

QUEENSLAND REDS

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AUS V CAN. 4:55PM SUNCORP STADIUM







REDS

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome to a very special rugby event with our national women's side, the Wallaroos, taking on Canada in the Pacific Four Series and your Queensland Reds playing the Wellington Hurricanes in the penultimate round of Super Rugby Pacific.

The Wallaroos are fresh of historic win against the USA Eagles last weekend and are chasing a similar victory over one of the world's best women's sides.

Remarkably the game will be the first time Sevens star Charlotte Caslick has played at Suncorp Stadium.

For the Reds, victory over the Hurricanes would cement a fourth-place finish and a certain finals berth in Super Rugby.

Super Rugby has never had a more competitive season and these last two weekends of the regular season have some

incredible match ups to determine the final standings. The Hurricanes are just two points shy of Queensland on the table with two rounds to go and will be desperate to avoid a possible sudden-death clash with the incredible Moana Pasifika next weekend.

The Reds still have one more home game next weekend, looking for revenge against the Fiji Drua after a mid-season ambush in Suva.

They will need your support to get them home in the run home to finals glory and I hope to see you all here.

Roger Gould

QRU President



Billy Proctor of the Hurricanes is tackled during golden point during the round two Super Rugby Pacific match between Hurricanes and Queensland Reds at AAMI Park. on March 03, 2024. in Melbourne. Australia.



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## QUEENSLAND REDS READY FOR THE HURRICANES TONIGHT

WORDS | Jim Tucker

Wallabies skipper Harry Wilson will make a timely return for the Queensland Reds in Friday night's big match-up against the Hurricanes at Suncorp Stadium.

The skilfull forward is back at No.8 after healing the small forearm fracture that has kept him out for five games in SMARTECH Super Rugby Pacific.

It will be Wilson's first game since playing against the Chiefs in Hamilton on April 4. Without yet knowing of the injury he sustained in the final minutes of that game, he still dabbed a pinpoint grubber kick ahead for a Tom Lynagh try to close the match.

"It's exciting to be back and ready to get into it again," Wilson said.

"For the Reds and 'Canes, there is a lot to play for on Friday night because top four is where you want to be entering finals.

"The 'Canes have one of the best-performing backrows in the comp. That's something we have always prided ourselves on at the Reds as well.

"Even with guys out at various times, one of our strengths this season has been the next guy up not just playing but performing. Guys like Joe Brial and the other 'JB', John Bryant, have stepped up and will have important roles for the backrow on Friday night."

Tom Lynagh will start at flyhalf. Dre Pakeho

has been paired with Hunter Paisami in the centres which means Filipo Daugunu bringing his power to the wing on Friday night.

On the bench, Australian Under-20s prop Trevor King, 20, has been selected for a potential Queensland Reds debut.



Harry Wilson during round eight Super Rugby Pacific match between Chiefs and Queensland Reds at FMG Stadium

The Gladstone product attended Downlands College and has been a member of the Australian U20s for three years.

Under the new six-team finals format for Super Rugby Pacific, the winners of three qualifying finals advance to the semi-finals as does the "lucky loser" with the highest finishing position from the regular season.

Reds Head Coach Les Kiss said Wilson's return is a real positive.

"Harry has been a complete pro with the way he has worked hard to be supremely fit while in our rehab group," Kiss said.

"We know the influence he has around the team. Backrow is a really competitive space for us. We have Harry coming in for John Bryant, who was our Player of the Match against the Brumbies last weekend. JB will be a strong factor to have off the bench on Friday.

"Tom Lynagh returns after a week off going through the HIA protocols. Harry McLaughlin-Phillips had a strong game against the Brumbies and his opportunity will come as a finisher against the Hurricanes.

"Every game is important and that counts for both teams on Friday night. The Hurricanes and Reds both play a great brand of rugby and playing out the 80 minutes is a quality we thrive at"

Kiss said King had impressed during his time with the squad.

"Trevor is so coachable. I know he has grown a lot from his day-to-day interactions in the squad with Jeffery Toomaga-Allen, Alex Hodgman, Matt Gibbon and Sef Fa'agase, which is a great education for a young prop," Kiss said.

"Trevor is a physical young guy who is only recently back from the Australian U20s' undefeated run in South Africa. He's been playing for his club Souths in the StoreLocal Hospital Cup for several seasons so that experience counts as well."

Friday night is an exciting double-header at Suncorp Stadium with the Wallaroos facing world No.2 Canada in a Pacific Four Test from 4:55pm.



Trevor King at training.

MATCH DAY PROGRAM RUGBY PROGRAM



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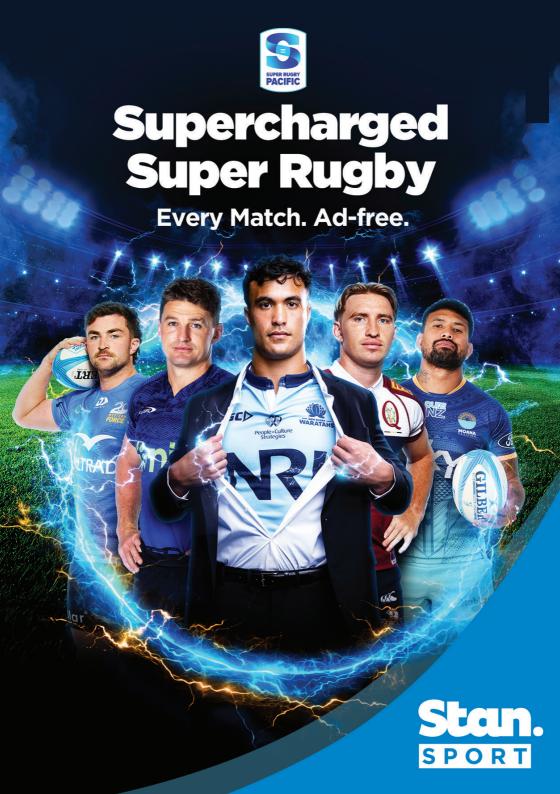
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Harry Wilson has been named to play, returning from injury.

(i) @harrywilson\_56

MATCH DAY PROGRAM



## TEST SKIPPER WILSON OUT TO MAKE A TIMELY RED-HOT RETURN

WORDS | Murray Wenzel

Wallabies captain Harry Wilson won't flinch in his timely return from a broken arm as the Queensland Reds battle the Hurricanes for fourth spot.

The Reds (fourth, 32 points) have missed their rampaging back-rower, going 2-3 in five tight games without him to slowly slide from top spot.

Watch every game of Super Rugby Pacific live and on-demand via Stan Sport.

Wilson's 2024 Super Rugby Pacific season was ended prematurely by an arm fracture that required surgery, the No.8 then surging back into the Test frame and assuming the captaincy.

The incumbent Test skipper will return on Friday from a smaller fracture in the same arm, suffered in a collision with a tackler's head in early April.

Victory at Suncorp Stadium against the Hurricanes (fifth, 30 points) would all but secure fourth place for the Reds, who finish their regular season at home against Fijian Drua.

The top three sides will begin the finals campaigns at home under the new six-team finals format that allows the highest-placed, first-week loser passage to the semi-finals.

Wilson is keen to hit the ground running and promised not to shirk a trademark hit-up if the opportunity presents.

"I've got to use my shoulder a bit more ... but definitely, it's part of my job, I've got to do that." he said.

"I've got so much confidence from the rehab I've done and the amount of work behind the scenes to make sure it (a fracture) won't happen again.

"The boys in my positions have been playing really good footy, so I can't expect to come in and take a week or two to warm up.

"We want to go deep in the finals.

"We've showed we can beat them (the top teams), but ... we need to ice those big moments, and it's an opportunity to do that this week."

The British and Irish Lions are weeks away from arriving in Australia, but Wilson has kept his mind from wandering too far.

"It's tough, I've been out injured and all I've been worried about is coming back and playing and performing for the Reds," he said.

"Seeing the Lions squad announced, you know it's just there and you want to be a part of that.

"But I want to play another five games for the Reds this season, I want to be part of something special."

Tom Lynagh (concussion) will return in the No.10, while emerging prop Trevor King could debut off the bench

Coach Les Kiss has pushed winger Tim Ryan to the bench, with the re-signed Filipo Daugunu shifting wider to allow Dre Pakeho a centre spot alongside Hunter Paisami.



MATCH DAY PROGRAM RUGRYIM PED



Tom Lynagh returns to the side in round 15



(i) @tomlynagh

#### **TEAM LIST**

#### STARTERS

- 1 SEF FA'AGASE
- 2 RICHIE ASIATA
- 3 ZANE NONGGORR
- 4 JOSH CANHAM
- 5 RYAN SMITH
- 6 JOE BRIAL
- 7 FRASER MCREIGHT (VC)
- 8 HARRY WILSON
- 9 TATE MCDERMOTT (C)
- 10 TOM LYNAGH
- 11 FILIPO DAUGUNU
- 12 HUNTER PAISAMI
- 13 DRE PAKEHO
- 14 LACHIE ANDERSON
- 15 JOCK CAMPBELL

#### RESERVES

- 16 JOSH NASSER
- 17 JEFFERY TOOMAGA-ALLEN
- 18 TREVOR KING
- 19 ANGUS BLYTH
- 20 JOHN BRYANT
- 21 KALANI THOMAS
- 22 HARRY MCLAUGHLIN-PHILLIPS
- 23 TIM RYAN

#### **HEAD COACH**

LES KISS



#### **TEAM LIST**

#### STARTERS

- 1 XAVIER NUMIA
- 2 ASAFO AUMUA
- 3 TYREL LOMAX
- 4 ZACH GALLAGHER
- 5 ISAIA WALKER-LEAWERE
- 6 BRAD SHIELDS
- 7 DU'PLESSIS KIRIFI
- 8 PETER LAKAI
- 9 CAM ROIGARD
- 10 RUBEN LOVE
- 11 FATAFEHI FINEANGANOFO
- 12 PETER UMAFA-JENSEN
- 13 BILLY PROCTOR
- 14 DANIEL SINKINSON
- 15 CALLUM HARKIN

#### RESERVES

- 16 RAYMOND TUPUTUPU
- 17 TEVITA MAFILEO
- 18 PASILIO TOSI
- 19 HUGO PLUMMER
- 20 DEVAN FLANDERS
- 21 EREATARA ENARI
- 22 BRETT CAMERON
- 23 BAILYN SULLIVAN

#### **HEAD COACH**

**CLARK LAIDLAW** 





# DO SOMETHING GOOD WITH YOUR EMPTIES



# NO SHORTAGE OF MOTIVATION FOR CASLICK AS WALLAROOS HUNT

WORDS | Lachie Grey

Nothing wipes a Charlotte Caslick smile faster than the memory of Australia's 2023 Paris Olympic Sevens semi final clash with Canada.

Leading 12-0 at Stade de France, Caslick's side seemed destined for a gold-medal bout before the Canadians stormed back to snatch a 21-12 victory, breaking Australian hearts and sparking a fierce rivalry with the North American powerhouse.

Now, the Sevens star will have a chance to flip the script on Friday when she takes centre stage in Australia's bid for a maiden women's XVs win over Canada - currently ranked world number two.

"There's a good rivalry that's been developed over a long period and ... a fair few Sevens girls playing this weekend," Caslick told rugby. com.au on Wednesday.

"I know Olivia Apps is in there, and Flo (Florence) Symonds is in at 13. They're both very good players, so we'll be looking out for them"

Of the five matchday changes made by coach Jo Yapp, Caslick's shift from the wing to inside centre has attracted the most interest, with the 30-year-old now set to mark Canada and Exeter Chiefs veteran Alexandra Tessier down the 12 channel.

However, Caslick's move opens the door for returning Brumbies flyer Biola Dawa and an entirely new Wallaroos midfield combination with childhood rival-turned-teammate Georgina Friedrichs.

"Just defensively being in the centres is going to be different for me, I haven't played much in the middle of the field," Caslick said.

"That'll be a challenge, but I'm looking forward to it

"We're just trying some new things and having

opportunities in different places. I guess moving into the World Cup, they want to see all the girls play in different roles and see what we can do, so this weekend's about growth for the whole squad.

"Obviously, G-Fred's an amazing defender, and I think everyone knows she's world-class with those defensive reads and her work rate. She's great to play alongside - we've played rugby together since we were kids, so we've got that partnership already."

Incredibly, Caslick's fourth Test cap will also mark the Queenslander's first ever on-field appearance at Suncorp Stadium.

"It's pretty cool – I've actually never played at Suncorp before," Caslick said.

"Growing up as a huge Queensland Reds fan and Queensland Maroons fan ... I'm really looking forward to it, I've got a fair few friends and family coming out as well."

Should the Wallaroos produce a historic win over Canada on Friday, they'll also remain an outside chance of claiming the 2025 Pacific Four Series.

However, Australia's hopes also rely on the USA defeating New Zealand and finishing with the same number of bonus points as Canada and the Black Ferns



Charlotte Caslick, Australia Wallaroos and USA at GIO Stadium on May 17



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1		ВУЕ		
2	MOANA	FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21	6:35pm	6:35pm
8	FORCE	SATURDAY, MARCH 1	4:35pm	6:35pm
4	CRUSADERS	SUNDAY, MARCH 9	3:35pm	12:35pm
5	WARATAHS	SATURDAY, MARCH 15	6:35pm	6:35pm
6	HIGHLANDERS	SATURDAY, MARCH 22	4:35pm	1:35pm
7	FORCE	SATURDAY, MARCH 29	6:35pm	6:35pm
8	CHIEFS	FRIDAY, APRIL 4	7:05pm	4:05pm
9		SATURDAY, APRIL 12	7:35pm	7:35pm
10		ВУЕ		
11	FILIES	FRIDAY, APRIL 25	7:35pm	7:35pm
12	DRÜÄ 🌲	SATURDAY, MAY 3	2:05pm	12:05pm
13	WARATAHS	FRIDAY, MAY 9	7:35pm	7:35pm
14		SATURDAY, MAY 17	7:35pm	7:35pm
15	<b>Extractles</b>	FRIDAY, MAY 23	7:35pm	7:35pm
16	DRÜÄ 🌲	SATURDAY, MAY 31	7:35pm	7:35pm
	FINALS TBD JUNE 20		AWAY GAME	
	RD 5 = Kids Round RD 11 = ANZAC Weeke RD 16 = Indigenous Ro	nd Round	34	

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