

ROUND 12



# Game Day

## 90'S ROUND



v



SATURDAY MAY 2 7:35PM (AEST)

SUNCORP STADIUM

BRISBANE. QLD

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TIM RYAN

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# JOSH NASSER TO HIT 50 GAMES AS QUEENSLAND REDS NAME TEAM TO FACE BRUMBIES

WORDS | **Jim Tucker**

Wallabies hooker Josh Nasser will reach the 50-game milestone for the Queensland Reds in Saturday night's clash against the ACT Brumbies at Suncorp Stadium.

The seven-season stalwart will make his impact from the bench in this key Round 12 match in Swyftx Super Rugby Pacific. The Reds have named an unchanged side after fighting out a Super Point thriller against the Blues in the best match of last weekend's soldout Super Round in Christchurch.

On Saturday night, in-form Harry McLaughlin-Phillips will again start at flyhalf with Kalani Thomas at halfback.

Versatile Ben Volavola, after his involvement in two late tries against the Blues, and Louis Werchon will be spark in the halves from the bench.

You expect drama for the fans whenever the Reds and Brumbies lock horns. The meeting in March in Canberra was typical with a brilliant comeback for a 34-31 result on the bell for the Reds' first win in Canberra for five years.

The Rod Macqueen Cup, the symbol of supremacy between the two clubs, will be on the line on Saturday night.

"The Brumbies are always tough for us. We had a good result in Canberra earlier in the

year. It was a fantastic game and we don't expect anything different on Saturday," Reds Head Coach Les Kiss said.

"They are a tricky opposition. They have a good set piece, they have a good territory game and you have to be very good around the breakdown.

"We were gutted to lose in Christchurch last weekend. We look at the areas we can improve on but I also look at what we did well.

"These players don't give up. They have an appetite to keep playing and there was also some tremendous defence late in the game.

"We know there is more in us and the players work hard and challenge themselves each week to keep our level of play rising as we feel it is.

"We've got a bench that makes things happen for us. Well done to Josh on approaching his 50th game because he has been a part of that in recent weeks."

There will be another intriguing match-up between the Pritchard brothers with backline utility Treyvon on the bench for the Reds and older sibling Kadin in the centres for the Brumbies.

Saturday is "90s Round" so fans can expect a

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90s soundtrack to the action.

The Reds and Dolphins have put together the best ticket value in Brisbane for fans in a 2-for-1 deal at Suncorp Stadium.

A family of four can attend both the Dolphins vs Storm NRL match on Friday night and the Reds vs Brumbies match on Saturday night for just \$110. For \$45, adults get a ticket for both games.



Joe Brial of the Reds in action during the round four Super Rugby match between ACT Brumbies

Fraser McReight



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# TIM RYAN RE-SIGNS WITH REDS ON TWO-YEAR DEAL

WORDS | **Jim Tucker**

The Queensland Rugby Union is delighted to announce the re-signing of dynamic winger Tim Ryan for two years through 2028.

Ryan is still just 22 yet has racked up 20 tries in 37 games at a strike rate that few have bettered in Queensland Reds history.

It says much about Ryan's development as a player that he rates a try-saving tackle against the Blues last weekend at Super Round as highly as many of his tries.

"It's a really good feeling to sign your first contract but to back it up with a second contract at the same club is something I'm proud of," Ryan said.

"Obviously, I'm very excited knowing the group of players we have going into the next two years at the Reds and the rest of this season."

Ryan has added 3.5kg to his frame since he burst onto the scene in Super Rugby Pacific with an eye-catching hat-trick of tries against the Blues in 2024.

The birth of the "Junkyard Dog" as a cult hero that night has never softened Ryan's mentality to continually chase improvements in his game.

"I definitely feel my game has progressed. Improving my defensive positioning has been one key area and I thank (defence coach) Brad Davis and (fellow winger) Lachie Anderson for their help there," Ryan said.

"A big tackle can provide so much energy to the team. Honestly, that tackle against the Blues was better than scoring a try.

"Contestable kicks are also so much an area of the game now. Being able to be a menace,

I guess, and just making it messy for the opposition to help get the ball back is a big part."

Being a well-rounded finisher earned the former Australia Under-20s winger another step up the representative ladder with Australia A selection and two tries against a Japan XV in Osaka last October.

Reds player #1389 is a proud product of St Patrick's College, Shorncliffe where Director of Rugby Dan Nethery says the winger's contribution is ongoing.

"He presented his Australia A jersey to the school straight after his return from that game. You couldn't ask for more from a college graduate with the way he stays connected to the school," Nethery said.

St Pats kick off the AIC rugby season at home on Saturday against St Peters Lutheran College at Curlew Park where Ryan scored his share of tries.

Ryan is keen for Saturday night's clash against the ACT Brumbies at Suncorp Stadium.

"They are always so strong. You feel the intensity out there against them," Ryan said.

"They obviously have very fast, skilful backs and you always know the Brums are contesting 60 minutes, 80 minutes, into a game."

Reds Head Coach Les Kiss said Ryan's progress as a top-class winger made him a real weapon for the club.

"From the first day I saw him on video, when I came in as Reds coach in 2023, I knew we had a player who was pretty special," Kiss said.

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"I love that he never runs out which is trait I really like in a winger.

"His rise to 'Junkyard Dog' status has been fantastic but he's no flash-in-the-pan. Behind that is a good, solid, young winger who works

hard on improving all areas of his game.

"He's really performed for us in recent games."



Tim Ryan dives for a try against the Blues at One NZ Stadium in Christchurch

# TEAM LIST



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## STARTERS

- 1 AIDAN ROSS
- 2 MATT FAESSLER
- 3 ZANE NONGGORR
- 4 SERU URU
- 5 LUKHAN SALAKAIA-LOTO
- 6 JOE BRIAL
- 7 FRASER MCREIGHT (C)
- 8 HARRY WILSON
- 9 KALANI THOMAS
- 10 HARRY MCLAUGHLIN-PHILLIPS
- 11 TIM RYAN
- 12 HUNTER PAISAMI
- 13 JOSH FLOOK
- 14 FILIPO DAUGUNU
- 15 JOCK CAMPBELL

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## RESERVES

- 16 JOSH NASSER
- 17 JEFFERY TOOMAGA-ALLEN
- 18 NICK BLOOMFIELD
- 19 HAMISH MULLER
- 20 VAIUTA LATU
- 21 LOUIS WERCHON
- 22 BEN VOLAVOLA
- 23 TREYVON PRITCHARD

## HEAD COACH

LES KISS



# WHO'S UP FOR THE SANTOS FESTIVAL OF RUGBY?

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# TEAM LIST



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## STARTERS

- 1 JAMES SLIPPER
- 2 LACHLAN LONERGAN
- 3 RHYS VAN NEK
- 4 NICK FROST
- 5 LACHLAN SHAW
- 6 ROB VALENTINI
- 7 RORY SCOTT
- 8 TOBY MACPHERSON
- 9 RYAN LONERGAN
- 10 DECLAN MEREDITH
- 11 COREY TOOLE
- 12 DAVID FELLUAI
- 13 KADIN PRITCHARD
- 14 ANDY MUIRHEAD
- 15 TOM WRIGHT

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## RESERVES

- 16 LIAM BOWRON
- 17 BLAKE SCHOUPP
- 18 DARCY BREEN
- 19 CADEYRN NEVILLE
- 20 LUKE REIMER
- 21 KLAYTON THORN
- 22 TANE EDMED
- 23 OLLIE SAPSFORD



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# 'STAPLE IT BACK ON': MCDERMOTT OPTIMISTIC

WORDS | **Melissa Woods - AAP**

Tate McDermott is racing the clock to be available for the Wallabies' opening Test of the year, with the scrumhalf revealing hamstring complications have delayed his return.

If fit, the Queensland No.9 would be a leading contender for Australia's Nations Championship clash with Ireland at Sydney's Allianz Stadium on July 4, adding to his 50 caps.

But McDermott says his recovery from the serious hamstring injury he suffered last September against New Zealand in Auckland hasn't gone to plan.

"It's been a bit of a bit of a long journey to be honest," McDermott said on Tuesday at a joint ticket promotion with the Dolphins NRL side.

"I remember speaking to the media earlier on and I was really positive with how I was going, I was feeling good, but we had just a couple of little setbacks around the hamstring I got reattached.

"It wasn't kind of doing what it was supposed to do really, but (I'm) feeling really good now."

Five regular Super Rugby Pacific matches remain before three rounds of finals, including the title decider on June 20, with sixth-placed Queensland next hosting the fifth-ranked Brumbies on Saturday night.

The Reds suffered a heart-breaking loss to the Blues in Super Round last weekend, with Beauden Barrett kicking a golden point penalty goal to secure victory.

McDermott said he was aiming to play before the end of the regular season.

"I'm hoping to get a game in before the regular season finishes but I still can't give you an exact date," he said.

"I've integrated back into the team training and so I've just got to start putting the final pieces of the puzzle together really, but I'm positive that I'll play a game for sure. I just don't know exactly when."

The livewire playmaker said he had had to "learn to run again" after surgery to reattach his hamstring to his pelvis.

"Then all the complications that come with kind of learning to run again and making sure that the muscles in and around that hamstring don't do too much or don't do too little," he said.

"I've been incredibly fortunate to never be injured in my career, and never even had a hamstring strain or anything like that but I'm well across what it looks like now and I've been in the gym for six months trying to get my hammies going again.

"...I had to get it surgically reattached, so pretty much when it came off my pelvis, I had to staple it back on, and then all the complications that come with learning to run again and making sure that the muscles in and around that hamstring don't do too much or don't do too little

"I've been incredibly fortunate to never get injured in my career and never even had a hamstring strain or anything like that but I'm well across what it looks like now.

McDermott's Reds and Wallabies halves partner Tom Lynagh has also been restricted to just one Super match after a series of injuries, with the latest his calf.

"He's had bad luck this year really and his body has let him down a little bit," McDermott said of the 23-year-old.

"Tommy's in a similar boat to me in terms of our return to play - we're both not too far away - but I just want to see him back out there playing and so does supporters of Queensland and Australian rugby.

"They want to see the player he was last year come back."



Mac Grealy of the Force and Tate McDermott of the Reds are seen ahead of the round eight

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# 2026 SEASON DRAW



## TRIAL 1

VERSUS  
WESTERN FORCE

FRI, JAN 23	LOCAL 4:35PM	AEST 6:35PM
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SCOTCH COLLEGE, PERTH

## TRIAL 2

VERSUS  
WARATAHS

SAT, JAN 31	LOCAL 2:00PM	AEST 2:00PM
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BALLYMORE STADIUM

## ROUND 01

NEW RUGBY  
WARATAHS

FRI, FEB 13	LOCAL 7:35PM	AEST 6:35PM
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ALLIANZ STADIUM

## ROUND 02

REDS

FEB 20-22  
BYE

## ROUND 03

HIGHLANDERS

FRI, FEB 27	LOCAL 6:35PM	AEST 6:35PM
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SUNCORP STADIUM

## ROUND 04

BRAKEMETERS

SAT, MAR 7	LOCAL 7:35PM	AEST 6:35PM
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GIO STADIUM

## ROUND 05

NEW RUGBY  
WARATAHS

SAT, MAR 14	LOCAL 6:35PM	AEST 6:35PM
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SUNCORP STADIUM

## ROUND 06

FUJIAN  
DRUA

SAT, MAR 21	LOCAL 3:35PM	AEST 1:35PM
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CHURCHILL PARK, LAUTOKA

## ROUND 07

HURICANS

SAT, MAR 28	LOCAL 4:35PM	AEST 1:35PM
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SKY STADIUM

## ROUND 08

WESTERN  
FORCE

SAT, APR 4	LOCAL 6:35PM	AEST 6:35PM
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SUNCORP STADIUM

## ROUND 09

CRUSADERS

SAT, APR 11	LOCAL 7:35PM	AEST 7:35PM
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SUNCORP STADIUM

## ROUND 10

REDS

APR 17-19  
BYE

## ROUND 11

BLUES

SAT, APR 25	LOCAL 7:35PM	AEST 5:35PM
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ONE NZ STADIUM

## ROUND 12

BRAKEMETERS

SAT, MAY 2	LOCAL 7:35PM	AEST 7:35PM
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SUNCORP STADIUM

## ROUND 13

CHIEFS

FRI, MAY 8	LOCAL 7:35PM	AEST 7:35PM
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SUNCORP STADIUM

## ROUND 14

WESTERN  
FORCE

SAT, MAY 16	LOCAL 5:35PM	AEST 7:35PM
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HBF PARK

## ROUND 15

MOANA PASIFIKA

SAT, MAY 23	LOCAL 4:35PM	AEST 2:35PM
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NORTH HARBOUR STADIUM

## ROUND 16

FUJIAN  
DRUA

FRI, MAY 29	LOCAL 7:35PM	AEST 7:35PM
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SUNCORP STADIUM

## QUALIFYING

TBC

FRI JUN 5	SAT JUN 6
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## SEMI-FINALS

TBC

FRI JUN 12	SAT JUN 13
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## FINALS

TBC

SAT, JUN 20



HOME AWAY

\*SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

# bms.



# RUGBY RUNS RED