



OF LOYAL OFFERS ALONG WITH DISCOUNTS, PRIZES EQUAL OFFERS



**SYDNEY RUGBY UNION
2019
ANNUAL REPORT**

Office Bearers

Honorary Life Members

Peter Falk
Brian Johnstone
Dennis Mears
Neville Shooter

Board Members (All appointments effective from 2019 AGM)

Chairman:
Phillip Parsons

Vice President:

Treasurer:
David Bond

Directors:

Campbell Aitken
Chris Malone
Alexandra Tooth
John Papahatsis
John Abi-Saab

Board Attendances:

David Begg 10/10
Brett Papworth 10/10
Geoff Harper 9/10
Campbell Aitken 8/10
Tim Davidson 8/10
Dr Liz Swinburn 10/10

Judiciary (Includes Appeals and Citing Commissioners)

Adam Casselden SC (Chairman)
Charles Giugni
Emily Graham
Ross Higgins
Ian Kennedy
Brian Kinsey
Debra Maher
Peter Marshall
Scott Nowland
Callan O'Neill
Jeff Phillips SC
Philip Purcell
Stephen Schmidhofer
David Sefton
David Sio
Dennis Wheelahan QC



Photo:Paul Seiser

Chairman's Report

I am delighted to present the report of the Sydney Rugby Union for the 2019 season. Congratulations first and foremost to Sydney Uni RFC on four 2019 premierships, including back to back Shute Shields, and the minor premiership in Shute Shield. Congratulations to all the other successful clubs at finals time.

The past season has on nearly all barometers been another successful one for the Shute Shield. Crowds are up, finances for most clubs seem reasonably secure, and the level of interest in our competition seems to be as high as it has been since the advent of the professional era. There are a number of reasons for this, and as a keen observer of the competition for 35 years, these might include:

1. The ongoing support and close working relationship between us and CRTV, our broadcast partners;
2. The fact that we remain on free to air TV between 3-5pm every Saturday;
3. The fact that we laid down as a marker and confirmed 1 April- 30 August as the "untouchable" Shute Shield window;
4. The quality of the product;
5. The excellence in the look and feel which each of the clubs puts into its game day;
6. Derby rounds;
7. Ladies Day(s)
8. Finals days with a series of varied clubs all at the same ground.

That's not to say there aren't challenges – we know what they are, and with the clubs we are trying to find pragmatic solutions. We know there is an imbalance to an 11 team competition -although this will continue to be the case for 2020 – and we are working towards a western Sydney plan which can achieve long term systemic success, which is what the region is desperate for. We believe we have worked in a cohesive and collegiate way to ensure that the clubs – our shareholders – can have faith in the administration of the competition.

It is timely to review some of the successes over the past 3 years:

1. Some real strategic planning undertaken (over 25 hours) into our long term future;
2. A Participation agreement that reflects the competition as it is today;
3. A real attempt by the SRU and shareholders to make colts a more genuine competition;
4. Regular Presidents dinners and catch ups;
5. Ongoing meeting of our financial commitments to CRTV, without any need for club levies;
6. The use of the Fuseport App – now used widely by all in our rugby community;
7. The use of IWanna ticket – not just at finals time but now at most home and away games;
8. The further integration of the womens game into Shute Shield rugby.

As I am not renominating as President, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all clubs, the SRU board, NSWRU and particularly Kerry Brady on the support provided to me and the SRU over the past 3 years. It has been greatly appreciated.

David Begg
November 2019

Competition Report

Once again the competition in the Intrust Super Shute Shield was a close run one with 3 teams being separated by only 2 points at the end of the regular season. The finals series saw a total of eight (8) Clubs compete in the Grade finals series and seven (7) in the Colts finals series. Five (5) Clubs had all of their Colts in finals and two (2) Clubs had all four grades in the finals. This is a fantastic effort from these Clubs.

Both Colts and Grade Grand Final days were hotly contested with two new venues being utilised this year. Bankwest Stadium had a great atmosphere with the facilities being very much appreciated by all who attended. Whilst crowd numbers in the general areas were well down on last year the corporate spaces were extremely well supported. The staff at Bankwest were very accommodating for Club rugby and all who attended were positive about the Stadium. Once again thanks to CRTV for the efforts in ensuring that the game was broadcast on free to air and that the day was an entertaining one for everyone.

The Colts Grand Final held at Coogee Oval on the Sunday had the highest attendance at a Colts Grand Final for many years. The ground was packed and the rugby on display was of an extremely high standard. The 2nd and 3rd Colts games were extremely close with extra time played in 2nd Colts. A highlight of the day was the presence of Bill McMahon to present the infamous W M McMahon Memorial Shield to the 1st Colts winners. The shield should possibly not be named the memorial shield as he is very much alive!

Sydney University once again ran out winners in 1st Grade (Shute Shield) with their 2nd (Colin Caird) and 4th Grade (Henderson Cup) teams also winning. Gordon took 3rd Grade (Henderson Shield) whilst Sydney University also won the 1st Colts (W M McMahon Shield) with Eastern Suburbs winning both 2nd Colts (Shell Trophy) and 3rd Colts (Bill Simpson Shield).

A successful finals series is only one aspect of the competition and much effort went into the season by the SRU Board and all the general managers of the Clubs. The GMs met regularly and were always supportive and ready with suggestions to improve the competition. A group of Club officials and GMs met several times in consultation with some Board members to try and address the various issues in the Colts competition. However, with playing numbers in the younger age groups decreasing there is no ready solution. Further strategy efforts will be required by the incoming Board to address some pressing issues.

The draw for 2020 has already been distributed and has taken into account most of the large

number of Club requests. Next season sees Concord Oval out of action with West Harbour utilising Drummoyne Oval in conjunction with the Drummoyne Suburban rugby club. Chatswood Oval also will be unavailable at various times due to renovation of the grandstand. All Clubs are requested to be understanding of these changes and be prepared for playing at some different venues.

The Catchpole Dinner this year was held at Dockside, Cockle Bay and was thoroughly enjoyed by the large crowd attending. The Catchpole medal was awarded to Hamish Angus of Warringah and the Dick Byres referee of the year was Matt Kellahan. Coach of the year (the Dave Brockhoff medal) was awarded to Mark Gerard in his first year as coach of Warringah. Sydney University won the Club Championship (Gregor George Cup) and Gordon the Colts Championship (Eric Spilsted Shield).

The Judicial members, chaired by Terry Willis, are owed a special vote of thanks for the time and expertise they expend in ensuring that our Competition is fair and well disciplined. They freely give of their time and are extremely diligent with all judicial matters pertaining to the running of the competition. This season we welcomed new Judicial members Debra Maher and Stephen Schmidhofer and we are always happy to accept nominations especially from "retired" players.

Once again I would like to thank the enormous amount of people it takes to ensure that the Sydney Club Competition stays at the pinnacle of Club Rugby in Australia. As always thanks must go to the Club personnel, both staff and volunteers alike, who give much time and energy to the game and without whom the competition would not be possible.

To our sponsors we owe a vote of thanks for supporting the Competition and to Intrust Super and CRTV thank you for ensuring we continue on free to air. To the Referees, a sincere vote of thanks as without them we would not have a game.

My thanks and appreciation must go to the Board, David Begg in particular who is stepping down after guiding SRU for at least 3 years, NSWRU particularly Mark Green; Tom Chadwick and Alex Richards for all referee matters and especially to Tim Richards who is the Head of Competitions and is always willing to assist and give guidance with great humour.

Kerry Brady

Premiership Competition Manager

Finals Series Results

Grade Grand Finals

24th August 2019

Intrust Shute Shield
Colin Caird Shield
Henderson Shield
Henderson Cup

Bankwest Stadium

Sydney University* 21 Warringah 16
Eastern Suburbs 18 **Sydney University 37**
Sydney University* 25 **Gordon 26**
Eastwood* 15 **Sydney University 31**

Grade Semi Finals

17th August 2019

Intrust Shute Shield
Intrust Shute Shield
Henderson Shield
Henderson Shield

North Sydney Oval

Eastwood 15 Warringah 22
Sydney University 40 Northern Suburbs 7
Warringah 13 Gordon 17
Sydney University 36 Randwick 19

Grade Semi Finals

18th August 2019

Colin Caird Shield
Colin Caird Shield
Henderson Cup
Henderson Cup

Coogee Oval

Randwick 15 Sydney University 50
Gordon* 25 Eastern Suburbs 26
Warringah 8 Sydney University 25
Eastwood 11 Gordon 7

Grade Qualifying Finals

10th August 2019

Intrust Shute Shield
Colin Caird Shield
Henderson Shield
Henderson Cup

Sydney University Football Field

Sydney University 47 Manly 31
Eastern Suburbs 15 Sydney University 43
Sydney University 34 Eastern Suburbs 17
Sydney University 24 Gordon 14

10th August 2019

Intrust Shute Shield
Colin Caird Shield
Henderson Shield
Henderson Cup

Pittwater Rugby Park

Warringah 24 Northern Suburbs 7
Randwick 27 Eastwood 20
Warringah 41 Eastwood 12
Warringah 48 Randwick 0

11th August 2019

Intrust Shute Shield
Colin Caird Shield
Henderson Shield
Henderson Cup

T G Millner Field

Eastwood 24 Eastern Suburbs 21
Gordon 33 Manly 15
Randwick 22 Gordon 43
Eastwood 16 Manly 12

Colts Grand Finals

25th August 2019

W McMahon Memorial Shield
Shell Trophy
Bill Simpson Shield

Coogee Oval

Randwick* 17 **Sydney University 34**
Gordon* 29 **Eastern Suburbs 31**
Eastern Suburbs* 10 Randwick 5

Colts Semi Finals

17th August 2019

W McMahon Memorial Shield
Shell Trophy
Bill Simpson Shield

Coogee Oval

Randwick 41 Manly 24
Eastern Suburbs 24 Sydney University 1
Eastern Suburbs 26 Sydney University 1

Colts Semi Finals

18th August 2019

W McMahon Memorial Shield
Shell Trophy
Bill Simpson Shield

Chatswood Oval

Gordon 10 Sydney University 43
Gordon 36 Northern Suburbs 24
Gordon 15 Randwick 19

Colts Qualifying Finals

10th August 2019

W McMahon Memorial Shield
W McMahon Memorial Shield
Shell Trophy
Shell Trophy
Bill Simpson Shield

Coogee Oval

Sydney University 55 Manly 52
Randwick 43 Eastern Suburbs 24
Sydney University 40 Northern Suburbs
Eastern Suburbs 73 Manly 24
Randwick 15 Sydney University 12

11th August 2019

W McMahon Memorial Shield
Shell Trophy
Bill Simpson Shield
Bill Simpson Shield

Chatswood Oval

Gordon 41 Warringah 15
Gordon 12 Randwick 12
Gordon 21 Manly 15
Eastern Suburbs 73 Warringah 3

* Minor Premiers



Photo:Lachlan Lawson

Grade Competition Championship Ladders

Intrust Super Shute Shield - 1st Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	BP	Pts
Sydney University	17	12	0	5	617	304	16	64
Eastwood	17	12	0	5	550	420	15	63
Warringah	17	13	0	4	488	408	10	62
Northern Suburbs	17	10	0	7	498	426	14	54
Eastern Suburbs	17	10	0	7	477	425	12	52
Manly	17	9	1	7	472	465	13	51
Gordon	17	9	1	7	482	391	11	49
Randwick	17	8	0	9	468	441	10	42
Southern Districts	17	6	0	11	446	514	13	37
West Harbour	17	4	2	11	416	574	9	29
Western Syd Two Blues	17	2	0	15	289	639	5	13

Henderson Shield - 3rd Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	BP	Pts
Sydney University	17	12	1	4	807	252	15	65
Randwick	17	12	0	5	666	359	14	62
Warringah	17	13	0	4	472	246	9	61
Eastwood	17	11	0	6	650	338	15	59
Gordon	17	11	1	5	570	295	12	58
Eastern Suburbs	17	11	0	6	443	310	11	55
Northern Suburbs	17	10	0	7	554	283	14	54
Manly	17	9	0	8	475	393	9	46
Southern Districts	17	3	0	14	278	845	5	17
Western Syd Two Blues	17	2	0	15	231	921	5	13
West Harbour	17	2	0	15	247	955	4	12

Colin Caird Shield - 2nd Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	BP	Pts
Gordon	17	14	0	3	516	326	14	70
Randwick	17	13	0	4	617	306	17	69
Eastern Suburbs	17	14	0	3	579	395	12	68
Sydney University	17	13	0	4	682	388	16	67
Eastwood	17	10	0	7	453	395	14	54
Manly	17	10	0	7	468	379	12	52
Northern Suburbs	17	6	1	10	457	427	15	41
Southern Districts	17	6	0	11	403	565	9	33
Warringah	17	6	0	11	377	490	8	32
Western Syd Two Blues	17	3	0	14	386	759	10	22
West Harbour	17	1	1	15	344	656	13	19

Henderson Cup - Fourth Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	BP	Pts
Eastwood	17	12	1	4	581	242	15	65
Warringah	17	12	0	5	440	225	11	59
Sydney University	17	11	1	5	513	218	12	58
Gordon	17	12	1	4	380	232	7	57
Randwick	17	10	1	6	388	294	12	54
Manly	17	10	1	6	381	278	11	53
Northern Suburbs	17	11	0	6	386	246	7	51
Eastern Suburbs	17	8	1	8	318	330	8	42
Southern Districts	17	4	0	13	230	551	5	21
Western Syd Two Blues	17	3	0	14	188	431	5	17
West Harbour	17	1	0	16	171	733	4	8

Gregor George Cup- Club Championship

Club	Points
Sydney University	2844
Gordon	2666
Randwick	2490
Eastern Suburbs	2403
Warringah	2276
Manly	2270
Eastwood	2205
Norths	2065
Southern Districts	1216
West Harbour	745
Western Syd Two Blues	684



Photo: AJF Photography

Colts Competition Championship Ladder

W McMahon Memorial Shield- 1st Colts

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	BP	Pts
Randwick	17	17	0	0	917	244	17	85
Gordon	17	15	0	2	833	259	18	78
Sydney University	17	15	0	2	890	323	17	77
Manly	17	12	0	5	741	346	17	65
Warringah	17	12	0	5	561	421	13	61
Eastern Suburbs	17	8	0	9	563	489	11	43
Northern Suburbs	17	6	0	11	386	543	10	34
Southern Districts	17	5	0	12	405	609	9	29
Eastwood	17	3	0	14	363	837	7	19
Western Syd Two Blues	17	2	0	15	241	1034	4	12
West Harbour	17	2	0	15	348	947	8	11

Shell Trophy - 2nd Colts

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	BP	Pts
Gordon	17	16	0	1	805	173	17	81
Eastern Suburbs	17	15	0	2	691	196	12	72
Sydney University	17	12	0	5	688	278	15	63
Northern Suburbs	17	12	0	5	516	260	13	61
Manly	17	11	0	6	551	407	12	56
Randwick	17	11	0	6	549	198	12	46
Warringah	17	7	0	10	313	494	9	37
Eastwood	17	6	0	11	348	633	9	33
Southern Districts	17	3	0	14	220	819	6	18
Western Syd Two Blues	17	3	0	14	214	821	4	16
West Harbour	16	0	0	16	0	448	0	0

Bill Simpson Shield - 3rd Colts

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	BP	Pts
Eastern Suburbs	17	16	0	1	614	150	17	81
Gordon	17	14	0	3	532	107	15	71
Randwick	17	13	1	3	498	184	13	67
Sydney University	17	13	1	3	428	202	12	66
Manly	17	10	0	7	282	271	7	47
Warringah	17	7	0	10	261	370	8	36
Northern Suburbs	17	6	0	11	257	364	9	33
Western Syd Two Blues	16	7	0	9	262	385	8	30
Eastwood	17	7	0	10	289	381	8	30
West Harbour	15	0	0	15	0	420	0	0
Southern Districts	15	0	0	15	5	426	0	0

Eric Spilsted Shield (Colts)

Club	Points
Gordon Colts	853
Sydney University Colts	783
Randwick Colts	782
Manly Colts	652
Eastern Suburbs Colts	636
Warringah Colts	549
Norths Colts	453
Eastwood Colts	273
Southern Districts Colts	228
Western Syd Two Blues Colts	180
West Harbour Colts	66



Photo: Paul Seiser

Award Winners

E S Marks Intrust Super Shute Shield Minor Premiers

Gregor George Trophy (Club Championship)

Eric Spilsted Shield (Colts Club Championship)

The Sir Roden Cutler Shield

Ken Catchpole Medal

David Brockhoff Medal (Coach of the Year)

Dick Byres Medal (Referee of the Year)

Rookie of the Year

Roscoe Fay Trophy (Highest points scorer)

Highest Try Scorer

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

GORDON

WARRINGAH

HAMISH ANGUS (Warringah)

MARK GERRARD (Warringah)

MATT KELLAHAN

MICHAEL ICELY (Eastwood)

JAMES KANE (Sydney University) and
SEAN KEARNS (Gordon)

JACK GRANT (Eastern Suburbs)



Photo: Karen Watson

Hamish Angus: Catchpole Medal Winner



Photo: Karen Watson

Michael Icely (Rookie of the Year) and Hamish Angus



**The Rugby Club
Foundation**



