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WEEKLY

2021 | ROUND 11



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TEAM LISTS | ROUND 11



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SNAPSHOT



WESTS V BROTHERS | SCI-FLEET STADIUM | 3:05PM

The Pilecki-Shaw Cup isn't the only thing up for grabs at Sylvan Road this weekend, with the winner between Brothers and Wests likely to move into fourth spot on the ladder.

The Bulldogs have been bolstered by a number of Super Rugby inclusions, with Moses Sorovi, Ilaia Droasese, Isaac Henry and Ilikena Vudogo named in an all-star backline.

George Francis, Ethan Dobbins and Jone Tiko will be out to get their side on the front foot at scrum time, while the Skelton brothers – Jeremiah and Richie – will combine with skipper Connor Anderson in the back row.

Brothers have also been strengthened by the return of a number of Queensland Reds, with Ryan Smith, Hudson Creighton and Josh Flook back in the butcher's stripes.

Nate Carroll and Paddy James will be key in attack as the Brethren look to avenge their loss to the Bulldogs in Round 2.

EASTS V BOND UNIVERSITY | DAVID WILSON FIELD | 3:35PM

East's and Bond University cap off a huge day of Rugby at Tigerland this weekend as Super W descends on David Wilson Field.

The troops have returned for the Tigers, with Liam Wright, Seru Uru and Richie Asiata all back in clubland as the reigning premiers look for their third win of the season.

Former Reds outside back Jack Hardy will also make his return from an ACL injury in a 20-minute cameo off the bench.

Angus and Wilson Blyth will back down together in the second row for the Gold Coasters, with Zac Moi Moi, Connor Pritchard and Dylan Rowe running on in the back row.

George Blake returns to the starting line-up at loose-head prop, while Jack Whincherster is back from the Western Force to start at hooker.

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND V SOUTHS | ST LUCIA | 3:05PM

Ladder-leaders University of Queensland will be out to secure their tenth-straight win of the season this weekend when they take on Souths at St Lucia.

Mac Greal and Kalani Thomas will return to add some youthful spark to the backline, with Brad Twidale in the driver's seat at flyhalf and Con Foley providing experience in the midfield at outside-centre.

Will Roach returns to the starting side in the back row and will combine with Pat Morrey and the destructive Iona Halaholo.

For the Magpies, hooker Callum Lauder and lock Zac Munro have moved into the starting side, with Tommy Gilbert's return to the wing the only other change to their XV from last round.

Halves Jakob Morrison and Roman Prasad will be key playmakers along with captain Luke Samoa from fullback.

GPS V NORTHS | YOKU ROAD | 3:05PM

Norths travel to Yoku Road this weekend to face GPS, with the Gallopers looking for their ninth win of the season.

Fred Burke and Alex Casey have been named to return to start alongside Jethro Felemi in the front row for Jeeps, with their battle against Paulo Leleisuiua, Tonga Ma'afu and Reds' prop Dane Zander.

Maalonga Konelio will partner Chris Kurindrani in the centres, with Josh Collins providing his try scoring nous out wide.

Veresa Mataitini returns for the Norths to give them similar strike power, while the Eagles have reshaped their back row with Harry Fox, Will Rogers and Mitchell Wood starting the game.



XXXX DRY
YEAH NICE.

QUEENSLAND PREMIER RUGBY WOMEN'S XV FIXTURES

SAT 19 JUNE

MATCH	VENUE	KICK-OFF
Easts v Bond	Easts Rugby Union Club	9:30am
UQ v Souths	University of Queensland, St Lucia	4:50pm
Wests v Brothers	Scifleet Stadium	4:50pm
GPS v Norths	GPS Rugby Union Club	5:00pm

**ALL WOMEN'S PREMIER RUGBY MATCHES ARE AVAILABLE TO
WATCH ON YOUTUBE VIA THE QUEENSLAND REDS CHANNEL**





JOSH VUTA

CHIEFS TO JEEPS

BY EMMA GILLIGAN

Young scrumhalf Josh Vuta has been among the finds of the season thus far in 2021, with the GPS playmaker playing a key role in the Gallopers strong start to the Allsports Physiotherapy Hospital Challenge Cup competition.

Still just 22-years-old, Vuta has collected accolades aplenty through his fledgling career, earning rep honours with the Queensland Schoolboys (2016-2018), Australian Schoolboys (2017), Waikato U19s (2018), Chiefs U20s squad (2018) and Fiji U20s (2019).

Vuta's inspiration and drive for the sport stem from family influence. Involved in the game as a youngster, Vuta was privileged to witness and admire fellow family members make their own pathways in the sport.

"I started playing Rugby when I was five in Auckland, New Zealand," Vuta says.

"I grew up with Rugby around me. My dad played while he was in Fiji. My oldest brother played in Auckland and was working his way, getting into the Blues. I saw that and thought it was what I wanted to do.

"It was really exciting just being around it."

While his Rugby journey began in New Zealand, his love of the sport and talent for it only grew more by moving to Australia in his youth.

Vuta used his time on the Gold Coast and within the Rugby school system at Somerset

College to confirm the basics of the sport.

To further his technique and experience, Vuta returned to New Zealand in 2018 after graduating high school.

From his time away, the emerging scrumhalf was able to bring back a tailored set of skills and improve on his own foundations.

"It was a different experience," Vuta says.

"I grew up mostly in Australia on the Gold Coast, but it was definitely different going to play Rugby in New Zealand where it's the number one sport in the country. It was also different for Fiji playing for a small island.

"There are different things [I learnt] from where I went, but they're all good things. I cherish every moment that I got the opportunity to play.

"I think my chat, talking throughout the game and my defence were key things I got to work on. Also, working on the technique of tackling and not just chucking your body in front of someone.

"My box kicking was definitely one that was so massive. No one really taught me coming up through the system, but when I went to New Zealand it was one of the attributes that I had to pick up on and try and perfect."

The 2021 preseason saw Vuta and his newly acquired skills and make the move back to Australia with his partner.



With contacts and solid relationships with the staff at Ashgrove, Vuta felt becoming a part of the Jeeps community was the right choice.

Whispers of the club's strong culture and history also helped the decision.

"I came back to fall in love with the game again and why not come back to where it all began?" he says.

"It was a good chance to come back and play club footy here and if I excel and get anything higher that's just a bonus."

"I still had contacts, friends, family and coaches over here that I kept in contact with so that made the move easier.

"I had heard a lot about the club and the culture. It's got good players and strong bonding. I came in preseason, so I didn't really come in for long, but they welcomed me so easily.

"It felt like home, I felt like I made the right decision."

Sitting in second spot behind an undefeated University of Queensland outfit, Vuta believes his team of Gallopers are yet to show spectators a full 80-minutes of what they are worth.

With only one loss against their name, Jeeps can be confident their finals spot will be secured with the implementation of a few improvements.

"We're going good," Vuta says.

"We've shown how we play a little bit, but we haven't played to our full potential. Each game we've played, we've shown bits of how good we can be, but we still haven't shown a full 80-minutes that what we have within our team and the threats that we have."

"I think we could build on our defence, to set quicker and play fast-paced Rugby but also continue to build the small things as well."

The Gallopers will have the chance to put it all to practise in this week's battle against Norths.

Yoku Road will play host, welcoming the Eagles on Saturday in the hopes of playing that full 80-minutes they know they can.

"Norths always bring game. Playing with them in the first round, people underestimate Norths, they can bring anything to the table. They can play from anywhere and they can score tries from anything."

"We've got to come in ready to go and not treat it as an easy game. Every game from now on is a hard game."





TOOLS DOWN: JACK HARDY RETURNS

BY EMMA GILLIGAN

After two serious knee injuries in the past three years, former St. George Queensland Reds and Easts outside back Jack Hardy is back in the Allsports Physiotherapy Hospital Challenge Cup and ready to stake his claim for higher honours.

Hardy, who plays both in the centres and back three, tore his ACL for the first time in 2019 in what was his fifth game for Queensland against the Sharks in South Africa.

After a 15-month rehabilitation process, much of which was done by himself in COVID-19 lockdown, the West Australian product returned to the field for the Reds against the Waratahs during the 2020 Super Rugby AU season, before again tearing his ligament in his next appearance against the Force.

"I knew straight away in that Force game that something was wrong," Hardy said.

"That first step tore it, but I ended up playing the next 65-minutes on it and finished the game on a torn ACL."

Without a contract for 2021, Hardy was left unemployed and contemplating a return to his hometown across the country, but rather than kicking stones, the 22-year-old focused on mapping out his return to the professional arena in Queensland.

Hardy joined the Reds Academy, allowing him to maintain his training regime and complete another full rehabilitation process at Ballymore, while he also took on a labouring job with Easts sponsor and clubman Charlie Mylne.

Alongside fellow Tigers Eli Pilz, Jack Frampton and James Durheim, Hardy works three days a week with Mylne Constructions and Designs, as he aims to return to the maroon jersey in the future.

"I had the choice of either going home with my family back in Perth but I stuck it out back here and my parents have been really supportive of me staying in Queensland so I could get another crack at pulling the Reds jersey on," Hardy said.

"I tried to get a full-time job going into the season but it just didn't really work out. With the Academy stuff, I wasn't really willing to budge on the training, I'm here for a reason.

"I approached him [Mylne] and asked if I could do some work for him around training, he was happy to help and I picked up two-to-three days a week

there. It works in with training pretty well, keeps me fit and honest.

"He's been really good to support me and get the bills paid so I can still train sort of full-time."

Although forced to watch on from the comfort of his couch as his teammates secured an unprecedented six premierships across the grades last season, Hardy has become a part of the community at Tigerland, something he needed after packing up his life to move across the country.

A West Australian native, Hardy left family and friends to pursue his Rugby dream at the start of 2019, meaning Easts has become his adopted family in the years since.

"It's been massive," Hardy said of the club.

"I'm away from family, basically all my mates, so it's been really good to get down to the club.

"They look after me, allowing me to train and support me."

He'll get the chance to give back to his fellow Tigers on the field for the remainder of the season after what has been a tough start to their campaign so far.

After falling to seven-straight losses to start their year, the reigning premiers have won their last two starts and Hardy is confident they can make a late push to the top-four, starting with a big performance against Bond University this Saturday.

"We've won two on the trot now, and I'd be very surprised if we didn't go eight from eight to finish the season," Hardy said.

"That's our goal now to kick on. We're going to peak at the right time, we've had a bit of a tough start but we'll roll on.

"We've got Bond at home, Ladies Day as well. If we get a big win against Bond and roll into the next few rounds, we'll finish the season in the top-four no worries."

Although Hardy's first focus sits with Easts, the end goal of returning to the professional ranks with the Reds remains firmly in his view.

"I'd love to get back and pull on the Reds jersey, that's the goal," Hardy said.

"It's why I've stuck around here and what I aim to do by the end of the season.

"I'm more motivated than ever."

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WESTS V BROTHERS
SCIFLEET STADIUM

George Francis	1	Tom Moloney (c)
Ethan Dobbins	2	Matt Faessler
Jone Tiko	3	Remi Sawtell
John-Martin Stewart	4	Ryan Smith
Cailean Hope	5	Tom Jefferies
Jeremy Skelton	6	Jonte Connolly
Connor Anderson (c)	7	Noah Nielsen
Richard Skelton	8	Richard Clift
Moses Sorovi	9	Phoenix Hunt
Mason Gordon	10	Paddy James
Shea Lalagavesi	11	Billy Bulley
Isaac Henry	12	Kris Larosa
Ilaisa Droasese	13	Hudson Creighton
Ilikena Vudogo	14	Joshua Flook
Glen Vaihu	15	Nathan Carroll

Carl Marshall **COACH** Brendan Gabbett

REFEREE
Damon Murphy

AR 1
Aaron Pook

AR 2
Rory Crombie

NO. 4
Thomas Dowse

COLTS 1 KICK-OFF: 12:10PM

REFEREE: RORY CROMBIE

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KICK-OFF
3:05PM



GPS V NORTH
YOKU ROAD

Jethro Felemi	1	Dane Zander
Alex Casey	2	Tonga Ma'afu
Fred Burke	3	Paulo Leleisiuao (c)
Sam Curran	4	Angus North
Tuaina Taii Tualima	5	Callum MacDonald
Ratu Vio Batibasaga	6	Harrison Fox
Matt Gicquel	7	William Rogers
Michael Richards (c)	8	Mitchell Wood
Josh Vuta	9	Connor O'Regan
Jason Hofmeyer	10	Jacob Prideaux
Josh Collins	11	Ryan Ah Yek
Maaloga Konelio	12	Kenneth Taviri
Chris Kuridrani	13	Vilikesa Raboiliku
Mitch Trelevan	14	Veresa Mataitini
Pat Nicholson	15	Kyle Foxwell

Shane Arnold **COACH** Pat Byron

REFEREE
Brett Cronan

AR 1
Simon Moore

AR 2
Ned Carrick

NO. 4
Drew Meehan

COLTS 1 KICK-OFF: 12:10PM

REFEREE: NED CARRICK



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KICK-OFF
3:05PM



UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND V SOUTHS

ST. LUCIA

Alex Davies	1	Andrew Romano
Cameron Flavell	2	Callum Lauder
Hamish Richardson	3	Phransis Sula-Siaosi
Conor Mitchell	4	Reagan Leslie
Brad Kapa	5	Zac Munro
Pat Morrey (c)	6	Cullen Ngamanu
Will Roach	7	Brad Kelegai
Lona Halaholo	8	Liam Fletcher
Kalani Thomas	9	Jakob Morrison
Brad Twidale	10	Roman Prasad
Kye Oates	11	Tom Gilbert
TJ Siakisini	12	Henry Smith
Con Foley	13	Michael Siaki
BJ Oates	14	Sebastian Hanna
Mac Grealy	15	Luke Samoa (c)

Mick Heenan	COACH	Todd Dammers
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REFEREE
Jordan Way

AR 1
Reuben Keane

AR 2
Jeremy Markey

NO. 4
Jared Green

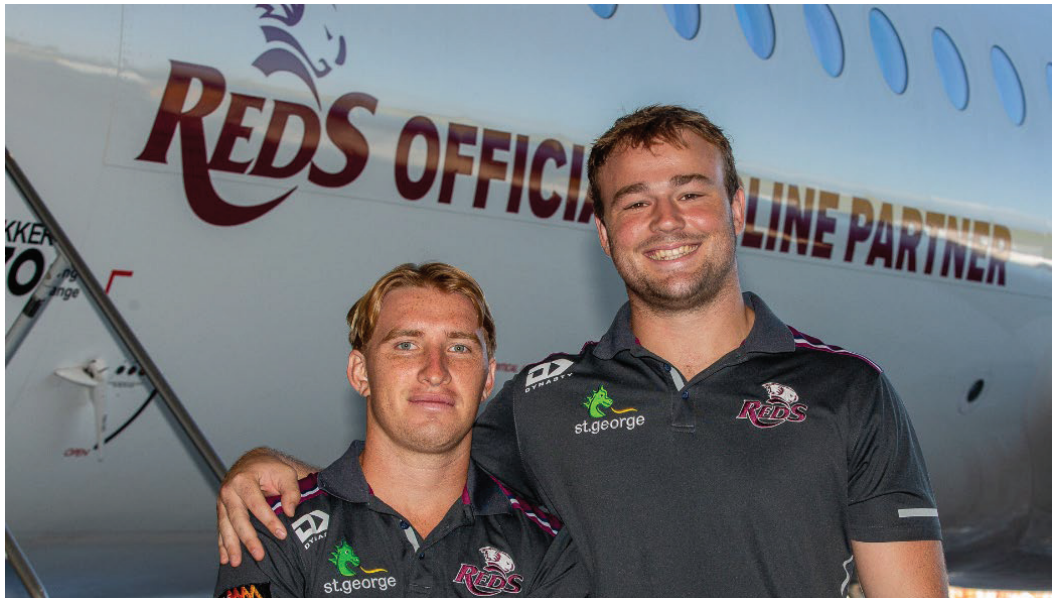
COLTS 1 KICK-OFF: 12:10PM

REFEREE: JEREMY MARKEY



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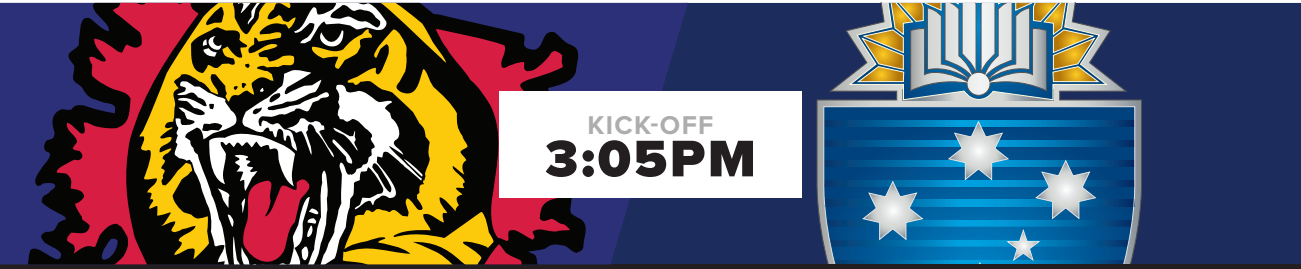
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EASTS V BOND UNIVERSITY
DAVID WILSON FIELD

Sunny Ratulevu	1	George Blake
Richie Asiata	2	Jack Whinchester
John Paul Tominiko	3	Helaman Samuela
Aiden Leeming	4	Wilson Blyth
Benjamin Grant	5	Angus Blyth
Liam Wright	6	Dylan Rowe
Tomas Milosevic	7	Connor Pritchard
Seru Uru	8	Zac Moi Moi
Ben Littleton	9	Spencer Jeans
Lachlan Kirk	10	James Ambrosini
Lucas Niedzwiecki	11	Maxwell Dowd
Matthew Smit	12	Tautalatasi Tasi
Ethan Richards	13	Dan Boardman
Shane Kennedy	14	Adam Gauder
Jack Frampton	15	Tyler Campbell

Moses Rauluni **COACH** Grant Anderson

REFEREE
Duncan Male

AR 1
Will Pugsley

AR 2
Callum Robertson

NO. 4
William Bailey

COLTS 1 KICK-OFF: 12:10PM

REFEREE: WILL PUGSLEY



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