



REDS

REDS

DYNASTY



PASIFIKA ROUND MATCH DAY PROGRAM

SAT. 12 MAR | 4:15PM & 6:45PM QLD TIME KICK OFF | SUNCORP STADIUM

WE'RE SEEING RED IN QUEENSLAND

Everyone at Westpac will be cheering on the Queensland Reds and Reds Super W teams this season. We're proud to be partners of Queensland Rugby Union for the next two years, helping Queensland communities thrive and supporting the development of the sport across the Sunshine State.

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Ross Miller

Chief Customer Engagement Officer,
Westpac Group



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Roger Gould

A massive night awaits Queensland Rugby fans with both the Reds men's and women's sides in action as part of a historic Double Header at Suncorp Stadium.

For the first time in Super Rugby history, Queensland will battle competition newcomers the Fijian Drua as well as their Super W counterparts the Fijiana Drua this evening.

Both Queensland teams will be looking to remain unbeaten in 2022 with our women opening their Super W season with victory last week in Perth and the men looking to make it four-straight wins following victories over the Rebels, Waratahs and Force.

In another piece of history, tonight's Double Header also marks the Queensland Rugby Union's inaugural Pasifika Round.

In addition to a Pacific Islands themed evening here at Suncorp Stadium, a total of 18 players across the Reds men's and women's sides will proudly wear the flag of their Pasifika background.

Taniela Tupou (Tonga), Seru Uru (Fiji), Kalani Thomas (Maori), Hunter Paisami (Samoa), Jordan Petaia (Samoa), Feao Fotuaika (Tonga), Zane Nonggorr (Papua New Guinea) and Tuania Taii Tualima (Samoa) will have their respective country's flag on their jersey tonight which will be signed and auctioned off after the match to raise further funds for UNICEF Australia's Tongan Recovery Appeal in response to the explosion of the Hunga Tonga Hunga Ha'apai underwater volcano and subsequent tsunami earlier this year.

In Queensland's Super W team there are a further 10 players of Pasifika heritage will also have their respective flags on their jerseys and include Alapeta Ngaumo (Tonga), Liz Patu (Samoa), Kiri Lingman (Maori), Ivania Wong (Papua New Guinea), Malaela Su'a, Cecilia Smith (Samoa), Grace Qaranivalu (Fiji) Evelyn Horomia (Samoa), Oke Manihera (Samoa) and Imogen Hei (Samoa)

I would like to welcome both Drua sides, their coaching staff and team management to this great stadium here tonight in what shapes as an

entertaining contest for both teams.

Reds head coach Brad Thorn has made three changes to his starting XV for tonight's clash with Harry Hoopert and Taniela Tupou bolstering the frontrow while Ryan Smith also comes off the bench to replace the injured Lukhan Salakaia-Loto in the secondrow.

In a positional switch that's set to excite Queensland fans, Jordan Petaia will start at fullback with Jock Campbell shifting to the right wing.

There are further three changes to the bench with Feao Fotuaika named as a finisher this week, joining Zane Nonggorr who returns to the matchday 23 as Queensland's replacement props.

In recognition of his hard work within the program, University of Queensland lock Connor Vest could potentially make his Reds and Super Rugby debut tonight and become the 1369th player to represent this proud state.

Queensland Super W interim head coach Simon Craig has made minimal changes to his matchday 23 that travelled to Perth last weekend.

After an ankle injury ruled her out of selection for Round 1, vice-captain Kiri Lingman returns to the team at blindside flanker seeing Hana Lane shift to the reserves.

In the backs, Sunnybank's Renae Nona will start in the 10 jersey with Skyla Adams ruled-out of the match due to injury.

While 16-year-old Malaela Su'a has been called into the side to make her Super W and Queensland debut at inside centre, seeing Cecilia Smith shift to 13 and Melanie Wilks to the wing with Caitlyn Costello named in the reserves.

Thank you all for your attendance and I hope you enjoy both games tonight.

Go Reds!

Roger Gould – QRU President



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**1 ALAPETA
NGAUAMO**
LOOSEHEAD PROP



**2 TAZ
SHEPPARD**
HOOKER



**3 LIZ
PATU**
TIGHTHEAD PROP



**4 ALEENA
GREENHALGH**
LOCK



**5 ANNABELLE
CODEY**
LOCK



**6 KIRI
LINGMAN**
BLINDSIDE FLANKER



**8 SOPHIE
HOLYMAN**
NUMBER EIGHT



**7 SHANNON
PARRY (c)**
OPENSIDE FLANKER



**9 SARAH
LEWIS**
SCRUMHALF



**10 RENAE
NONA**
FLYHALF



**12 MALAELA
SU'A**
INSIDE CENTRE



**13 CECILIA
SMITH**
OUTSIDE CENTRE



**11 IVANIA
WONG**
WING



**15 ELLIE
DRAPER**
FULLBACK



**14 MELANIE
WILKS**
WING

16. GRACE **QARANIVALU**
17. MADI **SCHUCK**
18. EVELYN **HOROMIA**
19. HANA **LANE**

20. OKEHERA **MANIHERA**
21. IMOGEN **HEI**
22. NICOLA **EMSLEY**
23. CAITLYN **COSTELLO**

FIJIANA DRUA



**BITILA
TAWAKE**



**VIKA
MATARUGU**



**JOMA
RUBUTI**



**JADE
COATES**



**DOREEN
NAROKETE**



**JIOWANA
SAUTO**



**EMA
VADIVITALOGA**



**SEREIMA
LEWENIQILA**



**REJIELI
ULUINAYAU**



**MEREWALESI
ROKOUONO**



**KOLORA
LOMANI**



**VANI
AREI**



**RAIJIELI
LAQERETABU**



**VITALINA
NAIKORE**



**ROELA
RADINIYAVUNI**

16

KELENI

MARAWA

17

RO SILO

TOGOTOGORUA

18

MEREONI

NAOSITAVA

19

AKOSITA

RAVATO

20

KARALANI

NAISEWA

21

RUSILA

TAMOI

22

TIMAIMA

RAVISA

23

LEONIE

BURNES



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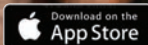
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A group of Super Rugby Pacific players in maroon jerseys are huddled together on a field at night, celebrating. The background shows a large stadium with bright lights. The players' jerseys feature the 'Santos' logo and the number '10'. One player's jersey also has a 'RioTinto' sponsor patch.

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ROUND 4

FOR QUEENSLAND



1 HARRY HOOPER
LOOSEHEAD PROP



2 JOSH NASSER
HOOKER



3 TANIELA TUPOU
TIGHTHEAD PROP



4 RYAN SMITH
LOCK



5 ANGUS BLYTH
LOCK



6 SERU URU
BLINDSIDE FLANKER



7 FRASER MCREIGHT (c)
OPENSIDE FLANKER



8 HARRY WILSON
NUMBER EIGHT



10 JAMES O'CONNOR
FLYHALF



9 KALANI THOMAS
SCRUMHALF



11 JOSH FLOOK
WING



12 HAMISH STEWART
INSIDE CENTRE



15 JORDAN PETAI
FULLBACK



13 HUNTER PAISAMI
OUTSIDE CENTRE



14 JOCK CAMPBELL
WING

16. MATT **FAESSLER**

17. FEAO **FOTUAIKA**

18. ZANE **NONGGORR**

19. CONNOR **VEST***

20. TUAINA TAI **TUALIMA**

21. SPENCER **JEANS**

22. LAWSON **CREIGHTON**

23. MAC **GREALY**

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BACKS

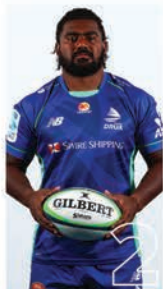
FINISHERS



FIJIAN DRUA



**KALIOPASI
ULUILAKEPA**



**MESULAME
DOLOKOTO**



**SAMUELA
TAWAKE**



**ISOA
NASILASILA**



**RATU
ROTUISOLIA**



**MELI
DERENALAGI**



**VILIVE
MIRAMIRA**



**TE AHIWARU
CIRIKIDAVETA**



**PENI
MATAWALU**



**TETI
TELA**



**VINAYA
HABOSI**



**KALAVETI
RAVOUVOU**



**APISALOME
VOTA**



**SELESTINO
RAVUTAUMADA**



**BADEN
KERR**

16	ZURIEL	TOGIATAMA
17	JONE	KOROIDUADUA
18	MANASA	SAULO
19	SOROVAKATINI	TUIFAGALELE

20	JOSEVA	TAMANI
21	FRANK	LOMANI
22	JONA	MATAICIWA
23	ONISI	RATAVE



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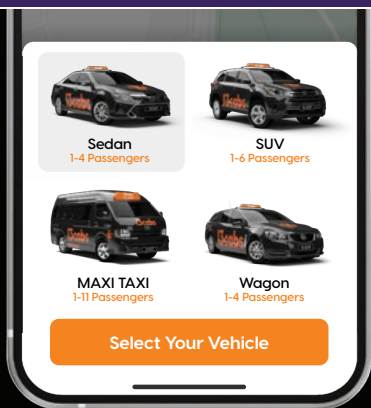
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FIJIAN FLAIR
HAS LONG BEEN A PART OF
QUEENSLAND RUGBY'S DNA

Caption: Fijian Epi Bolawaqatabu in his Queensland jersey of the 1960s

BY JIM TUCKER

A young dentistry student named Epi Bolawaqatabu from the 1960s should never be forgotten when we salute the Fijian flair in Queensland rugby today.

It's a great shame he is not still with us tonight to celebrate the Fijian Drua playing the Queensland Reds for the first time in Super Rugby Pacific at Suncorp Stadium.

He was a trailblazer, both as a player and for his dentistry work in Aboriginal settlements, before his death in Cairns in 2018. His story is one that Filipo Daugunu, Suliasi Vunivalu and Seru Uru will all know more about.

He was plain "Epi Bola" to teammates at Brothers during his years of study in Brisbane and the premiership successes he shared in 1966 and 1968.

The young flanker's try-scoring, his running, his support play and the giant hands that allowed some freakish off-loads were a sudden X-factor on the Brisbane scene.

Bola was like a one-man cyclone hitting the 1966 grand final. Those were the days of three-point tries so the 36-9 thumping of University would have converted to 56-9 today. He scored one and played a role in most of Brothers' 10 tries that day.

Such was his mark that he even stirred the then-Brisbane Lord Mayor Clem Jones to comment that he didn't think it possible for one player to dominate as he did.

When I spoke to Bola in 2006, he still had vivid memories.

"The boys said I ran from Brisbane to Fiji that day," he recalled fondly, "It was one of those days when your anticipation is perfect. You know the word 'seagull'. I was a very famous seagull."

It is what the Reds have to be wary of tonight, that perfect moment of anticipation and timing when the Fijian Drua are playing on a different level.

Effective two-man tackles, controlling possession, set-piece pressure...the Reds can do so many things right but there will always be that uniquely Fijian moment that can turn the tide.

Because of his 1966 grand final display, Bola was swept into a debut for the 1967 Queensland side against Ireland. It was part of the double-life he led in rugby.

He played 16 Tests for Fiji and captained his island nation in Suva against the 1972 Wallabies which

included Dick Cocks, debutant Bob Wood, Russell Fairfax, Roy Prosser and Jeff McLean.

Over the decades that followed, Fijian players have enriched the play and culture of numerous clubs across Brisbane.

No club player in the 1980s would forget the annual pilgrimages to play Redcliffe at their Dalton Park HQ in Clontarf.

It meant running into the unpredictable flair and power of the club's Fijian core, hard man Petero Civoniceva (senior), Suka Waqabaca, Rambici Ganilau, Isimeli Batibasaga and co.

GPS and Teachers-Norths, in particular, have also banked on Fijian flair over the years. Or hardness. Lote Tuqiri Senior was an ever-present figure in the front-row for the QIT and GPS clubs through the '70s and '80s.

It was still a decade on from Epi Bola before another Fijian player represented Queensland in 1977 through the livewire halfback skills of Taito Rauluni. Rauluni helped establish the pathway of Fijian families to Brisbane.

His genes were passed on through former Red Jacob Rauluni and 2020 Easts premiership coach Moses Rauluni, both impressive Test performers at halfback for Fiji.

Lock Ilaitia Savai and winger Isei Siganiyavi played for Queensland in the 1980s while prop Peni Volavola, flanker Ilie Tabua, winger Manasa Bari and Jacob Rauluni did so in the 1990s.

Others could have played for Queensland they were that good. Epi Turuva played just a handful of Tests for Fiji but he was a dynamic, smooth-stepping fullback of the highest class for Redcliffe.

Tabua had a folk hero status. He played 10 Tests for the Wallabies but the piledriving tackles that earned him the nickname "The Human Skewer" were first inflicted much earlier for GPS, Brothers and Queensland.

The new century has ushered in the likes of Ricky Nalatu, Samu Kerevi, crowd favourite Radike Samo, Vunivalu and others.

Never forget the pride of a home village in Fiji when one of their sons makes it in a professional rugby team overseas. There is no tone of loss. It is all about the success and the pride brought to the village.

That's just another way to understand how deep the meaning is for Fijians to now have their own team to support in Super Rugby Pacific. Tonight will be a highlight occasion for Brisbane's Fijian

community.

Here is a Fijian XV of those to represent Queensland and Brisbane clubs since the days of Epi Bola. It's not meant as a "Best of" but a taste of the formidable rugby talent that Fiji has given to Queensland and the world.

15 Epeli Turuva (Redcliffe)

14 Filipo Daugunu (Wests),

13 Solo Rasolea (Teachers-Norths),

12 Elia Tuqiri (GPS)

11 Isei Siganiyavi (GPS and Queensland)

10 Teti Tela (GPS, Souths, Queensland and Fijian Drua)

9 Taito Rauluni (QIT and Queensland)

8 Seru Uru (Easts and Queensland)

7 Epi Bolawaqatabu (Brothers and Queensland)

6 Ilie Tabua (GPS, Brothers and Queensland)

5 Ilaitia Savai (Redcliffe and Queensland)

4 Petero Civoniceva (Redcliffe)

3 Peni Volavola (Teachers-Norths, Brothers and Queensland)

2 Lote Tuqiri Snr (QIT and GPS)

1 Rambici Ganilau (Redcliffe)

Reserves: 16 Waisale Raruve (Redcliffe), 17 Peni Nasalo (Redcliffe), 18 Rusiate Cavubuku, 19 Sela Gutugutuwai (GPS), 20 Chris Kuridrani (GPS and Queensland), 21 Serupepeli Tuvula (Teachers-Norths), 22 Isimeli Batibasaga (Redcliffe), 23 Jacob Rauluni (Easts and Queensland)

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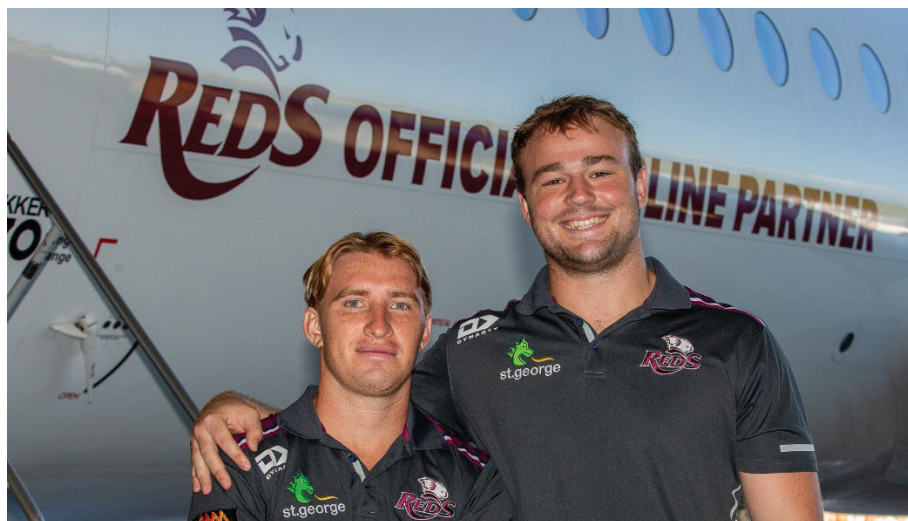
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