence, with Dean Thompson often rushing out and putting on a big first hit.

Webber experienced a big hit himself as he scored the try from a backline move. He was belted into next week with a late shoulder charge as he grounded the ball under the posts. The Cooma player was forced to cool his heels on the sideline for ten minutes and gave the Reds a penalty at halfway from the restart.

Coach Matt O'Rourke took the opportunity to use several of his reserves towards the end, gaining valuable match time and first grade experience.

Cooma scored a late consolation try right at the death to add some respectability to the score.

Goulburn Dirty Reds 27 (D Anable, D Hook, B Newby, M Webber tries, M Webber 2 conv, M Webber 1 PG) def Cooma 5.

Cooma Seconds 39 def Goulburn Dirty Twos 12 (B Pearson 2 tries; B Gray 1 conv).

Saturday, 5 July 2008

# Reds run rampant (again)

A Rob Sheekey hat trick has helped the Goulburn Dirty Reds to a thundering 45-0 win over last year's grand finalists, the Tuggeranong Vikings.

The win was built on Goulburn's superiority in the backs, who gave the Vikings' backline hell all day.

Tuggeranong thought they'd notched up the first points from a scrum, but were penalised. They rarely troubled the Reds tryline again.

The Reds had good go forward from its pack, again led by strong runs by locks Ben Green and Boyd Newby and number 8 Ben Pearson.

It took only seven minutes for the Reds to score from a set move at the line out.

The Goulburn side put the ball through the backline onto a raging Sheekey, who burned the Vikings' fullback and raced away to score his first try of the year.

The Reds mixed up their attack with some fierce defence, rattling several Tuggeranong runners.

The backline showed that they had it all over Tuggeranong all day, with the backline running rampant.

Mikael Webber set up the next try, making a midfield break and finding Dean Thompson, who crashed over next to the sticks.

Webber also instigated the next try, again breaking the Tuggeranong line and getting the ball away to Sheekey for his second five pointer of the day.

Winger Robbie Cosgrove found himself with the ball out wide and some swarming defence charging towards him.

Cosgrove attracted the defence and offloaded a deft pass to Sheekey on the burst, who left the Vikings players for dead as he scored his hat trick to take a 26-0 lead into the break.



The Reds picked up where they left off, with the ball again going through the hands for Thompson to finish off a backline move with his second try of the day.

Tuggeranong's only hope seemed to be through their dangerous rolling maul, which often found ground for them.

The Reds were penalised heavily at the breakdown, but the Vikings were unable to capitalise, with Goulburn's defence snuffing out any chances.

Pearson got his name on the scorer's sheet with four minutes to go after the Reds once again spread the ball from sideline to sideline.

Replacement back Trent Clouston scored the final try for the Reds in the dying stages, with Webber dropping the ball over the black dot for a convincing 45-0 victory.

Goulburn Dirty Reds 45 (R Sheekey 3, B Green 1, B Pearson 1, D Thompson 1, T Couston 1,; M Webber 5 conv) def Tuggeranong 0.

Second grade faced a daunting task, taking on an undefeated Royals.

The Reds were on the receiving end of an absolute hiding last time the

teams met, and this time was more of the same.

It was a physical game, with plenty of big hits from both sides. But the Reds' defence was brittle, and the rampaging

Royals had little trouble breaking the line and scoring at will. The Reds had their chances though, with their best opportunity in the first half coming from a clever kick into the corner from Brad Gray after he'd made a break.

Winger Andrew Tivey screamed into the in goal, but was a fraction too late, grounding the ball centimetres over the dead ball line.

The Reds did trouble the scorer right at the death, when Tivey made a break and got the ball out wide to Joel McPherson, who ran to the line, put a sneaky grubber through and dived on the loose pill over the line.

Hooker Jordan Chandler lined up the sideline conversion, and hit it like a busted tomato. However a stiff breeze picked the ball up and slotted it through the uprights to get the Reds on the scoreboard before the final siren rang.

Royals 64 def Goulburn Dirty Twos 7 (J McPherson try, J Chandler conv).

Saturday, 12 July 2008

# Another match, another crushing victory

The Goulburn Dirty Reds have continued their unbeaten charge towards the finals, notching up a 42-7 win against the Yass Rams.

The Reds nearly had the ideal start, with Yass spilling the kick off, but were unable to take full advantage.

Ben Green was an early candidate for Falcon of the Year after copping a pass from Butler fair in the face. The ball bounced off a Yass player, giving the Reds a scrum. From the set piece number 8 Chris Kilby took it to the blind side and offloaded to Jeff Caldwell, who showed plenty of toe to cross the line out wide for a 5-0 lead.

Trent Coulston, making his first grade debut in place of the injured Nathan Hewett, made a break and got the ball inside to Mikael Webber to score.

The score could have been much higher for the Reds, who bombed several chances out wide. The game was well contested at the breakdown, with both teams applying plenty of pressure.

Goulburn's forwards were again dominant, at one stage mauling the ball 20m up field from a lineout, along with some strong midfield runs which constantly bent the Yass defence backwards. They even pulled off a tighthead against the Yass scrum with a powerful front row shove, and repeatedly put the Yass pack under pressure at scrum time.

Green got his first for the day after the Reds countered a poor Yass clearance. Allport took the ball to the line and popped up an easy ball to the rampaging second rower, who strolled over untouched. 15-0

Soon after, Yass hit back, spreading the ball wide from a lineout 40m out. The fly half put the ball on the chest of his flying fullback, who raced away for an easy try. The difference was reduced to eight, and the crowd thought they might be in for another tight tussle.

However Ben Pearson scored right on the bell of half time to push the Reds out to a comfortable 20-7 lead at the break.

Running down hill in the second half, the Reds pushed on.

Young tighthead prop David Hook barged over in the corner after an uncharacteristically messy lineout from the Reds, and Benny Moore capped off another great effort with a try several minutes later.

Green's second try had the crowd cheering when he picked the ball up from a ruck 25m out and ran to the line, throwing dummies on the inside and out, running in untouched.

While at times the Reds were guilty of trying to do too much, they had too much class for Yass. Rob Sheekey scored his usual try right at the death after another back row move from the scrum saw the flying fullback put into space.

Webber earned a massive cheer from the crowd with his final kick, his first successful one for the day from eight attempts, to give the Reds a 42-7 victory.

Goulburn Dirty Reds 42 (B Green 2, D Hook, B Pearson, B Moore, J Caldwell, M Webber, R Sheekey; M Webber conv) def Yass 7.

Second grade also had a stirring 26 -0 victory over Yass, which has seen them leapfrog the Rams into third place on the table.

In a massive turn around from last week's shellacking at the hands of Royals, the Reds came out with a new attitude and muscled up in defence.

They were also effective in attack, using a speedy and powerful backline to dominate Yass and rack up three first half tries.

The Reds tried their best to get Yass back into the game with poor discipline at the ruck, but sealed the deal late in the match when Andrew Tivey streaked away for a long-range try, earning the Reds a vital bonus point.

The future of Goulburn rugby also looked in good hands, with three of the Tablelands Reds Under 18s players, Aidan Greaves, Josh Wakefield and Ashley Corcoran stepping up and impressing many on the sideline. Aidan, in particular, filled in the entire match at scrum half and played a blinder, distributing good ball to the backline.

Goulburn Dirty Twos 26 (B Smith 2, A Ginn 1, A Tivey 1); B Gray 3 conv) def Yass Hoggets 0.



Saturday, 26 July 2008

# Reds juggernaut Rolls on

THE Goulburn Dirty Reds' bid for back to back premierships continued on the weekend, with a solid 39-5 win over the Hall Bushrangers.

The Reds were expecting a Hall side fired up from their last start win over the Cooma Red Devils, and the Bushrangers came to play. It was the Reds with the early running though, with most of the initial exchanges taking place in Hall's half.

The pressure showed when Hall were penalised near their 22 and from the infringement the Reds went on the attack.

Fly half Jay Butler has revelled in the role since taking over from the retired Matt Klem, and showed great vision to throw the ball wide, which created a huge overlap for Goulburn to score eight metres from the sideline.

Mikael Webber's indifferent form with the boot continued, narrowly missing the tricky chance at goal.

The Reds continued to attack Hall's left side defence, bending the Bushranger line backwards.

Hooker Anthony Allport hammered the ball up towards the line, but was brought down just short. The Reds' monster truck prop Dave Anable wasn't going to be stopped though, rumbling over for the Reds' second try and a 10-0 lead.

The scoreboard kept on ticking over when flying fullback Rob SHeekey made a break but was brought down by some scrambling Hall defence.

A quick recycle and some aggressive cleaning out at the break down saw young flanker Benny Moore in open ground and sliding over under the posts.

Webber was determined not to miss his third attempt at goal, placing the ball on the five metre line and chipping it through the uprights.

Tempers flared mid field, with a few

players exchanging pleasantries, before centre Dean Thompson added his name to the score sheet with a try in the corner to take Goulburn's lead to 22-0 and another bonus point.

The Reds didn't relent, putting on more tries through Allport, Bryan Smith and Webber to really put Hall to the sword.

The frustration was obvious for Hall at the end, when their big number eight threw the ball at a Reds' player's head after crashing through the home side's defence and scoring.

Goulburn Dirty Reds 39 (D Anable, A Allport, B Moore, D Thompson, M Webber, R Sheekey, B Smith tries; M Webber 2 conv) def Hall 5.

Second grade got their season back on track with a morale-boosting 55-7 win over an under strength Wests

outfit.

Wests were short on players from the start, an ironic turn around from last time the teams met and the Reds took to the field with only 14 men.

The Reds crossed early on and applied pressure all day, and with Wests requesting uncontested scrums from the opening whistle, the Reds were never troubled.

Centre Andrew Ginn bagged himself a hat trick in the win, which saw the Reds blow Wests off the park in the opening half, before falling away slightly in the second half.

The Reds will travel to Cooma this weekend for another top of the table clash, while second grade will try and gain ground on the Red Devils, who sit above them in second on the table.

For all the ladies out there, don't forget that the August 9 home game against Royals and Tuggeranong is Ladies Day. Watch this space for more details.

Goulburn Dirty Twos 57 (A Yeo 2, A Ginn 2, B Smith 2, J Benn, L Price, B Gray tries; B Gray 6 conv) def Wests 7.



Saturday, 2 August 2008

# Winning run comes to an end

THE Dirty Reds lost their first match since the 2006 grand final on Saturday going down to Cooma 12-7 on a cold Cooma afternoon. Cooma started the match willingly and had the better of the opening exchanges and field position.

As has become the Reds forte they absorbed the early raids, with desperate and relentless defence, then turned the momentum of the game in their favour with some smart attacking kicking, strong scrum work and constant pinching of opposition line out ball.

The result of this was wave after wave of attack at the Cooma line, which eventually cracked. A strong charge by Dave 'Captain' Hook was stopped just short of the line where young Benny Moore picked up the ball and dived over the line for the first try of the afternoon.

Mikael Webber turned around his recent poor form with the boot comfortably slotting the conversion from the sideline to give the Reds a 7-0 lead, which they would take with them to the break.

The second half saw a switch in momentum. Cooma was again the more aggressive of the two sides. The Reds were struggling to find any gaps in Cooma's defence with constant mistakes giving the ball back to the opposition. The half was reasonably uneventful with neither team able to dominate field position, until the Reds lost two players to the sin bin in the space of two plays. Prop Hook was binned followed by fullback Rob Sheekey for slowing down the play.

With ample penalties and field position, a vocal local crowd lifted their men and they were able to score under the posts. The conversion levelled the scores and Goulburn, with 13 players, was on the ropes.

While the Reds defended like men possessed the shear weight of numbers was starting to tell. Goulburn was doing all the defence and when they got the ball a fatigue related



mistake would soon follow.

When the Reds received their full complement of players back on the field Cooma still had all the momentum. They went the blind side from the back of a scrum with Cooma's winger pushing through some tired defence to give his side a 12-7 lead.

Goulburn was able to muster a last ditch effort to keep their winning streak in touch, and came desperately close to doing so, but a turn over by Cooma was enough for the home side to put the ball into touch and secure victory. For the Reds it may just be the wake up call the side needed before going into the finals in three weeks time.

It wasn't all bad news for the Dirty Reds with their second grade side travelling away with strong numbers and despite some injuries to key players was able to come way with a strong 15-13 win over one of the strongest sides in the competition.

Cooma 12 def Goulburn Dirty Marshall tries, B Gra Reds 7 (B Moore try, M Webber PG) def Cooma 12. conv).

The Dirty Twos were on fire early with the raging bull Ben Pearson laying on a deft pass to Adam 'Snorky' Marshall to race away to score next to the posts, his first try in the senior grades.

Cooma received a penalty from the kick off to close the gap to 7-3 only to have Goulburn kick off and receive a penalty with Brad Gray extending the lead to 10-3.

Early in the second half the Cooma were able to close the lead again with a penalty goal but Goulburn weren't to be denied on the day and when prop Justin 'Ricky Bobby' Ben threw a dummy on half way the line split and the big man had one of the longest runs of his career to out pace all defenders and get himself a try.

Goulburn's defence was outstanding all day and only cracked on full time when Cooma crossed for a late consolation try.

Goulburn Dirty Twos 15 (J Benn, A Marshall tries, B Gray conv, B Gray PG) def Cooma 12.

No match reports were published for Round 14 and 15. The following stories are the match previews written after Round 14 and 15 which make references to those matches.

# Round 14

Saturday, 9 August 2008

# Practice makes perfect for semis

Although tomorrow's results have no bearing on where the Dirty Reds, or Twos, finish the regular season, both sides are eager to build towards the semi finals.

First grade will be looking to a tougher hit-out than last week's 83-0 romp over a depleted Tuggeranong Vikings outfit.

"It was a bit of a shame for Tuggeranong. They travelled light and got a couple of injuries throughout the game," said Reds coach Matt O'Rourke. "For us it didn't give us a hard game and the preparation, which we would have liked at this part of the season."

Despite the quality of opposition there were some positives to come out of the Vikings match.

"We set out to recapture some game structure and I could see a conscious effort by the players to do that, which was very encouraging," O'Rourke said. "It's all about building now. We've got one game before semi finals and it's about putting that behind us and getting our game plan and application ready for the finals."

According to O'Rourke this includes more application to the side's game plan and just small improvements around the park.

"Our defence can sometimes be high and we're not getting guys to the ground. We also need to focus on our phase play, getting phases together and our overall discipline and focus," he said.

Although the Reds have had good results against Yass this season with two wins (19-15 & 42-7) O'Rourke still expects a good contest from the side despite their position on the ladder.

"They have good local support there. They have had a forgettable season but they are a proud club and don't give away games easily. I'd expect they would want at least one win and I have no doubt it would give them pleasure to knock Goulburn off."

For the Dirty Twos, tomorrow's clash could provide a good psychological advantage come semi finals, where they look set to play Yass again.

"Second grade play Yass this weekend and also the first week of the semi finals, so this is a real opportunity for them to make a statement and get into a good position to progress through the finals," O'Rourke said. "Seconds were encouraging (last week). They got close to Royals and it was a good sign of things to come, hopefully. It shows they are not too far away, particularly when they have all of their players available. They just failed to finish off a number of try scoring opportunities, which would have given them the win."

Goulburn Dirty Reds 83 (R Sheekey 4, M Webber 3, M Dougall, E Dougall, B Moore, A Allport, J Butler, R Cosgrove tries; M Webber 8, R Sheekey 1 conv) def Tuggeranong 0

Royals 8 def Goulburn Dirty Twos 5 (T Clouston try).

# Round 15

Saturday, 16 August 2008

### Battle lines drawn

Expect no holds barred tomorrow as the Goulburn Dirty Reds vie for a coveted home grand final. After winning the minor premiership the Reds earned a home major semi final, which they will look to use to their advantage against the Cooma Red Devils.

Matches between the sides have been closely contested all year, with little between the sides.

Although the Reds have recorded two wins against Cooma this season, the Devils have a slight psychological advantage having won the last encounter 12-7 a couple of weeks ago.

The Reds are coming off another solid performance, defeating Yass 59-0 last week, while Cooma are coming off a 12-0 loss to Tuggeranong. But despite the results Reds coach Matt O'Rourke said it would have little impact on how Cooma turns up to play.

"Cooma will be ready to play," he said. "They also have a grand final at stake and a home grand final is fair incentive to play for. It will be who wants it the most. Cooma showed they can compete with, and match, us when they are on their game and we're both familiar with what both teams are able to do."

Last week's performance was a good result for the Reds and O'Rourke said it was encouraging coming into the finals.

"It was good. It was probably one of our better performance in terms of application. The team set out to play a particular style and they did that to a certain extent, which was encouraging," he said.

"It will now be a matter of continuing the application against Cooma. They are quite confident, but the thing in the back of everyone's mind is that Cooma beat them last time and they played quite poorly," O'Rourke said.

We just need to put that out of our minds. They outplayed us that day, they wanted it more. Now we have the chance to do the same."

While first grade battles for a home grand final, the Dirty Twos are also out to keep their season alive in their minor semi final against Yass.

"They beat Yass last weekend and beat them before in Goulburn so they should be successful this weekend," O'Rourke said. "Seconds need to understand it's semi final football and it is now a week by week proposition."

Goulburn Dirty Reds 59 (R Sheekey 3, M Webber 2, B Pearson, B Newby, C Kilby, N Hewett; M Webber 7 conv) bt Yass 0.

Goulburn Dirty Twos 14 (D Hook, A Tivey tries; J Chandler 2 conv) def Yass Hoggetts 12.

# Semi Finals Saturday, 23 August 2008

THE Goulburn Dirty Reds are one step closer to back-to-back premierships after accounting for Cooma in their major semi final.

From the opening whistle on Saturday the Reds displayed good urgency and hunger to get up and in the face of Cooma, keeping them pegged inside their half.

The Reds forwards put in a dominant display, winning several scrums against the feed throughout the game and moving the ball through the forwards with solid mauling. Pick and drive close to the line was also effective for the home side.

Mikael Webber posted first points for the Reds through a penalty goal, however Cooma hit back almost immediately with a five-pointer to take the lead.

Despite the try, the Reds still had the better of possession and field position. A driving maul from a lineout close to Cooma's line gained good metres, with the Reds eventually pushing over for the try.

The home side was in again shortly after, through Evan Dougall following some solid pick and drive close to the line. Webber converted for the Reds to lead 15-5.

Quick line-outs and taps caught the Reds off guard on several occasions throughout the match, which Cooma used to their advantage to post a try before the break. It went unconverted for 15-10 at halftime.

The second half was a grinding affair for both sides, with neither able to gain significant momentum.

Goulburn posted a try in the opening minutes through Nathan Hewett, which was well converted by Webber from the sideline.

Webber added an extra three points shortly after through a penalty goal before Cooma hit back through a try of their own.

Cooma had good field position for the majority of the second half and threatened Goulburn's line on several occasions however the defence held

Eventually the Reds were able to launch sustained attack on Cooma's line, and following multiple scrums, the home side broke through.

A good short ball to Webber on the burst saw the centre bust through Cooma's line before a quick hit and spin to brush past the remaining defence to score. Webber added the conversion for 32-17, which was how the score remained despite 10 minutes of play left in the game.

It was a good, confidence-boosting win for the Reds after their last performance against Cooma, while the result also seals a home grand final for the Reds in two weeks time.

THE Dirty Twos survived a late onslaught to keep their season alive and set up a preliminary final with Cooma next week.

Despite drawing 26-all with Yass on Saturday the Twos move through to the next round due to finishing third in the regular season.

The Twos put in a comprehensive first half performance, but let it unravel in the second half to allow Yass back into the game and nearly snatch a last gasp win.

Goulburn had an ideal start to the match when Andrew Tivey picked up a loose Yass pass, to race away to score. Jordan Chandler added the extras for an early 7-0 lead.

Yass looked like hitting back soon after through an intercept, however a good chase by young Luke Price saw Yass just fall short, with Goulburn also regaining possession.

Good support play and intensity was evident in Goulburn's first half performance and the home side soon added another converted try through Justin Benn to extend their lead.

Yass struggled to contain the Reds forward momentum, while also finding it difficult to break out of their own half.

As Goulburn maintained pressure on Yass' defence they were soon rewarded with a third try, to Andrew Ginn, after some quick ball movement and support play. Chandler converted for 21-0.

After dominating for the majority of the half, Yass put together some good phase play forcing Goulburn to do a lot of defending at the back end of the

Although the line defence held firm after multiple raids, Yass eventually managed to break through just on halftime, after charging down a Reds clearing kick.

The kick was converted for the Twos to carry a 14-point lead into the break.

The Reds started the second half positively with an unconverted try to Nathan Stewart, but then the tide turned with Yass dominating play, and replying with a converted try almost immediately.

The try bolstered Yass and shortly after they were in again through a converted try and were starting to get a roll on.

The match became a real arm wrestle with neither side able to get the ascendancy.

The Reds were in a good position, leading by five points, with time running out however Yass wasn't prepared to go down without a fight.

After sustained pressure on the line, Yass broke for a try to level the score. The pressure kick from five metres in from the sideline, was waved away, with the scores locked at 26-all.

Yass knocked on from the resulting kick off, allowing Goulburn ideal field position for a potential field goal attempt, however after receiving a penalty opted for a shot at goal.

The attempt missed, but the Reds were able to hold on for the draw and move through to the preliminary final.

They will now play Cooma, who lost to Royals 25-7 in the second grade major semi final.

# Final Saturday, 30 August 2008

No match details appeared in the Goulburn Post for the second grade final against Cooma at Cooma. The match details were as follows.

Cooma Red Devils 17 def Goulburn Dirty Twos 3 (J Chandler PG).

# Grand Final Preview

After a 30 year drought between premierships the Goulburn Dirty Reds broke through for an elusive win last year.

Now the side has a chance to make it two in a row as they tackle to Cooma Red Devils tomorrow. After pushing each other to the limit throughout the season, it is fitting that the Reds and Cooma battle for premiership glory.

"It's been clear throughout the season that Cooma would be the closest to us and have pushed us to the limit. They are close enough to beat us and it would have been a surprise if they didn't make it," said Reds coach Matt O'Rourke.

"They will think, as they are the only team to beat us in two years, they will have as good an opportunity as anyone to grab that victory again."

While the Reds have been the dominant force in the Monaro competition this season, claiming the minor premiership, anything can happen in a grand final.

The side had a positive hit-out on Tuesday night and according to O'Rourke the focus in there to go all the way.

"We had a good session on Tuesday night and the guys applied themselves well," he said.

"The focus has been restored since that loss to Cooma in the team's approach to games and training."

After a reasonably comfortable win in the minor semi final, 32-17, a tougher contest is expected tomorrow.

Although O'Rourke is quietly confident if the side plays a similar brand of football to the semi final that should come out on top.

"With a team like Cooma they feel you out so far that they can find and expose your areas that you are not completely strong in. If you're not up in their face it gives an indication of where you are at," he said.

"If we execute the game in the way we intend to and play with intensity we should come out on top, but I don't expect the win will com easily. Cooma don't give up. They were down in their semi final and came back to win. They stay and compete for the whole game, which is hard to counter. It will come down to how badly both teams want it. If the points are on offer we'll take them."

"It's a building process to get into opposition territory. Penalty goals are a good way to progress the score and if they are on offer we'll take them. You only need to be one point ahead to win."

The Reds will look to utilise their strength in the forward pack, which was efficient in the major semi final, winning several scrums against the feed and moving the ball through the forwards with solid mauling.

However, O'Rourke said the side would also have to avoid giving away unnecessary penalties.

"If we start putting out nonsense, we will be penalised. We need to focus on the game. Discipline is an indication of a lot of things - attitude, focus and where their heads are at," he said.

With both Cooma grades competing in their respective grand finals a good contingent of Cooma supporters are expected at Poidevin Oval.

For O'Rourke, it would be good to see a good local crowd in attendance to counteract the visitors.

"We'd like to see a big crowd out there. The support does lift you. It is a good little step up, it doesn't win you the game but it does help," he said.

Whatever the result tomorrow, O'Rourke just wants his team to do themselves proud, and if it all goes according to plan, the result will come.

The second grade grand final between Royals and Cooma kicks off at 1.15pm tomorrow afternoon followed by the first grade grand final at 3pm. Both games are at Poidevin Oval.



# Grand Final

Saturday, 6 September 2008

# **Back to Back**

The Goulburn Dirty Reds have fought off a strong challenge from the Cooma Red Devils to seal their second Monaro competition title in two years.

A big crowd braved the rain and miserable weather to cheer on the Reds to a gritty 17-10 victory over the Red Devils.

Cooma was the only side to really trouble the Reds this year, with the Red Devils sending Goulburn to their first loss since 2006 back in round 13, and the Reds knew this match would be tougher than last year's 55-5 grand final thumping of Tuggeranong.

The Reds won the match through their forwards, led by prop Dave Anable in a man of the match performance. The entire Reds pack was awesome, and they played smart finals rugby, keeping the ball in tight and were content to pick and drive up the field. The ploy worked, earning the Reds two of their three tries.

It wasn't the best of starts for the Reds, dropping the ball from the kick off. The two teams spent most of the first half testing each other out, with only poor handling or discipline letting both sides down. It took nearly 40 minutes before the first points were scored. Cooma were a man short, with their number 12 in the bin for a late hit off the ball. The Reds earned a five metre scrum out wide, and began pushing. Scrum half Anthony Allport took the ball from the scrum base and dove over at short range, prompting big celebrations from the players and the crowd.

Mikael Webber missed his first chance at conversion, and the Reds took a 5-0 lead into the break.

Cooma came out firing in the second half and soon closed the gap to 5-3, thanks to some ill-discipline from the home side.

It wasn't a day for the wingers, with the Reds rumbling the ball up through the forwards. The Reds took their time as they got nearer to the Cooma line, picking and driving in force and



chewing up metres. Prop Murray Dougal used his naturally low body height close to the line and burrowed over next to the upright. Webber slotted the conversion and took the Reds out to a 12-3 lead.

But Cooma showed why they were in the final, storming straight back into the game with a try to their winger, who kicked through and regathered to streak away untouched and score, sending the massive Cooma contingent into raptures. The conversion saw the Reds' lead cut to 12-10, and the crowd could sense a close finish.

The Reds snuffed out any hope of a Cooma upset when hooker Ben Pearson finished off some more fantastic forward play to put the Reds out to what ended up being a match winning 17-10 lead.

It was little wonder so many of the Reds players looked exhausted after the match. It was tough, torrid stuff, played in energy sapping conditions. Anable was awarded the man of the match by ACTRU President Geoff Larkham, who also handed captain Boyd Newby the winning silverware.

The loss completed a miserable day for Cooma, who also lost the second grade final in a nailbiter against Royals.

Pre-match favourites Royals only just scraped home 17-16 against a determined Cooma outfit.

For much of the first half it appeared that Royals would suffer the same fate as last year's grand final against the Goulburn Dirty Twos, when they were penalised out of the game for poor discipline at the breakdown.

Despite losing a centre in the sin bin for a dangerous shoulder charge, Royals dominated the open play and especially the set piece, where they pushed and wheeled the Cooma scrum at will.

The Reds will gather again this Friday night at the Goulburn Soldiers Club for their presentation night. Tickets are \$35 each and are available by calling Matthew Klem on 0402060342 before Wednesday.

Goulburn Dirty Reds 17 (Pearson, M Dougall, Allport tries, Webber 1 con) def Cooma Red Devils 10.

# **Season Match Results 2008**

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GREEN, Ben	2		2		2	3	3					3	
MOORE, Ben	3				3	2		1	3		3		15
HOOK, Dave		3		3		1							7
NEWBY, Boyd				2		1	1	1		1			6
WEBBER, Mick	1									3	2		6
SHEEKEY, Rob							2				1	1	4
THOMPSON, Dean		2							1				3
KILBY, Chris		1								2			3
BUTLER, Jay			3										3 3 3 3 2
ALLPORT, Anthony	<u> </u>		1				_		2				3
PEARSON, Ben							1	2					3
CALDWELL, Jeff				1	1							_	
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Opponent Result <b>Round</b> CHANDLER, Jordan	19-12 2	00 14-14 3	69-5 Royals 24	10-17 5	19-22 7	12-39 8	2-64 Royals	26-0	= E E T 57-7	Cooma 15-13	8-5 Royals	sse 14-12	16 11 8
Opponent Result <b>Round</b> CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin	19-12 2	00 14-14 3	69-5 Royals 24	Σ 88 10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39</b> <b>8</b>	2-64 Royals	26-0	= E E T 57-7	Cooma 15-13 13	5-8 14	sse 14-12	16 11 8
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony	19-12 2	00 14-14 3	24 8-6-5 8-6-7 9-6-7	Σ 88 10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39</b> <b>8</b>	7-64 9-37	26-0	57-7 12	Cooma 15-13 13	5-8 14	sse 14-12	16 11 8 6 5
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony McPHERSON, Joel PEARSON, Ben SMITH, Brian	19-12 2	00 14-14 3	5-69 4 2 8 8 8 8 8 8	Σ 88 10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39 8</b> 2 1	7-64 9-37	26-0	57-7 12	15-13 13 13	5-8 14	sse 14-12	16 11 8 6 5
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony McPHERSON, Joel PEARSON, Ben SMITH, Brian GINN, Andrew	19-12 2	00 14-14 3	5-69 4 2 8 8 8 8 8 8	10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39 8</b> 2 1	7-64 9 3	26-0 10	57-7 12	15-13 13 13	5-8 14	sse 14-12	16 11 8 6 5
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony McPHERSON, Joel PEARSON, Ben SMITH, Brian GINN, Andrew MOORE, Ben	19-12 2	00 14-14 3	5-69 4 2 8 8 8 8 8 8	Σ 88 10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39 8</b> 2 1	7-64 9 3	26-0 10 2	57-7 12	15-13 13 13	5-8 14	sse 14-12	16 11 8 6 5
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony McPHERSON, Joel PEARSON, Ben SMITH, Brian GINN, Andrew MOORE, Ben GREAVES, Aiden	19-12 2	00 14-14 3	5-69 4 2 8 8 8 8 8 8	10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39 8</b> 2 1	7-64 9 3	26-0 10 2	57-7 12	15-13 13 13	5-8 14 2	14-12 15 3	16 11 8 6 5
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony McPHERSON, Joel PEARSON, Ben SMITH, Brian GINN, Andrew MOORE, Ben GREAVES, Aiden WHITE, Toby	19-12 2	3 3 1	5-69 4 2 8 8 8 8 8 8	10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39 8</b> 2 1	7-64 9 3	26-0 10 2	57-7 12	15-13 13 13	5-8 14	sse 14-12	16 11 8 6 5 4 4 3 3
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony McPHERSON, Joel PEARSON, Ben SMITH, Brian GINN, Andrew MOORE, Ben GREAVES, Aiden WHITE, Toby WILD, Aaron	19-12 2	00 14-14 3	5-69 2 3	10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39 8</b> 2 1	7-64 9 3	26-0 10 2	57-7 12	15-13 13 13	5-8 14 2	14-12 15 3	16 11 8 6 5 4 4 3 3
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony McPHERSON, Joel PEARSON, Ben SMITH, Brian GINN, Andrew MOORE, Ben GREAVES, Aiden WHITE, Toby WILD, Aaron STEWART, Nathan	19-12 2	3 3 1	5-69 4 2 8 8 8 8 8 8	10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39 8</b> 2 1	7-64 9 3	26-0 10 2	57-7 12	15-13 13 13	5-8 14 2	14-12 15 3	16 11 8 6 5 4 4 3 3
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony McPHERSON, Joel PEARSON, Ben SMITH, Brian GINN, Andrew MOORE, Ben GREAVES, Aiden WHITE, Toby WILD, Aaron STEWART, Nathan PEDEN, Mick	19-12 2	3 3 1	5-69 2 3	10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39 8</b> 2 1	7-64 9 3	26-0 10 2	57-7 12	15-13 13 13	5-8 14 2	14-12 15 3	16 11 8 6 5 4 4 3 3
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony McPHERSON, Joel PEARSON, Ben SMITH, Brian GINN, Andrew MOORE, Ben GREAVES, Aiden WHITE, Toby WILD, Aaron STEWART, Nathan PEDEN, Mick MARSHALL, Adam	19-12 2	3 3 1	5-69 2 3	10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39 8</b> 2 1	7-64 9 3	26-0 10 2	57-7 12	15-13 13 13 3	5-8 14 2	14-12 15 3	16 11 8 6 5 4 4 3 3
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony McPHERSON, Joel PEARSON, Ben SMITH, Brian GINN, Andrew MOORE, Ben GREAVES, Aiden WHITE, Toby WILD, Aaron STEWART, Nathan PEDEN, Mick MARSHALL, Adam CORDINGLEY, Joel	19-12 2 3 2	3 3 1	5-69 2 3	10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39 8</b> 2 1	7-64 9 3	26-0 10 2	57-7 12	15-13 13 13	5-8 14 2	14-12 15 3	16 11 8 6 5 4 4 3 3
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony McPHERSON, Joel PEARSON, Ben SMITH, Brian GINN, Andrew MOORE, Ben GREAVES, Aiden WHITE, Toby WILD, Aaron STEWART, Nathan PEDEN, Mick MARSHALL, Adam CORDINGLEY, Joel HARTON, Nick	19-12 2	3 3 1	5-69 2 3	10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39 8</b> 2 1	7-64 9 3	26-0 10 2	57-7 12	15-13 13 13 3	5-8 14 2	14-12 15 3	16 11 8 6 5 4 4 3 3
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony McPHERSON, Joel PEARSON, Ben SMITH, Brian GINN, Andrew MOORE, Ben GREAVES, Aiden WHITE, Toby WILD, Aaron STEWART, Nathan PEDEN, Mick MARSHALL, Adam CORDINGLEY, Joel HARTON, Nick ALLPORT, Anthony	19-12 2 3 2	3 3 1	5-69 2 3	10-17 5	19-22 7 3	<b>12-39 8</b> 2 1	7-64 9 3	26-0 10 2	57-7 12	15-13 13 13 3	5-8 14 2	14-12 15 3	16 11 8 6 5 4 4 3 3
Opponent Result Round CHANDLER, Jordan BENN, Justin YEO, Anthony McPHERSON, Joel PEARSON, Ben SMITH, Brian GINN, Andrew MOORE, Ben GREAVES, Aiden WHITE, Toby WILD, Aaron STEWART, Nathan PEDEN, Mick MARSHALL, Adam CORDINGLEY, Joel HARTON, Nick	19-12 2 3 2	3 3 1	5-69 2 3	10-17 5	19-22 7	<b>12-39 8</b> 2 1	7-64 9 3	26-0 10 2	57-7 12	15-13 13 13 3	5-8 14 2	14-12 15 3	16 11 8 6 5

# Player Statistics 2008 - First Grade

#	Name	Club	Mts	Tries	Conv.	Pen.	<b>FGoals</b>	Pts	Average
1	Anthony Allport	GRU	13	4	1	-	-	22	1.69
2	Dave Anable	GRU	14	4	-	-	-	20	1.42
3	Justin Benn	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
4	Martin Browne	GRU	3	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
5	Jay Butler	GRU	14	5	1	-	-	27	1.92
6	Jeff Caldwell	GRU	14	3	-	-	-	15	1.07
7	Jordan Chandler	GRU	5	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
8	Trent Clouston	GRU	5	1	-	-	-	5	1.00
9	Robbie Cosgrove	GRU	14	1	-	-	-	5	0.35
10	Evan Dougall	GRU	13	2	-	-	-	10	0.76
11	Murray Dougall	GRU	7	2	-	-	-	10	1.42
12	Andrew Ginn	GRU	2	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
13	Brad Gray	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
14	Ben Green	GRU	14	3	-	-	-	15	1.07
15	Nick Harton	GRU	2	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
16	Nathan Hewett	GRU	13	5	-	-	-	25	1.92
17	Dave Hook	GRU	12	3	-	-	-	15	1.25
18	Chris Kilby	GRU	13	3	-	-	-	15	1.15
19	Matt Klem	GRU	2	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
20	Joel McPherson	GRU	5	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
21	Ben Moore	GRU	13	5	-	-	-	25	1.92
22	Boyd Newby	GRU	14	3	-	-	-	15	1.07
23	Ben Pearson	GRU	11	4	-	-	-	20	1.81
24	Rob Sheekey	GRU	10	12	1	-	-	62	6.20
25	Brian Smith	GRU	1	1	-	-	-	5	5.00
26	Nathan Stewart	GRU	2	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
27	Dean Thompson	GRU	11	3	-	-	-	15	1.36
28	Mikael Webber	GRU	14	16	42	3	-	173	12.35
29	Aaron Wild	GRU	2	-	-	-	-	-	0.00

# Player Statistics 2008 - Second Grade

#	Name	Club	Mts	Tries	Conv.	Pen.	<b>FGoals</b>	Pts	Average
1	Anthony Allport	GRU	1	1	-	-	-	5	5.00
2	Glen Apps	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
3	Justin Benn	GRU	13	5	3	-	-	31	2.38
4	Martin Browne	GRU	3	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
5	Jay Butler	GRU	2	1	-	-	-	5	2.50
6	Jeff Caldwell	GRU	2	1	-	-	-	5	2.50
7	Matt Chamberlain	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
8	Jordan Chandler	GRU	13	1	3	1	-	14	1.07
9	Rob Channing	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
10	Marcus Chembri	GRU	4	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
11	Trent Clouston	GRU	8	1	-	-	-	5	0.62
12	Ross Copland	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
13	Ashley Corcoran	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
14	Joel Cordingley	GRU	7	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
15	Murray Dougall	GRU	8	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
16	Andrew Ginn	GRU	9	6	-	-	-	30	3.33
17	Brad Gray	GRU	11	1	13	1	-	34	3.09
18	Aiden Greaves	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
19	Ben Green	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
20	Jono Hart	GRU	6	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
21	Nick Harton	GRU	13	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
22	Nick Heath	GRU	9	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
23	Nathan Hewett	GRU	3	1	-	-	-	5	1.66
24	Wes Higgins	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
25	Dave Hook	GRU	4	1	-	-	-	5	1.25
26	Jeremy Hunt	GRU	9	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
27	Chris Kilby	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
28	Pat Little	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
29	Adam Marshall	GRU	11	1	-	-	-	5	0.45
30	Rob McCarthy	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
31	Glen McCulloch	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
32	Joel McPherson	GRU	10	1	4	-	-	13	1.30
33	Ben Moore	GRU	2	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
34	Cameron Neville	GRU	2	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
35	Boyd Newby	GRU	2	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
36	Peter Oliver	GRU	9	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
37	Ben Pearson	GRU	8	4	-	-	-	20	2.50

# Player Statistics 2008 - Second Grade

#	Name	Club	Mts	Tries	Conv.	Pen.	<b>FGoals</b>	Pts	Average
38	B "Yogi" Pearson	GRU	7	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
39	Mick Peden	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
40	Luke Price	GRU	3	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
41	Jonathan Rowe	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
42	James Rowlands	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
43	Brian Smith	GRU	4	4	-	-	-	20	5.00
44	Nathan Stewart	GRU	10	1	-	-	-	5	0.50
45	Dave Tilley	GRU	3	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
46	Andrew Tivey	GRU	12	2	-	-	-	10	0.83
47	Josh Wakefield	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
48	Doug Webster	GRU	7	1	-	-	-	5	0.71
49	James Wessly	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
50	Matt White	GRU	2	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
51	Toby White	GRU	4	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
52	Aaron Wild	GRU	11	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
53	Anthony Yeo	GRU	8	3	-	-	-	15	1.87

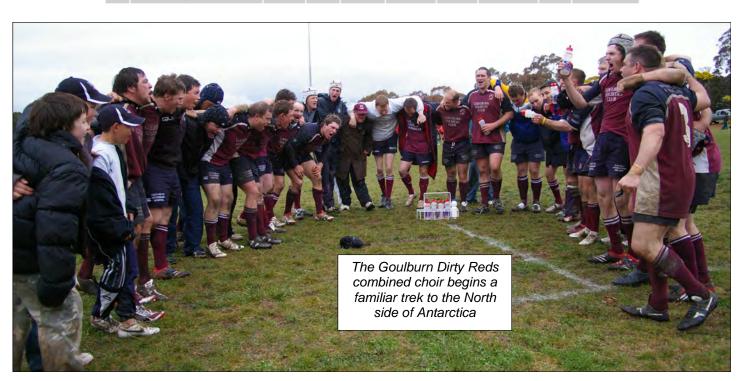


# Player Statistics 2008 - all grades

#	Name	Club	Mts	Tries	Conv.	Pen.	<b>FGoals</b>	Pts	Average
1	Anthony Allport	GRU	14	5	1	-	-	27	1.92
2	Dave Anable	GRU	14	4	-	-	-	20	1.42
3	Glen Apps	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
4	Justin Benn	GRU	14	5	3	-	-	31	2.21
5	Martin Browne	GRU	6	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
6	Jay Butler	GRU	16	6	1	-	-	32	2.00
7	Jeff Caldwell	GRU	16	4	-	-	-	20	1.25
8	Matt Chamberlain	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
9	Jordan Chandler	GRU	18	1	3	1	-	14	0.77
10	Rob Channing	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
11	Marcus Chembri	GRU	4	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
12	Trent Clouston	GRU	13	2	-	-	-	10	0.76
13	Ross Copland	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
14	Ashley Corcoran	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
15	Joel Cordingley	GRU	7	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
16	Robbie Cosgrove	GRU	14	1	-	-	-	5	0.35
17	Evan Dougall	GRU	13	2	-	-	-	10	0.76
18	Murray Dougall	GRU	15	2	-	-	-	10	0.66
19	Andrew Ginn	GRU	11	6	-	-	-	30	2.72
20	Brad Gray	GRU	12	1	13	1	-	34	2.83
21	Aiden Greaves	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
22	Ben Green	GRU	15	3	-	-	-	15	1.00
23	Jono Hart	GRU	6	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
24	Nick Harton	GRU	15	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
25	Nick Heath	GRU	9	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
26	Nathan Hewett	GRU	16	6	-	-	-	30	1.87
27	Wes Higgins	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
28	Dave Hook	GRU	16	4	-	-	-	20	1.25
29	Jeremy Hunt	GRU	9	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
30	Chris Kilby	GRU	14	3	-	-	-	15	1.07
31	Matt Klem	GRU	2	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
32	Pat Little	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
33	Adam Marshall	GRU	11	1	-	-	-	5	0.45
34	Rob McCarthy	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
35	Glen McCulloch	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
36	Joel McPherson	GRU	15	1	4	-	-	13	0.86
37	Ben Moore	GRU	15	5	-	-	-	25	1.66

# Player Statistics 2008 - all grades

#	Name	Club	Mts	Tries	Conv.	Pen.	FGoals	Pts	Average
38	Cameron Neville	GRU	2	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
39	Boyd Newby	GRU	16	3	-	-	-	15	0.93
40	Peter Oliver	GRU	9	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
41	Ben Pearson	GRU	19	8	-	-	-	40	2.10
42	B "Yogi" Pearson	GRU	7	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
43	Mick Peden	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
44	Luke Price	GRU	3	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
45	Jonathan Rowe	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
46	James Rowlands	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
47	Rob Sheekey	GRU	10	12	1	-	-	62	6.20
48	Brian Smith	GRU	5	5	-	-	-	25	5.00
49	Nathan Stewart	GRU	12	1	-	-	-	5	0.41
50	Dean Thompson	GRU	11	3	-	-	-	15	1.36
51	Dave Tilley	GRU	3	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
52	Andrew Tivey	GRU	12	2	-	-	-	10	0.83
53	Josh Wakefield	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
54	Mikael Webber	GRU	14	16	42	3	-	173	12.35
55	Doug Webster	GRU	7	1	-	-	-	5	0.71
56	James Wessly	GRU	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
57	Matt White	GRU	2	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
58	Toby White	GRU	4	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
59	Aaron Wild	GRU	13	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
60	Anthony Yeo	GRU	8	3	-	-	-	15	1.87



# **Presentations and Awards 2008**

## **Tryscorers of the Year**

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Andrew Ginn (6 tries) 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Mikael Webber (14 tries) Club: Mikael Webber (14 tries)

### Pointscorers of the Year

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Brad Gray (34 Points @ 3.09 per game) 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: (173 pts @ 12.35 per game) Club: Mikael Webber (173 pts @ 12.35 per game)

# **Most Improved Players**

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Andrew Tivey 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Jay Butler

## **Best & Fairest Player s**

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Jordan Chandler 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Ben Green

## **Players Players**

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Jordan Chandler 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Ben Moore

# **Kevin Fitzsimmons Encouragement Award**

Adam Marshall

## **Bruce Bailey Most Outstanding Achievement Award**

**Anthony Allport** 

## **Mark Longhurst Most Outstanding Prospect Award**

David Hook

#### John Osmond Most Dedicated Player Award

Jordan Chandler

### Matt Klem Club Person of the Year

Liz McLoughlin

## **Simon Poidevin Best Forwards Award**

Ben Green

### **Best Back Award**

Mikael Webber

### **Village Idiot**

**Andrew Tivey** 

### **Animal of the Year**

Mikael Webber

## El Meato Butcher of the Year Award (Butchered try)

David Hook

### Yabbie of the Year

David Hook



# MONARO FIRST DIVISION:

Ist Grade Minor Premiers
Ist Grade Premiers
Club Champions