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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>2020 HIGHLIGHTS</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE</b>	<b>11</b>
Jeff Miller	
<b>CEO'S MESSAGE</b>	<b>15</b>
David Hanham	
<b>ST.GEORGE QUEENSLAND REDS</b>	<b>17</b>
Season in Review	
Stan Pilecki Medal Statistics	
<b>ST.GEORGE QUEENSLAND WOMENS XV</b>	<b>27</b>
Season in Review	
Statistics	
<b>COMMUNITY RUGBY</b>	<b>30</b>
Participation	
<b>QUEENSLAND PREMIER RUGBY</b>	<b>34</b>
Mens	<b>34</b>
Womens	<b>36</b>
<b>SEVENS RUGBY</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>QUEENSLAND COUNTRY RUGBY</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>REDS ACADEMY</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>SUPER 6</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>AFFILIATE REPORTS</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>2020 FINANCIAL REPORT</b>	<b>75</b>
Queensland Rugby Union Ltd	<b>75</b>
Directors' Report	<b>76</b>
Auditor's Independence Declaration	<b>81</b>
<b>OFFICE BEARERS</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>QRU LIFE MEMBERS</b>	<b>107</b>
<b>HONOUR BOARD</b>	<b>108</b>
<b>VALES</b>	<b>110</b>



# 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- The St.George Queensland Reds qualified for their first Grand Final in nine years
- The Reds qualified for their first finals game in seven years
- The Reds hosted their first finals game at Suncorp Stadium in eight years
- The Bob Templeton Cup was reclaimed for the first time in seven years after ending an 11-game losing streak against New South Wales in Round 1 of the Super Rugby AU competition
- The Reds won most games in a year (8) since the 2013 Super Rugby season
- The Reds claimed their two largest wins in Queensland Super Rugby history
  - 59-point winning margin (64-5 win v Sunwolves, Super Rugby Round 4 – Brisbane)
  - 52-point winning margin (57-5 win v Force, Super Rugby AU Round 8 – Gold Coast)
- The Reds remained unbeaten at home during entire Super Rugby AU tournament
- The Reds won the most games at Suncorp Stadium (7) in a single season since 2012
- The Reds won six straight games at Suncorp Stadium (Round 7 v Bulls, \*Round 1 v Waratahs, \*Round 3 v Force, \*Round 7 v Rebels, \*Round 10 v Brumbies & \*Qualifying Final v Rebels) for the first time in nine years
- The Reds won four straight games (\*Round 7 v Rebels, \*Round 8 v Force, \*Round 10 v Brumbies & \*Qualifying Final v Rebels) for the first time in eight years
- The Reds won four straight Australian derby matches for the first time in eight years
- The Reds won five straight games against Australian opposition at Suncorp Stadium equalling the record set in 2013
- Finished as the second-best defensive team in Super Rugby AU conceding 150 points (three points shy of top-placed Brumbies)
- The Reds kept an opponent to under 10-points in three straight matches for the



Queensland Reds thank fans after Qualifying Final at Suncorp Stadium





Tate McDermott and Liam Wright sing the National Anthem at Suncorp Stadium.

- first time in Queensland history (19-3 v Rebels, 57-5 v Force & 26-7 v Brumbies)
- The Reds scored Queensland's highest amount of tries (65) in a season since 2011
- The Reds scored the equal-highest amount of tries (33) in Super Rugby AU
- The Reds averaged the most points per game (28.4) since 2002
- The Reds averaged the most tries per game (3.8) in the club's history beating the previous mark of 3.3 set in 2002 and 2010
- The Reds kicked the highest amount of conversions (25) in Super Rugby AU
- The Reds finished as the best-placed Super Rugby AU team in all attacking stats, scoring a total of 215 points - more than any other team:
  - Most metres: 4616
  - Most carries: 1143
  - Most clean breaks: 109
  - Most defenders beaten: 247
  - Most offloads: 82
  - Most passes: 1546
  - Most kicks from hand: 232
- The Reds made the most tackles (1421) of any Super Rugby AU team
- The Reds produced the most turnovers (78) of any Super Rugby AU team
- James O'Connor finished as highest points scorer (102) in Super Rugby AU and:
  - Became the only player in Super Rugby history to score 100 points for three different clubs
  - Kicked the most conversions (22) in Super Rugby AU
- Finished with most kicks from hand (117) in Super Rugby AU
- Finished with most try assists (8) in Super Rugby AU
- Tate McDermott scored the second most tries (9) by a Reds player in a single season behind only Chris Latham with 10 in 2002
- Filippo Daugunu finished as Super Rugby AU's best attacking player topping:
  - Most metres: 771
  - Most carries: 117
  - Most defenders beaten: 36
  - Most offloads: 13
  - Most tries: 6
- Filippo Daugunu finished second for most line breaks (15) in Super Rugby AU with Jock Campbell and Tate McDermott equal third (13)
- Tate McDermott (34) and Jock Campbell (26) finished second and third respectively behind Daugunu with most defenders beaten in Super Rugby AU
- James O'Connor (12) and Lukhan Salakaia-Loto (9) finished second and third respectively behind Daugunu with most offloads in Super Rugby AU
- Harry Wilson (112) and James O'Connor (106) finished second and third respectively behind Daugunu with most carries in Super Rugby AU
- Harry Wilson totalled 195 runs eclipsing the previous record set by Samu Kerevi of 193 in 2019
- Harry Wilson finished with the most tackles (120) in Super Rugby AU

# 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Harry Wilson finished as the only player to make 100+ tackles and carries in Super Rugby AU
- Liam Wright (113) and Hamish Stewart (109) finished second and third respectively behind Wilson with most tackles in Super Rugby AU
- Fraser McReight finished with the most turnovers (18) in Super Rugby AU
- Lukhan Salakaia-Loto finished third for most lineouts won (35) in Super Rugby AU
- Taniela Tupou won his maiden Pilecki Medal
- Harry Wilson was named Rookie of the Year
- Liam Wright won the Spirit of the Reds award
- Taniela Tupou was crowned the MVP of Super Rugby AU
- Taniela Tupou celebrated his 50th cap for Queensland
- Lukhan Salakaia-Loto celebrated his 50th cap for Queensland
- 13 players made their Queensland debuts:
  - **Henry Speight** – Queensland Rep No. 1344 (Round 1 v Brumbies, Canberra)
  - **Harry Wilson** – Queensland Rep No. 1345 (Round 1 v Brumbies, Canberra)
  - **Dane Zander** – Queensland Rep No. 1346 (Round 1 v Brumbies, Canberra)
  - **Hunter Paisami** – Queensland Rep No. 1347 (Round 1 v Brumbies, Canberra)
  - **Seru Uru** – Queensland Rep No. 1348 (Round 1 v Brumbies, Canberra)
  - **Josh Nasser** – Queensland Rep No. 1349 (Round 1 v Lions, Johannesburg)
  - **Ed Craig** – Queensland Rep No. 1350 (Round 4 v Sunwolves, Brisbane)
  - **Tuaina Taii Tualima** – Queensland Rep No. 1351 (\*Round 1 v Waratahs, Brisbane)
  - **Josh Flook** – Queensland Rep No. 1352 (\*Round 2 v Rebels, Sydney)
  - **Jack Straker** – Queensland Rep No. 1353 (\*Round 3 v Force, Brisbane)
  - **Zane Nonggorr** – Queensland Rep No. 1354 (\*Round 6 v Waratahs,



Queensland Reds Harry Hoopert, Kiri Lingman and Jack Hardy pictured with local juniors at Condamine Cods Rugby Club





Lesia Mataafa takes on the Melbourne Rebels defence at Suncorp Stadium

- Sydney)
  - **Jethro Felemi** – Queensland Rep No. 1355 (\*Round 7 v Rebels, Brisbane)
  - **Sean Farrell** – Queensland Rep No. 1356 (\*Round 7 v Rebels, Brisbane)
- *\*post-COVID competition resumption*
- 11 players represented Australia:
  - **Brandon Paenga-Amosa**
  - **Taniela Tupou**
  - **Lukhan Salakaia-Loto**
  - **Liam Wright**
  - **Fraser McReight**
  - **Harry Wilson**
  - **James O'Connor**
  - **Tate McDermott**
  - **Hunter Paisami**
  - **Jordan Petaia**
  - **Filipo Daugunu**
- Five players made their Australian debuts:
  - **Filipo Daugunu** – Wallaby No. 931 (v New Zealand, Wellington)
  - **Hunter Paisami** – Wallaby No. 932 (v New Zealand, Wellington)
  - **Harry Wilson** – Wallaby No. 933 (v New Zealand, Wellington)
  - **Tate McDermott** – Wallaby No. 936 (v New Zealand, Sydney)
  - **Fraser McReight** – Wallaby No. 937 (v New Zealand, Sydney)
- The St.George Queensland Reds finished runners-up in a COVID-19 shortened Super W season
- 12 players made their Queensland debuts:
  - **Courtney Hodder** (Round 2 v Rugby WA, Perth)
  - **Okeroa Manihera** (Round 2 v Rugby WA, Perth)
  - **Natassja Purontakanen** (Round 2 v Rugby WA, Perth)
- **Lesia Mataafa** (Round 2 v Rugby WA, Perth)
- **Maraea Tupai** (Round 2 v Rugby WA, Perth)
- **Melanie Wilks** (Round 2 v Rugby WA, Perth)
- **Gabrielle Senft** (Round 3 v Melbourne Rebels, Brisbane)
- **Hilisha Samoa** (Round 3 v Melbourne Rebels, Brisbane)
- **Kauna Lopa** (Round 3 v Melbourne Rebels, Brisbane)
- **Aleena Greenhalgh** (Round 3 v Melbourne Rebels, Brisbane)
- **Destiny Brill** (Round 3 v Melbourne Rebels, Brisbane)
- **Hagiga Mosby** (Round 4 v NSW Waratahs, Brisbane)
- Lori Cramer finished second for points scored in Super W (38)
- Courtney Hodder finished second for tries scored in Super W (5)
- Lori Cramer kicked the most conversions in Super W (16)
- Courtney Hodder finished with the most running metres in Super W (301)
- Shannon Mato finished with the most carries in Super W (54)
- Courtney Hodder made the third most clean breaks in Super W (9)
- Alana Elisaia beat the most defenders in Super W (27)
- Cobie-Jane Morgan led the Super W in try assists (5)

# 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, a shortened Queensland Premier Rugby competition went ahead after the enforced lockdown, with the help of the Rugby community ensuring the competition was played
- The Premier Rugby clubs general managers worked together throughout the year with QRU to manage the return of Rugby and an uninterrupted 11-Round season was just reward for the administrators hard work behind the scenes
- Easts claimed the Hospital Challenge Cup with a 33-18 win over the University of Queensland
- Rhys van Nek was awarded the Tony Shaw Medal as man of the match
- Easts won the Women's Premier Rugby competition with a 17-15 win over GPS
- Easts set a new competition record, winning a total of six premierships across the the grades. A feat that has never been achieved before - First Grade, Women's, Second Grade, Third Grade, Fifth Grade and Colts 4
- Former Wallabies and current Easts captain Ben Mowen was named the Alec Evans medalist as the Hospital Challenge Cup's player of the year
- Brothers took out all three colts titles on Grand Final weekend, a triple crown effort.
- University of Queensland's Mac Greal was named Queensland U20s player of the year
- Easts and Brothers shared the Doughty Shield (club championship)
- Easts won the Horsley Cup (minor premiership)
- GPS won the Bunter Bowl
- The University of Queensland won the Welsby Cup
- Josh Collins (GPS) finished as leading try scorer
- Eli Pilz (Easts) finished as leading point scorer
- 17 Queenslanders represented Australia in Sevens
- Nick Malouf received the Shawn Mackay Award as the Australian Men's Sevens player of the year
- QRU continues to boast the highest overall social media following within Australian Rugby with 193,400 followers on Facebook, 86,500 on Instagram and 70,700 on Twitter.
- Brisbane Boys College won the Greater Public Schools (GPS) First XV Premiership



Easts Captain Ben Mowen celebrates scoring a try





Bond Uni's Faythe Manera gets a flick pass away

- St Laurence's College and Marist College Ashgrove shared the Associated Independent Colleges (AIC) First XV Premiership
- Sub-unions across Queensland held competitions and crowned premiers despite the logistical challenges of the pandemic. A great nod to the spirit within the Rugby community in Queensland.
- Women's Rugby returned to the Far North Queensland competition after a period of absence and the Northern Beaches Mudcrabs claimed the title.
- The Darling Downs competition saw the Toowoomba Bears claim their first Risdon Cup in over 10 years, Warwick claimed their first ever title in B Grade and USQ Women also claimed their maiden title.
- Griffith University Knights took out both first and second grade in the Gold Coast competition.
- Eumundi Dragons returned to the Sunshine Coast competition in reserve grade after over an 100 year absence.
- Q7s tournaments were run throughout the state in 2020 allowing plenty of opportunity for Queensland students to experience the game of Rugby. These tournaments culminated in the All Schools 7s which saw 68 teams converge on Albany Creek Rugby Club.
- Despite the abandonment of the AON University Sevens due to COVID, Queensland was able to host an internal tournament which saw the University of Queensland, Griffith University and Bond University compete. Bond proved to be the team to beat claiming the title.
- Junior Rugby experienced a resurgence in the Central Highlands region driven by a dedicated local volunteer base.
- Townsville Brothers ended Teachers Wests dominance over the TDRU A Grade competition, ending the Bulldogs five year reign with a come-from-behind 22-19 win.
- QRU launched the In Touch mental health program in 2020, utilising digital mediums such as ZOOM to begin online training sessions before commencing face-to-face training later in the year.



Toowoomba Bears celebrate their first Risdon Cup in 10 years

# CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

JEFF MILLER



Last year was perhaps the most challenging year for Rugby since the 1920s when our game actually collapsed for several years due to the impact of the war and the Spanish Flu pandemic.

It is perhaps a testament to the strength of our clubs, our players and the determination of QRU staff that COVID-19 has not caused a similar breakdown of the game in Queensland.

There is no doubt that it would have been easy – as with other sports – to suspend games for the year.

But in the face of overwhelming financial and social disruption, our game has been able to both navigate the challenges and emerge, hopefully, stronger, more resilient and with renewed optimism for the future.

I do want to make the point that the survival of our game during the pandemic did not come about in March or April.

It came about because of the tough decisions we have made, the people we have put in place and the stability we have worked so hard to achieve in the past few years.

The Board has taken a very deliberate strategy of stability and consistency across the Reds, our

programs, our executive and our own directors.

Before the pandemic hit, we had started to see signs of an agile, focused organisation – and as it turned out, one which was capable of facing up to such an existential shock.

The QRU instituted three clear goals for surviving as an organisation through the pandemic.

First, and most importantly, we wanted to ensure the health and safety of our people – our staff, volunteers and our players.

Second, we needed to ensure the financial viability of the QRU, in terms of cash flow and reducing debt.

Last, we needed to ensure the safety and viability of our clubs during the COVID-19 period.

We believe we have achieved all three goals.

Pleasingly, the QRU recorded a profit for the 2020 financial year of \$2,113,103.

It is important to note that - while this result was underpinned by Government stimulus funding of \$1,950,921 – it only served to partially offset a reduction in annual broadcast-related funding of nearly \$3 million.

The difference was made up by rapidly implemented cost-saving initiatives including:

- Temporary reduction in all staff and player remuneration;
- Renegotiation of key supply contracts; and,
- Restructuring of the QRU workforce.

Moreover, in spite of the pandemic, the QRU was able to maintain its efforts to strengthen its balance sheet and reduce debt exposure such that current liabilities such as bank debt, dropped by a further \$1 million over the course of the financial year.

It would be remiss of me at this point to not strongly thank QRU Board, staff and players, our constitutional members, St. George Bank as Naming Rights Partner, and all other corporate





The National Rugby Training Centre Ballymore Redevelopment concept drawing

partners, including Santos as a new Major Partner, for their support during 2020.

## ST. GEORGE QUEENSLAND REDS

In March last year, there was no guarantee that any form of Super Rugby would proceed, and our men's team spent at least six weeks training without knowing when, or who, they would be playing.

Again, I want to particularly recognise the sacrifices made not just by our players, but by the entire coaching and support staff who were effectively forced to quarantine themselves from society within a 'team bubble' for several months.

In those circumstances, to be able to thrive and emerge as Grand Finalists was a true achievement.

While the team ultimately fell short against a very good opponent in the Brumbies, the QRU is thrilled with the marked improvement of a very impressive group of young men.

We believe that one reason for this is the emphasis we have put on connecting with our Rugby community throughout the State.

The Reds to Regions tour in the pre-season saw our Reds players travel to Rugby Clubs throughout regional Queensland. They were billeted with locals, assisted at training sessions and more importantly, helped out on farms and small businesses in those communities.

It reminded our players of both the privilege and responsibility of playing for the Queensland Reds, and the people they represent when they wear the maroon jersey. This initiative of our

Head Coach Brad Thorn was repeated with similarly positive results early in 2021.

The success of our season was bookended by the selection of 11 Queenslanders in the Wallaby squad, with nine of them included in the match-day 23 for the final Bledisloe Cup Test.

That list included five debutants – Filippo Dugunnu, Tate McDermott, Fraser McReight, Hunter Paisami and Harry Wilson.

The Queensland Reds finished as runners up in the Super W competition for the third straight year. The team only dropped one match during the regular season against NSW.

Queensland were due to face the Brumbies in the play-off final before the season was brought to a halt due to COVID.

The players trained in isolation before returning to their respective club sides for what was the best Women's Premier season in recent memory. It was great to see all nine Premier Rugby clubs field Women's teams for the first time ever.

## BALLYMORE

Work has begun on the long-promised redevelopment of Ballymore, which will include the construction of the National Rugby Training Centre and New McLean Stand.

The demolition of the old McLean Stand has finally commenced, and construction of the new facility is expected to be complete by the second half of 2022.

In 2020, the QRU secured a \$15 million investment from the Palaszczuk State Government which, together with the \$15 million Commonwealth commitment, is the biggest

# CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

## JEFF MILLER

capital grant ever given to Rugby in Australia.

The project is based on detailed and independent analyses commissioned by the QRU to determine the best location and type of build for the new facility.

I am pleased to report that we have the unanimous support of our Constitutional Members.

The design of the NRTC both honours the history of the old McLean Stand and provides the QRU with an exciting opportunity as the centrepiece of a redevelopment of Ballymore.

We believe the NRTC and New McLean Stand is the first stage in a journey towards financial sustainability via a stream of stable annual earnings, as opposed to the dramatic peaks and troughs of on-field performance.

At the end of the 2020 financial year, just shy of \$700,000 had been committed in expenditure to the project - the project has entered the Schematic Design phase and construction is expected to begin mid-2021.

We expect that overall funding will be finalised in the 2021 financial year and be ably supported by QRU fundraising initiatives.

It is important to note that grant funding is specific to the construction of the NRTC and New McLean Stand and is quarantined from operating expenditure. The grant funding and initial project expenditure had no impact on the QRU's 2020 financial result.

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### GAME DEVELOPMENT

As mentioned above, the 2020 season demonstrated the strength of our community clubs, schools, and associations.

With the onset of COVID-19, clubs, in particular, faced the challenge of maintaining engagement with their membership without the regular interaction of training, games, and events.

It is worth noting that regions such as Mt Isa – unaffected by the pandemic – also dutifully abandoned the finals series of their summer competitions in line with State-wide measures.

While other winter codes cancelled their 2020 season, Rugby established a plan with the vision

to protect the health and safety of our people and the financial viability and sustainability of our clubs.

Through a coordinated series of Zoom conferences, a gradual plan developed that allowed competition to re-commence in every affiliated region in line with the approved industry COVID-Safe plan for field sports.

Ultimately, more than 23,000 registered club players participated in reconfigured competitions that pushed well into the Spring.

Schools, as a shining example, were able to return to play, with all new competitions even being introduced in areas such as Mackay.

The 2020 year also saw a renewed focus on our 'customers' - the key associations and clubs that provide the assets that enable participation and support of our game. The necessary adoption of new technology such as Zoom which allowed for greater financial and geographical efficiency with meetings and forums, and the rebirth of a focus on local delivery, engagement and leadership.

Coach and match official education, Sporting Schools and Rookies 2 Reds, carnivals and event-based activities all experienced cancellations due to COVID-19, with many programs changed to ensure safe delivery.

In spite of this, there was an increase in coach education activity, while match official education was moved to an online service through a new program called Referee Ready.

The Q7s program saw many events closed to spectators but was still able to enable new competitions through Brisbane Catholic Education primary schools, and the delivery of the State All Schools 7s.

The In Touch Mental Health Program was expanded across the state with an increased marketing focus to further develop the awareness of, and capacity to support mental health within our community clubs, schools and associations.

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### PREMIER RUGBY

Ballymore's last Grand Final before the redevelopment was held in November. Easts





Representatives from the nine Queensland Premier Rugby clubs gather to re-launch the competition post lockdown.

won the Hospital Cup Grand Final and five other premierships across the grades including the Women's Premier Grade competition, a new record for any club within Premier Rugby.

formats. Many did not include finals with the focus more appropriately on providing the opportunity for as many children as possible to participate.

## SUBURBAN RUGBY

The competition was able to field its first ever open women's competition culminating in the Grand Final at Ballymore in tandem with the male First Grade competition - the Barber Cup.

These fixtures were held following the Premier Rugby preliminary finals with a large crowd in attendance at a quality game eventually won by Goodna over Brisbane Irish. Redlands claimed a convincing win over Ipswich in the Women's final.

## COUNTRY RUGBY

The pandemic saw the suspension of all pathway representative programs which meant that no Queensland Country representative teams or competitions were conducted in 2020. The focus was instead shifted to club Rugby.

Many competitions in central and north Queensland increased participation, in part fuelled by the availability of Rugby as one of a reduced choice of local sporting options. There were also new female competitions that emerged in areas such as Far North Queensland.

## JUNIOR RUGBY

There were reduced numbers of registered junior players due to the dislocation of the traditional season patterning of junior sport as many families had to choose between activities that were usually separated on the calendar. Seasons were conducted in a variety of flexible

## CONCLUSION

Our biggest win this year is one which – ordinarily - happens every year, that is, just playing the game of Rugby.

The QRU is proud of the fact that almost every club in Queensland was able to field teams in competitions despite the impact of COVID on both operations and the lives of their players and volunteers.

We have also – again in spite of the challenges of COVID-19 – seen continued growth in Women's Rugby. This year every Premier Club fielded a Women's XV's side and many regional associations also began or continued very successful Women's competitions in both XV's and Sevens.

But keeping our clubs playing this year has had a much bigger impact than just getting players back on the field.

The old adage that 'sport is the glue that holds our society together' has never rung more true than it did in 2020. It has provided great opportunity for our communities to celebrate – or commiserate – together.

Through the efforts of our Community Rugby staff, and the efforts of our clubs and Regional Associations throughout the State, our game has been able to provide some joy to the communities we live in, during the most challenging period most of us have lived in.

# CEO'S MESSAGE

## DAVID HANHAM



The COVID-19 pandemic presented significant challenges to the Queensland Rugby Union during 2020. Through the sacrifices and effort of our Board, staff and players, the Union has both survived the crisis and positioned itself for future success.

Among many, there were three highlights from the year:

- The commencement of the first stage of the Ballymore Redevelopment;
- The success of the St. George Queensland Reds both on-and-off the field;
- The securing of a broadcast contract to take our Community game to the next level.

### BALLYMORE

After decades of discussion, the Ballymore redevelopment is underway, beginning with the demolition of the old McLean Stand and the rebuilding of the Ballymore National Rugby Training Centre and New McLean Stand being an essential first stage.

The QRU's priority is a redevelopment that provides for sustainable financial security from Ballymore, alleviating the annual million dollar burden of maintaining the precinct.

The QRU has submitted a masterplan to planning authorities which, if approved, will lead

to a sustainable future for the precinct through the addition of commercial sporting facilities such as swim schools and climbing gyms, as well as commercial operations such as an Allied Health Precinct.

The stadium itself – particularly the 30-year-old Eastern Stand - requires a further substantial capital contribution to meet modern standards. The QRU will continue to work closely with the State and Federal Governments and the private sector on future solutions.

Indeed, the next decade provides significant opportunity for Ballymore to play a part in several proposed major events, including the 2025 British & Irish Lions tour, the 2027 Rugby World Cup and, potentially, the 2032 Olympics, at which Ballymore could be both an elite training facility and a match venue with appropriate investment.

### ST. GEORGE QUEENSLAND REDS

The structures and pathways the QRU has put in place in the past three years have begun to bear results for the St. George Queensland Reds.

A Grand Final appearance in Super Rugby AU last year, with almost 90 per cent of our players having come through our pathways, is a tremendous achievement.

The challenge in the next few years will be not just achieving but sustaining success.

We have locked in a significant number of our playing and coaching group on long-term contracts, which will provide for stability over the next two to three years.

The attraction of training in the new Ballymore National Rugby Training Centre should not be underestimated in the desire of players to stay at not just a winning club, but one based at a world-class facility.

The Queensland Reds missed the chance to contest their third consecutive Super W finals series with the COVID lock down bringing the season to an abrupt halt at the end of the regular season.



With a Women's Rugby World Cup in New Zealand approaching as well as the Olympics in Tokyo, there are exciting opportunities for our Women's players in the near future, while we hope that Ballymore will play a large part in the future success of the Women's game in Australia as the National Rugby Training Centre becomes the new home base for the Wallaroos.

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## COMMUNITY RUGBY

Our three strategic priorities of Workforce, Competition, and Sustainability have all been refined through COVID-19 to provide a better alignment with our key customers.

The QRU has led Australia in the development of a network of World Rugby trained educators to deliver coach and match officials education and accreditation within the local communities. The intent is that key associations, clubs and schools with educators will be able to provide their own Level 1 accreditation courses with the service scaling up to Level 2 in subsequent years.

Improvements in data through a universal system of annual registration in Rugby Xplorer for all workforce is the key to a better and more targeted customer communication which will improve access, compliance and completion of education and accreditation.

Initiatives to support higher quality within our participation will enable increases in participation rates, more importantly through retention and satisfaction. Improvements in competition management, including judiciary and member protection for our associations and clubs are central to this priority.

The next stage of our State Facilities Plan will see local regional plans developed to support facility improvements in areas such as renewed gender inclusive facilities and efficient, modern LED lighting as well as identifying areas for future growth through new facilities and clubs.

Our Women in Rugby pillar has been supported by a panel of female community leaders that have identified six areas of focus for the strategy. At the highest level, the QRU will be seeking increases in female registration for key workforce categories such as coaches, match officials and administrators.

This more visible platform will enable increases in the numbers of schools and clubs providing female participation, ultimately increasing the number of female registered players.

There will be more support and training for

association and club committees to provide inclusive environments for this increase in diversity this growth will bring.

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## BROADCAST

The QRU's strategy of owning its own content has meant we are in a position to have the Hospital Challenge Cup included as part of the offering for the new free-to-air and subscription broadcast package.

Unlike other States, which paid to have their competitions broadcast, the QRU's strategy has meant that the revenue from Broadcast is able to be returned to the Community game, rather than paid out to third parties.

There's no doubt that having the Hospital Cup broadcast widely this year will provide more exposure for our up-and-coming players and showcase the passion and enthusiasm of our Premier Clubs.

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## CONCLUSION

2020 is proving to be a defining year for the QRU, with the first stage of the Ballymore Redevelopment setting the organisation up for success in the next decade. Both the proposed 2027 Rugby World Cup and the 2032 Olympics provide opportunities for increased capital investment and participation growth for our game.

I'd like to once again thank our Board, staff, players for the sacrifices they made over the course of the year, and also thank our Clubs, members, volunteers, partners and all players for supporting the QRU through such a challenging time.



# ST. GEORGE QUEENSLAND REDS

## SEASON IN REVIEW

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### ROUND 1 V BRUMBIES

#### BRUMBIES 27 DEF REDS 24

##### GIO STADIUM - CANBERRA

Queensland was handed a tough start to the 2020 Super Rugby season – flying around the world to three different continents in three weeks - but the Reds embraced the challenge, as they kickstarted their campaign in Canberra. Against his former teammates, Henry Speight opened his Queensland account with the game's first five-pointer. Bryce Hegarty added to an earlier penalty goal with a try of his own to lead the Brumbies 17-7 at halftime. The home side streaked away in the second stanza – scoring three unanswered tries, before a late five-pointer to Queensland debutant Harry Wilson reduced the margin to three points with three minutes remaining, but the Reds were unable to snatch a late come-from-behind victory.

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### ROUND 2 V LIONS

#### LIONS 27 DEF REDS 20

##### EMIRATES AIRLINES PARK - JOHANNESBURG

The Reds embarked on the second leg of their three-week road trip – flying from Canberra to Sydney and then to Johannesburg. In a tightly contested match against the Lions at Ellis Park, neither side held a lead of more than seven-points during the game. A runaway 50-metre

try to Jock Campbell and a pair of penalties to Bryce Hegarty saw the Reds trail 17-13 at half-time. A dominant Queensland scrum and stubborn defence kept the scoreline close for the remainder of the match. Tate McDermott crossed after the break to see Queensland reclaim the lead at 20-17, but the visitors were unable to hold-out a fast-finishing Lions side at home.

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### ROUND 3 V JAGUARES

#### JAGUARES 43 DEF REDS 27,

##### ESATDIO JOSE AMALFITAIN - BUENOS AIRES

Queensland departed South Africa for South America – first flying to Sao Paulo in Brazil and then a connecting flight to Argentina for their clash with the Jaguares in Buenos Aires. The Reds were rocked by a season-ending shoulder injury during the week at training to Jordan Petaia, but it proved a silver lining as Hunter Paisami started at outside centre for the first time and went on to star for Queensland in a man-of-the-match performance. Chris Feauai-Sautia was also a standout – scoring a first-half double and proving just as damaging in defence. Captain Liam Wright and Tate McDermott also crossed in the opening 40 minutes as Queensland looked in cruise control, leading 24-12 at the break. On the back of a lop-sided penalty count in favour of the home side, the 2019 Super Rugby runners-up raced in five unanswered tries in the second half to eventually clinch a 16-point win.



Queensland Reds scrumhalf Tate McDermott dives over for a try.





Queensland Reds winger Henry Speight

## ROUND 4 V SUNWOLVES

### REDS 64 DEF SUNWOLVES 5

#### SUNCORP STADIUM - BRISBANE

Back in Brisbane after circumnavigating the globe for three weeks, Queensland were determined to notch their first win of the season in front of their fans at home. The Reds responded in dominant fashion, as they recorded their biggest victory in Super Rugby history – running in 10 tries to secure a clinical 59-point win. Tate McDermott scored a double to make it four tries in as many games, with Hunter Paisami and Josh Nasser crossing for their maiden Super Rugby five-pointers in Queensland's first win of 2020.

## ROUND 5 V SHARKS

### SHARKS 33 DEF REDS 23

#### SUNCORP STADIUM – BRISBANE

Buoyed by their drought-breaking victory the previous week and playing back-to-back home games for the first time in 2020, Queensland continued that scoring momentum against the Durban-based Sharks side to lead 11-8 at the break. In a seesawing second-half, Tate McDermott again found the line for his fifth try of the season, but in a late five-minute surge the Sharks scored back-to-back tries to open up a commanding 17-point lead. Despite victory being out of reach, the Reds refused to give-up and their never-say-die attitude paid off as Ed Craig crossed for his maiden try in the 83rd minute in front of almost 14,000 passionate Queensland fans.

## ROUND 6 V CRUSADERS

### CRUSADERS 24 DEF REDS 20

#### ORANGETHEORY STADIUM – CHRISTCHURCH

A valiant Queensland side showed they were a force to be reckoned with as they outscored the reigning Super Rugby champions four-tries-to-three, only to fall four points shy of a historic victory in Christchurch. Locked at 10-all at halftime, the two teams traded tries before the Crusaders opened up a nine-point lead with 10 minutes to play. Later voted as the Super Rugby try of the season, Henry Speight finished off a spectacular 80-metre team try to give the Reds a chance to snatch victory, but the visitors were unable to break through in the final minutes, as the hosts extended their home ground winning streak to 34 games.

## ROUND 7 V BULLS

### REDS 41 DEF BULLS 17

#### SUNCORP STADIUM – BRISBANE

The Reds were staring down their sixth loss of the season after trailing a fast-starting Bulls side 17-nil after just 16 minutes of play. In what would soon become a trademark trait of Queensland in 2020, the Reds refused to throw in the towel and staged an impressive fightback. Queensland's attacking flair and attractive style of running-Rugby soon kicked into gear, as the home side scored six unanswered tries – including four in the second half, to claim a dominant bonus-point victory. Following the win, SANZAAR later confirmed the competition was suspended as the Reds, like most Australians, were forced

into isolation. For a month, players and staff adapted to working and training from home. The team then embraced a second pre-season at Ballymore under strict bio-security restrictions for six weeks before Super Rugby finally resumed in a newly created Australian competition in early July.

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## **SUPER RUGBY AU COMMENCES (POST-COVID 19 COMPETITION SUSPENSION)**

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### **ROUND 1 V WARATAHS**

**REDS 32 DEF WARATAHS 26**

**SUNCORP STADIUM – BRISBANE**

Almost four months after their last game of Rugby against the Bulls back in March, the Reds returned to Suncorp Stadium to take on the Waratahs in the opening fixture of the new Super Rugby AU tournament. Reds captain Liam Wright crossed in the 5th minute to snare the opening try of the new domestic tournament, but it wouldn't be the only piece of history the skipper would claim that night. Queensland went into the sheds up 19-13 following tries to Filipo Daugunu and Tate McDermott, before New South Wales fought back and found themselves leading 23-19 early in the second half. Harry Wilson bulldozed his way through the defence to reclaim the lead, before a yellow card to Taniela Tupou and the resulting penalty from Will Harrison set up a thrilling finish with the scores locked at 26-all heading into the final 10 minutes. The one-man disadvantage failed to stop Queensland, as James O'Connor booted two late penalty goals to see the Reds reclaim the Bob Templeton Cup for the first time in seven years – ending an 11-

game losing streak against New South Wales.

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### **ROUND 2 V REBELS**

**REDS 18 DREW REBELS 18**

**BROOKVALE OVAL - SYDNEY**

In a brave new world of COVID-19, the Reds embarked on their maiden 'fly-in-fly-out' domestic trip that involved a chartered flight on the same day of the game. With Melbourne in lockdown and the Rebels relocated to Sydney, the Round 2 fixture was staged in Sydney at Brookvale Oval. In wet conditions, Queensland trailed by 10-points with six minutes to play, before an incredible runaway try to Alex Mafi and a James O'Connor conversion on the stroke of fulltime locked the scores at 18-all to send the game into Super Rugby AU's very first 'Super Time', where the first points scored of extra time would win the match. A scrum penalty gave Bryce Hegarty a shot at victory with a 50-metre penalty goal at the end of the first period of extra time, but the fullback was unable to make the most of the tough chance. Neither team was able to break the deadlock in the final five minutes of play, as the two sides split the points with an 18-all draw following 90-minutes of Rugby.

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### **ROUND 3 V FORCE**

**REDS 31 DEF FORCE 24,**

**SUNCORP STADIUM – BRISBANE**

Up against the Force for the first time in three years, following the West Australian side's return to Super Rugby, Queensland were caught off-



Queensland Reds Angus Scott-Young and Liam Wright with the Bob Templeton Cup





The Queensland Reds celebrate a Hamish Stewart try at Suncorp Stadium.

guard early as the visitors scored two quick tries to lead 14-nil after as many minutes. As they showed all year, the Reds rallied and crossed for three unanswered five-pointers to Brandon Paenga-Amosa, Jock Campbell and Taniela Tupou to claim a 21-19 lead at halftime. The two sides traded tries early in the second-half before a yellow card to Hunter Paisami threatened to let the Force back into the game, but James O'Connor had other ideas – slotting a drop goal in the final minute to seal the win.

Following their visit to Canberra, Queensland endured back-to-back 'fly-in-fly-out' games and were greeted in Sydney to a fresh Waratahs side who were coming off the bye. The home side dominated the first-half, racing out to a 38-nil advantage at half-time. In pouring rain, the floodgates could've easily opened in the second-half, but Queensland showed plenty of heart and again refused to throw in the towel. The Reds outscored New South Wales 12-7 courtesy of tries to Jack Hardy and James O'Connor in a more evenly balanced second stanza of Rugby at the SCG.

## ROUND 5 V BRUMBIES

### BRUMBIES 22 DEF REDS 20

#### GIO STADIUM – CANBERRA

Undefeated after their opening three games of Super Rugby AU, Queensland travelled to Canberra in a top-of-the-table clash against the Brumbies. The home side dominated the opening half to lead 14-3 at halftime, before a two-try blitz after the break, plus a penalty to James O'Connor, saw the Reds hold a 20-14 advantage for much of the second half. The Brumbies fought back in the final minutes to come within a point of the lead with their third rolling maul try off a five-metre lineout. Queensland were unable to secure victory in the dying stages, as Mack Hansen kicked a long-range penalty after the siren to deliver the Brumbies a two-point win in a heartbreaking finish.

## ROUND 6 V WARATAHS

### WARATAHS 45 DEF REDS 12

#### SYDNEY CRICKET GROUND – SYDNEY

## ROUND 7 V REBELS

### REDS 19 DEF REBELS 3

#### SUNCORP STADIUM – BRISBANE

With their interstate travel finished for the regular season, Queensland were determined to show last week's heavy loss against the Waratahs was an anomaly and the Reds did just that, with arguably one of their best defensive efforts in Queensland history. With the home side holding a 14-3 advantage at the break, the Rebels camped in the Reds' half for much of the second half but were unable to break through the stubborn Queensland defensive line. Incredibly, the Reds had just 9% of possession in the second-half and were forced to make 143 tackles to the Rebels' nine. When the Reds finally did have the ball, Hamish Stewart streaked 40-metres and carried multiple Melbourne defenders over the line to score a memorable try and seal a 16-point victory. Reds head coach Brad Thorn referred to the performance as 'origin-esque' in the post-match media conference.

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## ROUND 8 V FORCE

### REDS 57 DEF FORCE 5

#### CBUS SUPER STADIUM – GOLD COAST

Following their spirited showing against the Rebels, Queensland travelled down the M1 to play the Force on the Gold Coast. The Reds headed to the sheds with a commanding 15-nil advantage at half-time courtesy of a double to Filippo Daugunu before putting on a show in the second-half. Queensland's attractive style of attacking running Rugby was there to see – scoring six tries in the final half hour of play, including two brilliant individual efforts from Tate McDermott - to secure a dominant bonus-point win.

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## ROUND 10 V BRUMBIES

### REDS 26 DEF BRUMBIES 7

#### SUNCORP STADIUM – BRISBANE

In the final round of the regular season, the QRU held their ninth annual Indigenous Round and for the first time in Super Rugby history, two Australian teams wore their respective Indigenous jerseys with both Queensland and the Brumbies proudly showing off their unique designs at Suncorp Stadium. The Reds controlled the opening stages of the match, racing out to an 18-nil lead by the 36-minute mark courtesy of tries to Liam Wright and Chris Feauai-Sautia. In front of 9,922 fans – the biggest crowd at Suncorp Stadium in any code post-COVID, Queensland held the minor premiers scoreless in the second-half. Tate McDermott put the result beyond doubt with a try in the final five minutes to seal a 19-point win.

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## QUALIFYING FINAL V REBELS

### REDS 25 DEF REBELS 13

#### SUNCORP STADIUM – BRISBANE

After finishing the regular season in second-place, Queensland secured their first finals berth in seven years as they hosted the Rebels for a spot in the decider the following week. It proved a tight contest in the opening half with the score locked at 10-all at half-time following a runaway intercept try to Jordan Petaia and a James O'Connor penalty goal. Queensland scored the only five-pointers in the second-half with tries to Lukhan Salakaia-Loto - in his 50th game for Queensland - and Filippo Daugunu, following a lovely inside-line and pass from Taniela Tupou to the Fijian flyer who crashed over in the corner.

The 12-point win saw the Reds remain unbeaten at home during the entire Super Rugby AU tournament to secure Queensland's first Grand Final appearance since 2012.

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## GRAND FINAL V BRUMBIES

### BRUMBIES 28 DEF REDS 23

#### GIO STADIUM – CANBERRA

For the third time in 2020, Queensland travelled to Canberra to take on the Brumbies. The home side raced out of the blocks to lead 15-3 early, before Queensland hit back through a lovely Jordan Petaia linebreak and flick pass to Harry Wilson to see Queensland trail by just two-points at the break. A hip injury to Petaia and concussion to Lukhan Salakaia-Loto proved a double-blow for the visitors. With both stars sidelined in the second-half, the Brumbies extended their lead to 28-13. The defiant Queenslanders responded for a second time through Angus Blyth to cut the hosts' advantage to just five-points with 15-minutes to play. Queensland had the chance to snatch victory in the final minutes but were unable to find the line as the Brumbies held on to be crowned the inaugural Super Rugby AU champions.



Angus Blyth flies high in a line-out





Queensland Reds centre Hamish Stewart



# ST. GEORGE QUEENSLAND REDS

## STAN PILECKI MEDAL

### PILECKI MEDAL TOP 10

<b>1ST - TANIELA TUPOU</b>	<b>302</b>
2nd - Liam Wright	204
3rd - Lukhan Salakaia-Loto	188

### ROUND 1 V BRUMBIES

Harry Wilson	28
Taniela Tupou	25
Henry Speight	22

### ROUND 2 V LIONS

JP Smith	45
Taniela Tupou	27
Alex Mafi	25

### ROUND 3 V JAGUARES

Hunter Paisami	45
Chris Feauai-Sautia	36
Alex Mafi	28

### ROUND 4 V SUNWOLVES

James O'Connor	34
Jock Campbell	29
Hunter Paisami	19

### ROUND 5 V SHARKS

Henry Speight	26
Hamish Stewart	23
Liam Wright	20

### ROUND 6 V CRUSADERS

Harry Wilson	46
Lukhan Salakaia-Loto	36
Hamish Stewart	13

### ROUND 7 V BULLS

Lukhan Salakaia-Loto	32
Taniela Tupou	28
Henry Speight	16

### ROUND 1 V WARATAHS (POST-COVID SUSPENSION)

Fraser McReight	38
Liam Wright	28
Lukhan Salakaia-Loto	24

4th - Harry Wilson	180
5th - Tate McDermott	145
6th - Fraser McReight	139
7th - James O'Connor	131
8th - Hunter Paisami	120
9th - Alex Mafi	119
10th - Filipo Daugunu	117

### ROUND 2 V REBELS

Chris Feauai-Sautia	39
Lukhan Salakaia-Loto	27
Harry Wilson	25

### ROUND 3 V FORCE

Lukhan Salakaia-Loto	23
Angus Scott-Young	21
Chris Feauai-Sautia	20

### ROUND 5 V BRUMBIES

Harry Wilson	28
Jordan Petaia	27
Dane Zander	18

### ROUND 6 V WARATAHS

Liam Wright	31
James O'Connor	28
Tate McDermott	15

### ROUND 7 V REBELS

Taniela Tupou	42
Fraser McReight	26
Hamish Stewart	15

### ROUND 8 V FORCE

Tate McDermott	41
Taniela Tupou	26
Fraser McReight	20

### ROUND 10 V BRUMBIES

Filipo Daugunu	27
Tate McDermott	22
Fraser McReight	17

### QUALIFYING FINAL V REBELS

Filipo Daugunu	46
Taniela Tupou	37
Lukhan Salakaia-Loto	14

### GRAND FINAL V BRUMBIES

Taniela Tupou	34
Hunter Paisami	22
James O'Connor	17





Queensland Reds prop Taniela Tupou was named the Pilecki Medalist for 2020

# ST. GEORGE QUEENSLAND REDS

## STATISTICS

SUPER RUGBY  
AU

ROUND	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1
OPPOSITION	BRUMBIES	LIONS	JAGUARES	SUNWOLVES	SHARKS	CRUSADERS	BULLS	WARATAHS
DATE	31 Jan	8 Feb	15 Feb	22 Feb	29 Mar	6 Mar	14 Mar	3 Jul
CITY	Canberra	Johannesburg	Buenos Aires	Brisbane	Brisbane	Christchurch	Brisbane	Brisbane
VENUE	Suncorp Stadium				Suncorp Stadium		Suncorp Stadium	Suncorp Stadium
FULL TIME SCORE	27-24 Brumbies	27-20 Lions	43-27 Jaguares	64-5 Reds	23-33 Sharks	24-20 Crusaders	41-17 Reds	32-26 Reds
CROWD								
Angus Blyth	4	19	5	5		19	4	4
Jock Campbell	14	14	15	15	15	15	15	14
Ed Craig				16	16	16 DNP	16 DNP	
Lawson Creighton								
Filipo Daugunu	SUS	SUS	SUS	SUS	23	23	23	11
Ilaisa Droasese								
Sean Farrell		16 DNP	16 DNP					INJ
Dave Feao	INJ							
Chris Feauai-Sautia			14	14	14	14	13	22
Jethro Felemi								
Josh Flook								23 DNP
Feao Fotuaitika	18	INJ						
Carter Gordon	INJ							
Jack Hardy	INJ							
Bryce Hegarty	15	15	23	23		22	14	15
Harry Hockings	INJ		19	19	5	5	5	
Harry Hoopert	INJ			17	17		17	1
Tom Kibble	INJ							
Isaac Lucas	10	22	22	22	22	10	22	
Alex Mafi	16	2	2	2	2	2	2	16
Scott Malolua		INJ		21	21	9	9	21
Tate McDermott	9	9	9	9	9	21	21	9
Fraser McReight		INJ		20	20	20	20	7
Josh Nasser		18	18 DNP	18	18	18 DNP		18
Zane Nonggorr								
James O'Connor	12	10	10	10	10	INJ	10	10
Brandon Paenga-Amosa	2	INJ						
Hunter Paisami	23	23	13	13	13	13	INJ	13
Jordan Petaia	13	13	INJ					
Izack Rodda	19	4	4	4	4			
Lukhan Salakaia-Loto	5	5	6	6	19	4	6	5
Angus Scott-Young	6	6	20		6	6	19	20
Jean-Pierre Smith	1	1	1	1	1	1		17
Ruan Smith								
Ryan Smith								
Moses Sorovi	21	21	21	INJ				
Henry Speight	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	
Hamish Stewart	22	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Jack Straker							18 DNP	
Tuaina Taii Tualima								19
Taniela Tupou	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Seru Uru	20	20						
Harry Wilson	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Sam Wallis								
Michael Wood	INJ							
Liam Wright	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	6
Dane Zander	17	17	17			17	1	
				KEY	Reds' Debut	Captain	INJURED	



ROUND	2	3	5	6	7	8	10	SEMI FINAL	GRAND FINAL
OPPOSITION	REBELS	FORCE	BRUMBIES	WARATAHS	REBELS	FORCE	BRUMBIES	REBELS	BRUMBIES
DATE	10 Jul	17 Jul	1 Aug	8 Aug	15 Aug	21 Aug	5 Sep	12 Sep	19 Sep
CITY	Sydney	Brisbane	Canberra	Sydney	Brisbane	Gold Coast	Brisbane	Brisbane	Canberra
VENUE	Brookvale Oval	Suncorp Stadium	GIO Stadium	SCG	Suncorp Stadium	Cbus Stadium	Suncorp Stadium	Suncorp Stadium	GIO Stadium
FULL TIME SCORE	18-18 Draw	31-24 Reds	22-20 Brumbies	45-12 Waratahs	19-3 Reds	5-57 Reds	26-7 Reds	25-13 Reds	28-23 Brumbies
CROWD									
Angus Blyth	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Jock Campbell	14	15	15	14	15	15	15	15	15
Ed Craig									
Lawson Creighton									
Filipo Daugunu	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Ilaisa Droasese									
Sean Farrell	INJ				16				
Dave Feao				INJ					
Chris Feauai-Sautia	22	14	14		INJ		14	14	INJ
Jethro Felemi					17				
Josh Flook	23	22 DNP		23	23	13		INJ	
Feao Fotuauika					INJ				
Carter Gordon									
Jack Hardy	INJ			22		23			23 DNP
Bryce Hegarty	15	23	22	15	22	22	22	22	22
Harry Hockings									
Harry Hoopert	1	1		INJ		17	1	1	17
Tom Kibble					INJ				
Isaac Lucas									
Alex Mafi	16	16	16	16			INJ		
Scott Malolua	21	21	9	9	21				
Tate McDermott	9	9	21	21	9	9	9	9	9
Fraser McReight	7	7	20	20	7	7	7	7	7
Josh Nasser	18	INJ	18			16	16	16 DNP	16 DNP
Zane Nonggorr				18	18	18			
James O'Connor	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Brandon Paenga-Amosa	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Hunter Paisami	13	13	13	13	13	INJ	23	23	13
Jordan Petaia	INJ		23		14	14	13	13	14
Izack Rodda									
Lukhan Salakaia-Loto	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Angus Scott-Young	20	4	6	6	20	20	20	20	20
Jean-Pierre Smith	17			INJ			17	17	1
Ruan Smith							18		18 DNP
Ryan Smith		19 DNP	19 DNP						
Moses Sorovi						21	21	21	21
Henry Speight									
Hamish Stewart	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Jack Straker		18	17 DNP	17	1	1		18 DNP	
Tuaina Taii Tualima	19	20		19	19	19	19	19 DNP	19
Taniela Tupou	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Seru Uru									
Harry Wilson	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Sam Wallis									
Michael Wood	INJ								
Liam Wright	6	6	7	7	6	6	6	6	6
Dane Zander		17	1	1			INJ		
					KEY	Reds' Debut	Captain	INJURED	

# ST. GEORGE QUEENSLAND REDS

## SUPER W SEASON IN REVIEW

The Super W season was cut short due to COVID-19, with the St. George Queensland Reds finishing in second spot for the third straight season.

The pandemic denied the team the chance to contend for the title, as the competition was cancelled before the finals series, meaning the New South Wales Waratahs were crowned victors.

Twelve players made their Queensland debut throughout the four-game campaign, while outside back Lori Cramer captained the side for the first time.

Moana Virtue again coached the team alongside assistants Evan Willis, Damon Virtue and Setu Naseri.

The team had a pre-season match against the Fijiana - Fiji's national Women's team - before a Round 1 bye saw the team watch on as the Super W season kicked-off.

The Reds started their campaign on the other side of the country, and in fine form secured a crushing 80-5 victory over Rugby WA in Perth. The side ran in 12-tries in a dazzling attacking display, with Liz Patu and debutant Maraia Tupai both crossing for hat-tricks. Courtney Hodder, Okeroa Manihera, Lesa Kaletu Mataafa, Natassja Purontakanen and Melanie Wilks also played their first game in maroon in the fixture.

Round 2 saw the side claim a stunning 104-3 victory over the Melbourne Rebels at Suncorp Stadium. 16-year-old Destiny Brill stamped her mark on the competition with a pair of tries on debut, while fellow youngster Courtney Hodder continued her try scoring form with a hat-trick to go with her brace in Round 1. Aleena Greenhalgh, Hilisha Samoa, Kauna Lopa and Canadian international Gabby Senft also made their Super W debuts off the bench.

Queensland had their toughest test of the season the following round when they faced the Waratahs at Ballymore, and the battle well and truly lived up to the hype. Queensland held a slim 7-5 lead at the 55-minute mark, before a try to the visitors and a penalty to the hosts evened

the scores at 10-all with 15-minutes to play. It was the Waratahs who went on to clinch victory, with a late penalty sealing a 13-10 win for the eventual premiers. Centre Hagiga Mosby debuted for the Reds in the fixture, with Shannon Mato crossing for the side's only five-pointer.

The Reds travelled to Canberra to take on the Brumbies in the final round of fixtures and would secure a 24-12 victory to seal second spot on the ladder. In a fast-paced and physical affair, the Reds scored three tries to the hosts' two, with Ivy Kaleta, Okeroa Manihera and Shannon Mato all finding the line.

The win would have set up a home playoff final against the Brumbies the following week, however the pandemic brought an end to Queensland's opportunity to claim their first Super W title.

At the end of the Queensland Premier Rugby season, two squads were selected - Queensland Maroon and Queensland Grey - to play against each other in a Women's XV select match. The match saw Queensland Grey secure a 62-10 win, and the game was a useful selection tool for Queensland coaches ahead of the 2021 Super W campaign.



Mother of four, Okeroa Manihera, was one of 12 players to make their Queensland debut in 2020.



# ST.GEORGE QUEENSLAND REDS

## SUPER W STATISTICS

ROUND	2	3	4	5
OPPOSITION	RUGBY WA	MELBOURNE REBELS	NSW WARATAHS	ACT BRUMBIES
DATE	22 Feb	29 Feb	7 Mar	15 Mar
CITY	Perth	Brisbane	Brisbane	Canberra
VENUE	Success Regional Sporting Facility	Suncorp Stadium	Ballymore	GIO Stadium
FULL TIME SCORE	5-80 Reds	104-3 Reds	10-13 Waratahs	12-24 Reds
Wynona Baice				
Emily Bass				
Destiny Brill		21		21
Saxon Campbell	19	5	19	19
Bree-anna Cheatham	18		17	17
Lori Cramer	14	14	14	14
Alana Elisaia	13	13	13	13
Toa Filimoe hala	17	17	18	18
Lavinia Gould	12	12	7	20
Aleena Greenhalgh		19		
Alisha Hewett				
Ayane Hirata	9		9	
Courtney Hodder	15	15	15	15
Ivy Kaleta	16	16	16	2
Alysia Lefau-Fakaosilea				
Hasting Leिताua				
Kiri Lingman	4		4	4
Kauna Lopa		23		
Okeroa Manihera	8	8	8	8
Lesia Mataafa	20	4	20	5
Shannon Mato	6	6	5	6
Averyl Mitchell	2	2	2	16
Cobie-Jane Morgan	21	9	21	9
Hagiga Mosby			12	
Teresa Noble				
Asako Ono				
Liz Patu	1	1	1	1
Natassja Purontakanen	7	7	6	
Sarah Riordan			23	12
Hilisha Samoa		18		
Kirby Sefo	5			
Christina Sekona	3	3	3	3
Gabrielle Senft		20	22	7
Zahara Temara	10	10	10	10
Samantha Treherne				
Maraea Tupai	22	22		23
Melanie Wilks	23			22
Ivania Wong	11	11	11	11
				KEY



Queensland Reds playmaker Lavinia Gould runs out at Ballymore



# COMMUNITY RUGBY

## OVERVIEW & PARTICIPATION

2020 was a year like no other for the Queensland Rugby community. COVID-19 produced many challenges for our member unions and clubs, but it was great to see the spirit of Rugby shine through and for Rugby to resume across the state at the back end of the year.

During the lock down period, we saw our Rugby community embrace new ways to keep connected through digital mediums. Programs such as ZOOM and Teams allowed QRU staff to stay engaged with affiliates throughout the state. These online tools also provided the opportunity for Queensland Rugby to focus on re-shaping both coach and match official education.

We saw our clubs implement COVID Safe practices for training and game days, allowing a safe return to play for our Rugby community.

The Queensland Premier Rugby competition returned in August for 11 uninterrupted Rounds before a successful finals series was hosted at Ballymore. Congratulations to Easts who claimed six premierships in total, including the Hospital Challenge Cup and Premier Women's, a new record for the competition.

Brothers were successful in Colts 1, 2 and 3, an impressive feat for the club.

Regionally, QRU worked closely with our wider workforce and volunteers to assist regional unions to return to play and we saw some great highlights around the state.

In the Darling Downs, each final saw history made with University of Southern Queensland claiming their maiden Women's Sevens title, Warwick claiming their first ever B Grade premiership, and Toowoomba Bears claimed the Risdon Cup for the first time in ten years.

On the Gold Coast, Griffith University Knights claimed First and Second Grade titles, while on the Sunshine Coast, Eumundi returned to the fold for the first time in over 100 years.

Further North, Townsville Brothers ended Teachers Wests' five-year-run in the Townsville A Grade competition, while Women's Rugby saw a resurgence in Far North Queensland with the Northern Beaches Mudcrabs claiming their

maiden title.

The resumption of Rugby allowed for Q7s tournaments to be run throughout the state, providing Queensland juniors with the opportunity to participate in Seven-a-side Rugby. The Q7s series culminated with the All Schools Sevens tournament which saw 68 teams converge on Albany Creek GPS Rugby Club.

With Indigenous communities some of the first to lock down in Queensland, QRU staff had to adapt and engage with the program's students through the use of digital mediums such as ZOOM and social media. Despite the challenges 2020 presented, the Future Indigenous Leaders Camp was still able to be hosted in December at the YMCA facility - Camp Warrawee.

2020 also saw the introduction of the In Touch mental health program. The program, which is focused on providing mental health first aid training within Queensland Rugby clubs, had to be rolled out digitally on ZOOM, before face-to-face learning opportunities were made available at the back end of the year.

Overall, despite significant obstacles, Community Rugby in Queensland prospered in the face of adversity in 2020 and it is testament to our players, coaches, managers, administrators, match officials and volunteers throughout the state. We look forward to the 2021 season and what lies ahead for Rugby in Queensland.

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### EDUCATION AND COACHING

The COVID period allowed the Community Rugby department to focus on education outcomes for the Queensland Rugby workforce, and through digital mediums such as Zoom as well as face-to-face learning opportunities, we were able to provide personal development opportunities for coaches and match officials around the state.

In difference to the restrictions of COVID-19 there were some respectable achievements in the area of education and accreditation:

- 2,309 participants completed a Smart Rugby accreditation.

# COMMUNITY RUGBY

- 326 coaches successfully completed Level 1 – 4 accreditations.
- 126 coaches participated in the Coaching Kids Rugby Program while 213 completed Foundation Certificate courses.
- A number of Level 2 and higher accredited coaches completed assessing accreditations for Front Row Passport (55) and Assessing Coach (31) to allow for the implementation of Rugby Australia Safety Policy.
- 288 match officials were accredited at a range of levels as assistant referees (touch judges), referees and referee coaches.
- 31 people completed World Rugby Educator and Trainer courses to assist with the delivery of World Rugby approved coaching accreditation within local communities.

true highlight for Rugby in the region.

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## FIRST XV WINNERS

### GREATER PUBLIC SCHOOLS (GPS)

Brisbane Boys College

### ASSOCIATED INDEPENDENT COLLEGES (AIC)

Marist College Ashgrove and St Laurence's College

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## BALLYMORE CUP

The 2020 Ballymore Cup didn't take place due to the COVID pandemic. The 2021 Ballymore Cup is shaping up as the largest tournament yet.

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## GET INTO RUGBY (SPORTING SCHOOLS)

The COVID pandemic affected schools competitions around the state, with students prevented from participating in sport for a number of months. It was pleasing to see various schools associations work to overcome the challenge and return to play in terms three and four, whilst the QRU was able to run an extensive Q7s program. Super 6 competitions also saw new schools and players welcomed to the Rugby family, with the new competition in Mackay a

2020 saw the QRU again engage schools across the state to run the Get into Rugby program.

The program aims to attract new participants to Rugby by forming a connection between schools and Rugby clubs in their local region, while also ensuring the increased visibility and promotion of Rugby in the community.

The QRU workforces delivers the program at schools around the state, with both Primary and

The 2020 Future Indigenous Leaders Camp was hosted at YMCA's Camp Warrawee on Brisbane's north-side





High School students participating in 79 schools around Queensland.

Close to 3,000 girls participated, while over 3,700 boys were a part of 977 sessions across the state.

Alongside Get into Rugby, the QRU also facilitates Rugby Sevens and Touch Sevens in schools as part of the Sporting Schools program.

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## ROOKIES 2 REDS

Rookies 2 Reds was also impacted due to the pandemic, given that it runs outside of school hours and the inability to be able to manage casual staff outside of full-time QRU employees.

A decision was taken to reduce to scale, essentially halting delivery throughout the majority of the year, with a small uptake in term four.

Term four generally isn't a strong term due to the end of year activities most schools run, however 2021 has started strongly with the ability to run Rookies2Reds holiday clinics, which were well attended, as well as centres in the new school term.

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## JUNIOR STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2020 Junior State Championships didn't take place due to the COVID pandemic.

Planning is currently underway for the 2021 event which will be hosted by the Darling Downs Rugby Union at Downlands College.

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## INDIGENOUS PROGRAM

2020 was a year like no other for Queensland Rugby Union's Indigenous Program as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities were among the first communities in Australia to go into lockdown due to COVID-19.

There was no face-to-face contact with program students for over three months, however program staff utilised digital mediums such as social media, Zoom and video calls to maintain contact

In December, with COVID restrictions easing, program students from Cherbourg and Woorabinda were able to travel to North Brisbane to attend the Future Indigenous Leaders Program camp at the YMCA facility – Camp Warrawee.

Program sponsors Rio Tinto, with the help of their partners Robogals and (DRONE) as well as Reds video analyst Jake Nicholls, ran activities for the students including catapult making and workshops on how drones are used in mining and Rugby.

QRU staff will be taking part in online cultural training sourced through TribalLink through the Supply Nation database of which QRU has a paid membership.

On the Rugby front, 2020 was the first time two Super Rugby AU teams wore their respective Indigenous jerseys when the Reds hosted the Brumbies in Round 10 of the competition.

The match saw a gift exchange between the two team's players of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent. The Reds gifted the Brumbies four glass message sticks, provided by the Lloyd McDermott Rugby Development Foundation, and the Brumbies reciprocated with the gift of a hand crafted and painted Yidaki (didgeridoo).

The Reds also introduced an acknowledgement of country to match day proceedings in 2020, in the form of a voice recording played in stadium, recorded by one of the Future Indigenous Leaders Program students from Cherbourg.

The 2020 Indigenous jersey worn by the Reds was designed by Future Indigenous Leaders Program graduate Michelle Booth Jr from Woorabinda. The artwork was adapted from a painting Michelle completed while living away from her family in Townsville.

### 2020 data for Future Indigenous Leaders Program:

- 86 face-to-face visits/contacts with program participants
- 210 contacts made between mentor and student through various digital platforms
- 86% average school attendance for FILP students – down from 93% in 2019
- Ninth annual Indigenous Round held by the Queensland Reds
- Eight year 10 graduates

### 2020 data for Reds Generation Next:

- 26 students involved
- 1000% students graduated year 12
- 29% further education
- 57% workforce transition

## IN TOUCH MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Queensland Rugby Union's Mental Health program – In Touch – was introduced in 2020, with funding support from the Queensland Government and the Queensland Mental Health Commission, whilst also being supported by Rugby Unite.

The concept of the program is to encourage people to talk about mental health, empower individuals to take action and take responsibility for their own mental health whilst being equipped to support others.

The program aims to aid clubs and associations in creating environments where each and every individual has the knowledge, skills and resources to understand and prioritise their own, and others, mental health and wellbeing.

The program supports everyone who identifies as part of the Queensland Rugby Union community- this includes:

- Players, coaches, referees, support staff
- Volunteers, parents, siblings, partners, friends
- Administration and operational staff

Both Mental Health Information Sessions and Mental Health First Aid training are now available free to clubs and regional unions.

COVID impacted the roll out of the program, with in person meetings and training sessions unable to be conducted until the back end of 2020, however our program staff adapted and with the help of online tools such as ZOOM, inroads were able to be made.

Below are some of the key highlights for the In Touch program for 2020:

- 25 registered clubs and associations
- 122 participants took part in information sessions across 23 clubs
- There are now 102 accredited mental health first aid accredited officers spread across 29 clubs and nine associations
- Queensland Premier Rugby hosted a whole of competition mental health themed round which coincided with the Rick Tyrrell Cup clash between Easts and Sunnybank. The Gold Coast Rugby competition also hosted a mental health round.

TOP - Future Indigenous Leaders Program students on camp  
BOTTOM - Brothers celebrate their Colts 1 win





# QUEENSLAND PREMIER RUGBY

## MENS

The COVID-19 pandemic failed to scupper the 2020 Allsports Physiotherapy Hospital Challenge Cup season, with Ballymore again playing host to a superb finals series to cap an incredible season of club Rugby.

As the coronavirus took hold, Premier Rugby was forced into lockdown like its sporting counterparts across the world, but the community stayed engaged through the introduction of the "Hospital Challenge Cup V."

The virtual competition pitted some of club Rugby's most well-known faces against each other via the popular video game Rugby Nations 3, with Double Take Sports streaming the games live and free.

However, come August 1, real life Rugby returned, with all nine clubs contesting a one-round, eight game sprint season thanks to the work of the QRU and the Premier clubs.

Due to the cancellation of a number of international professional competitions, the Hospital Cup welcomed back a number of former stars, a silver lining in an otherwise bleak year for sport.

With capacity crowd allowed at Ballymore for the final's series, it was Easts who would lift the trophy, providing former Wallabies skipper Ben Mowen with a fairy-tale finish to his playing career.

The Tigers overcame reigning premiers the University of Queensland in the decider, after the Students defeated Easts in the Major Semi-Final two weeks previous.

Easts went on to claim a resounding win over finals newcomers Bond University in the ensuing preliminary final, before accounting for the Heavies 33-18 on Grand Final day.

Prop Rhys van Nek was named the Tony Shaw Medallist as player of the match as the Tigers' forward pack laid the platform for a memorable win for the Tigerland faithful.

Easts also had success across the grades, winning six Grand Finals and sharing the Doughty Shield with Brothers, while the Brethren

also claimed all three Colts Premierships.

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### TROPHIES

#### LEADING POINT SCORER

Eli Pilz, Easts

#### LEADING TRY SCORER

Josh Collins, GPS

#### ALEC EVANS MEDALLIST

Ben Mowen, Easts

#### TONY SHAW MEDALLIST

Rhys van Nek, Easts

#### WELSBY CUP

University of Queensland

#### HORSLEY CUP

Easts

#### DOUGHTY SHIELD

Brothers & Easts

#### GEOFF 'BUNTER' SHAW CHALLENGE CUP

GPS

#### U20S PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Mac Greal, University of Queensland

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### FINALS RESULTS

#### FINALS – WEEK 1 – 17/10/2020 - 18/10/2020

##### HOSPITAL CHALLENGE CUP MAJOR SEMI-FINAL:

University of Queensland 37 Easts 19

##### HOSPITAL CHALLENGE CUP MINOR SEMI-FINAL:

Bond University 32 GPS 27

##### SECOND GRADE MAJOR SEMI-FINAL:

Brothers 21 Easts 14

##### SECOND GRADE MINOR SEMI-FINAL:

Souths 23 Wests 15

##### COLTS 1 MAJOR SEMI-FINAL:

University of Queensland 35 Brothers 5

##### COLTS 1 MINOR SEMI-FINAL:

Bond University 17 Souths 0

**THIRD GRADE MAJOR SEMI-FINAL:**

Easts 47 GPS 14

**THIRD GRADE MINOR SEMI-FINAL:**

Brothers 31 Wests 26

**FOURTH GRADE MAJOR SEMI-FINAL:**

GPS 36 Brothers 22

**FOURTH GRADE MINOR SEMI-FINAL:**

Easts 17 University of Queensland 6

**FIFTH GRADE MAJOR SEMI-FINAL:**

Easts 10 Brothers 10

**FIFTH GRADE MINOR SEMI-FINAL:**

Wests 27 Souths 12

**SIXTH GRADE MAJOR SEMI-FINAL:**

Wests A 26 Brothers B 15

**SIXTH GRADE MINOR SEMI-FINAL:**

Easts 17 Brothers A 15

**COLTS 2 MAJOR SEMI-FINAL:**

University of Queensland 36 Brothers 12

**COLTS 2 MINOR SEMI-FINAL:**

Easts 24 Wests 24

**COLTS 3 MAJOR SEMI-FINAL:**

University of Queensland 38 Brothers 7

**COLTS 3 MINOR SEMI-FINAL:**

Easts 29 Wests 0

**FINALS – WEEK 2 – 24/10/2020 - 25/10/2020**

**HOSPITAL CHALLENGE CUP PRELIMINARY FINAL:**

Easts 28 Bond University 3

**SECOND GRADE PRELIMINARY FINAL:**

Easts 25 Souths 12

**COLTS 1 PRELIMINARY FINAL:**

Brothers 20 Bond University 15

**THIRD GRADE PRELIMINARY FINAL:**

Easts 33 Wests 10

**FOURTH GRADE PRELIMINARY FINAL:**

Brothers 17 Easts 12

**FIFTH GRADE PRELIMINARY FINAL:**

Easts 8 Wests 7

**SIXTH GRADE PRELIMINARY FINAL:**

Brothers B 43 Easts 17

**COLTS 2 PRELIMINARY FINAL:**

Brothers 22 Easts 10

**COLTS 3 PRELIMINARY FINAL:**

Brothers 29 Easts 7

**FINALS – WEEK 3 – 31/10/2020 - 1/11/2020**

**HOSPITAL CHALLENGE CUP GRAND FINAL:**

Easts 33 University of Queensland 18

**SECOND GRADE GRAND FINAL:**

Easts 25 Brothers 17

**COLTS 1 GRAND FINAL:**

Brothers 26 University of Queensland 19

**THIRD GRADE GRAND FINAL**

Easts 30 Brothers 27

**FOURTH GRADE GRAND FINAL**

GPS 13 Brothers 5

**FIFTH GRADE GRAND FINAL:**

Easts 28 Brothers 15

**SIXTH GRADE GRAND FINAL:**

Wests A 20 Brothers B 12

**COLTS 2 GRAND FINAL:**

Brothers 26 University of Queensland 19

**COLTS 3 GRAND FINAL:**

Brothers 15 University of Queensland 0



Easts capped off a significant weekend for the club with their first Hospital Cup win since 2013.



# QUEENSLAND PREMIER RUGBY

## WOMENS

2020 was a landmark year for Women's Premier Rugby, with all nine clubs involved in the competition for the first time in history.

Bond University and Easts both entered teams for the first time, with Easts going on to claim the premiership in their maiden season.

After securing the minor premiership and going unbeaten through the regular season, the Tigers wrestled the silverware away from Sunnybank, who had won the previous five titles.

The eventual premiers defeated GPS in the major semi-final to book their ticket to the big dance, with Sunnybank defeating Bond to move through to the preliminary final.

The Gallopers went on to beat the Bankers, before falling 17-15 to Easts in the Grand Final.

### FINALS RESULTS

#### FINALS – WEEK 1 – 17/10/20

WOMEN'S PREMIER RUGBY MAJOR SEMI-FINAL:  
Easts 39 GPS 14

WOMEN'S PREMIER RUGBY MINOR SEMI-FINAL:  
Sunnybank 19 Bond University 12

#### FINALS – WEEK 2 – 25/10/20

WOMEN'S PREMIER RUGBY PRELIMINARY FINAL:  
GPS 27 Sunnybank 21

#### FINALS – WEEK 3 – 1/11/20

WOMEN'S PREMIER RUGBY GRAND FINAL  
East 17 GPS 15



After returning to the Premier Rugby fold in 2020, Easts went through the season undefeated.

# SEVENS RUGBY

## QAS SEVENS ACADEMY

2020 proved to be a challenging year for the Queensland Academy of Sport (QAS) Women's Sevens Academy, with the program being paused in early March due to the COVID pandemic.

All national pathway competitions and Rugby Australia development camps were cancelled for boys, girls, women and men.

The program also lost its full-time strength-and-conditioning resource, and was replaced with a staff member in a part-time capacity.

Players were unable to train as a squad or use regular facilities for three months. As a result, we experienced a spike in injuries due to lack of training and maintenance of the athletes. Our players also faced significant personal challenges, with some losing jobs and others having to move back to regional areas due to living opportunities.

QRU program staff were able to provide players with training support through digital means and one-on-one sessions during lock-down, before the group were able to return to training under COVID protocols. Given the Reds were in a bubble at Ballymore, our group had to train offsite which saw the athletes based at Brisbane Irish Rugby Club and Easts Rugby Club for a number of months, thank you to those two clubs for their support and access to their facilities.

There were opportunities to be had in 2020. The Australian Men's Sevens program suffered financially and as such player contracting was an issue, but this has opened up opportunities for aspiring Queensland Men's Sevens players to trial for the Tokyo Olympics.

AON University Sevens was postponed due to border closures, however Queensland was able to create an internal University Sevens Series between University of Queensland, Bond University and Griffith University. This gave our top female athletes the chance to play high quality matches, and impress Australian coaches and staff in the process.

After the University series we also put two Queensland Women's teams together who played a series of matches against each other at the BrisVegas Sevens event hosted by Wests.

We were due to host the inaugural 'Battle of the Border' Sevens with NSW in late 2020, however border closures saw that delayed until February 2021. This carnival will see Queensland take on NSW in senior Women's, Youth Girls and Youth Boys, while our men's team are due to play in Northern NSW against NSW, Australian Pasifica and the Australian Sevens in Olympic trials in early 2021.

## WOMENS/AON UNIVERSITY SEVENS

The regular AON University Sevens Series was abandoned due to the pandemic, however Queensland were able to host an internal University Sevens Series featuring University of Queensland, Bond University and Griffith University.

Played across three weekends at Ballymore, each University fielded two teams, allowing for more players to have an opportunity and for the University coaches to talent ID some developing players.

Bond University won all three tournaments and claimed the title. All matches were live streamed with the help of Double Take Sports, allowing for the Australian Sevens coaches to watch on from Sydney.



Griffith Uni's Kahli Henwood dots down for a try



After the University series we also put two Queensland Women's teams together who played a series of matches against each other at the BrisVegas Sevens event hosted by Wests.

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## Q7S

Despite the challenges of 2020, opportunities for Queensland school students to participate in Sevens were aplenty across the state.

The first tournament we ran after the COVID lockdown period was held at Miami SHS on the Gold Coast, without any spectators due to the COVID Safe plans in place.

A number of primary school tournaments - Gympie and Nissa (Brisbane North) Northern Independent Schools Sport Association

The Gold Coast also hosted the Merrimac Sevens, while events were also hosted at Logan, Caboolture, Sunshine Coast and at Scots College in Warwick. We also had primary and secondary school tournaments in North Queensland in both Cairns and Mackay.

One of the highlights of the Q7s was the commencement of a Bundaberg Sevens competition, providing further opportunities for students in the Wide Bay region to participate in Rugby.

68 teams at all schools - under covid event plan - held albury creek great facility and well supported by club

Teams as far north as Rockhampton.

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## WESTERN SEVENS

Due to COVID, this event was held over two separate venues at Morton Park and Alan Macindoe field.

It was well supported by the Central Highlands Rugby community, Senior and Junior.

The teams involved were: Emerald, Marist College, Emerald State school in girls and U10s

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## ALL SCHOOLS SEVENS WINNERS

### U13 GIRLS

Marsden SHS

### U13 BOYS

Sunshine Coast Grammar School

### U15 GIRLS

Keebra Park State High School

### U15 BOYS

Miami SHS

### U18 GIRLS

Miami SHS

### U18 BOYS

Sunshine Coast Grammar School

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## WESTERN SEVENS WINNERS

### OPEN BOYS

WINNERS - Marist College Emerald

RUNNERS UP - Rockhampton Grammar School

### OPEN GIRLS

WINNERS - Rockhampton Grammar School

RUNNERS UP - Mackay Christian College

### U15 BOYS

WINNERS - St.Brendan's College Yeppoon

RUNNERS UP - Trinity College Gladstone

### U15 GIRLS

WINNERS - Emerald State High School

RUNNERS UP - Rockhampton Grammar School

### U13 BOYS

WINNERS - St.Brendan's College Yeppoon

RUNNERS UP - Marist College Emerald

### U13 GIRLS

WINNERS - Emerald State High School

RUNNERS UP - Rockhampton Grammar School

### U12S

WINNERS - Blackwater North Primary School

RUNNERS UP - Moranbah State School

### U10S

WINNERS - Emerald State School

RUNNERS UP - St.Patrick's Catholic Primary School



Miami SHS students at the 2020 All Schools Sevens



# QUEENSLAND COUNTRY RUGBY

2020 saw sub-unions across regional Queensland defy the COVID-19 pandemic to again stage a number of exceptional competitions around the state.

Thanks to the help of coaches, administrators, players and volunteers the logistical problems brought on by the pandemic were overcome, and regional Rugby continued to thrive in Queensland.

Although the coronavirus ensured the Queensland Country representative programs were made impossible, 10 sub-unions held successful competitions and crowned premiers in 2020.

In Far North Queensland, Port Douglas claimed the title with a narrow victory over Cairns Wanderers on Grand Final day.

The region also saw the return of a Women's competition, with Northern Beaches Mudcrabs defeating Wanderers by four-points in the decider.

In Reserve Grade, the Penrhyn Sharks claimed their first premiership in any grade to cap off an undefeated season.

Further south, Brothers defeated Teachers Wests in Townsville, bringing an end to Teachers Wests five-year stranglehold on the A-Grade competition,

Teachers Wests were able to defeat Brothers in the Women's Competition, running out narrow 19-17 winners, while Brothers and Charters Towers won the Second and Third Grade premierships respectively.

The Sunshine Coast Women's competition saw Caboolture come out on top, with Noosa securing the silverware in the Men's competition with a slim victory over the University of the Sunshine Coast.

On the Darling Downs, the Toowoomba Bears broke their 10-year Risdon Cup drought, proving too strong for cross-town rivals the Toowoomba Rangers, while in B Grade, the Warwick Water Rats broke through for their first premiership.

In the Women's competition, the USQ Saints won their first title with a 21-19 win in the Emilee Cherry Cup final.

Mackay City defeated Bowen 33-22 to claim the Mackay Competition, with Brothers Rockhampton lifting the trophy in the Capricornia Region after besting Gladstone.

On the Gold Coast, Griffith University Colleges Knights were victorious in both First and Second Grade, claiming the minor premiership in both competitions, while the Helensvale Hogs lifted the trophy in Third Grade.

On the Central Highlands, the Emerald Rams proved too strong for Blackwater.

In Mt Isa, Keas defeated Euros 17-14, with the Fraser Coast Mariners claiming a comprehensive victory over Brothers Turtles in Bundaberg on Grand Final day.



Warwick Water Rats won their maiden Darling Downs B Grade title.

# REDS ACADEMY & PATHWAYS PROGRAMS

2020 saw an adjusted Reds Academy program, with the COVID-19 pandemic severely impacting both the Senior and Junior Academy.

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## SENIOR ACADEMY

The Senior group trained from November of 2019 until March the following year, before the program was suspended due to the pandemic.

With Ballymore in a strict biosecurity bubble, players and staff were unable to meet in person for six months, and had to adjust to training over Zoom and satellite training groups across Brisbane.

The Junior Wallabies program was also cancelled, meaning all players were available for the entirety of the club Rugby season.

Three players – Harry Vella , Josh Flook and Zane Nonggorr – trained with the Reds inside the bubble, while Flook, Nonggorr, Kalani Thomas and Mac Grealy also transitioned to the senior Reds squad in 2021.

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## STAFF

Rod Seib – Head Coach

Paul Carozza – Talent Manager

Lincoln Clapham – Pathways Coordinator

Jamie Youngson – Head of Athletic Performance

Ben Mowen – Assistant Coach

Caitlin Bayley – Physiotherapist

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## JUNIOR ACADEMY

The Junior Academy consists of 35 U18 players from various school or club competitions around the state.

Due to the pandemic, only two of the scheduled training sessions were completed, with Reds U18s matches also cancelled.

As restrictions eased, players returned to their respective school or club Rugby competitions, while a three day camp was also held following the finish of school and club commitments.



Academy graduate Josh Flook made his Queensland and Super Rugby debut in 2020.



## PATHWAY PROGRAMS

Both the Junior Gold Cup and Junior Rugby Championship were cancelled due to the pandemic, however the Reds Talent Identification system continued despite the restrictions in place across Queensland.

A three-day camp for the most talented U15 and U16 players across the state was conducted, and despite the limitations of 2020, Queensland squads for 2021 were selected with confidence.

## SQUADS

### SENIOR REDS ACADEMY

Jake Pappin	Brothers
Dion Samuela	Bond University
Jack Winchester	Bond University
Wilson Blyth	Bond University
Emmitt Keepa	Sunnybank
John Downes	GPS
George Blake	Bond University
Titi Nofogatoa	Brothers
Will Roach	University of Queensland Rugby Club
Harry Vella	Brothers
Reno Gerrard	
Kalani Thomas	Souths
Harrison Fox	Norths
Joshua Flook	Brothers
George Gibson	University of Queensland Rugby Club
Maconal Greal	University of Queensland Rugby Club
Ethan Dobbins	Brothers
Zane Nonggorr	Bond University
Hamish Roberts	Bond University
Emosi Tuqiri	GPS
Lukas Ripley	Souths
Fred Fewtrell	East
Spencer Jeans	Bond University
Thomas van der Schyff	University of Queensland Rugby Club

### JUNIOR REDS ACADEMY

Taj Annan	Brisbane Boys College
Lastus Auakai	St Joseph's College Nudgee
Floyd Aubrey	Marist College Ashgrove
Nicholas Baker	Marist College Ashgrove
Trezman Banjo	St Joseph's College Nudgee

Jacob Blyton	East
Beau Brown	Iona College
John Bryant	St Laurence's College
Ted Condon	Brisbane Boys College
Max Craig	Anglican Church Grammar School
Joseph Currie	Toowoomba Grammar School
Malique Douthat-Sjoberg	Ipswich Grammar School
Lopeti Faifua	St Peters Lutheran College
Antioch Faitala	Brisbane State High School
Sosefo Fifita	The Southport School
Mason Gordon	Brisbane Boys College
Zac Hough	Brisbane Boys College
Lachlan Howse	GPS
Max Johnson	Padua College
Wian Joubert	East
Sam Kelly-Knowles	University of Queensland Rugby Club
Seamus King-Smith	Ipswich Grammar School
Christian Krause	West
Joseph Liddy	St Joseph's College Gregory Terrace
Lemau Maiava-Tausoa	St Joseph's College Nudgee
Thomas Manca	Sunshine Coast Grammar School
Will Markham	East
Alec McKay	Downlands College
Harry McLaughlin-Phillips	Brisbane Boys College
Wayne Meredith	St Peters Lutheran College
Kaleb Ngamanu	The Southport School
Carsen Patu	The Southport School
Kadin Pritchard	St Peters Lutheran College
Taine Roiri	West
Andrew Romano	Brisbane Boys College
Syris Schmidt	The Southport School
George Stoddart	Anglican Church Grammar School
Xavier Areti-Stowers	Ipswich Grammar School
Keynan Tauakipulu	St Peters Lutheran College
Jake Tierney	University of Queensland Rugby Club
Keenan Timu	South
Linston Tuimavave	East
David Vaihu	St Joseph's College Gregory Terrace
Michael van der Schyff	The Southport School
Louis Werchon	Sunshine Coast Grammar School

# SUPER 6 - EMERGING SCHOOLS

The Emerging Schools competitions for the most part were conducted successfully in 2020 within the restrictions required post COVID-19 and the return to community sport. The Southside Super 6 competition and the Gold Coast Super Schools Cup were both interrupted by the pandemic and the Moreton Bay Super 6s was unable to be conducted within the school year and will recommence in 2021.

The following competitions were started or completed.

## Sunshine Coast Emerging Schools Cup

The competition got underway in term four following the COVID interruption across the state with five teams competing. The competition was played over 4fourrounds without finals.

James Nash x 2  
Victory College  
Chancellor State College  
Coolum State High School

## Darling Downs Super Schools Cup

The Darling Downs Super Schools Cup was once again a resounding success with schools returning for the second instalment of the competition during term three. Faith Luthern College claimed the title for the second straight year.

Faith Luthern College (Plainland)  
Scots PGC  
St Joseph's College  
Toowoomba Anglican College  
Our Lady of the Southern Cross  
Mary MacKillop College  
Highfields Secondary College

## Gold Coast Super Schools Cup

The competition commenced in term one and was interrupted two weeks prior to the completion of the competitions due to COVID-19. All attempts were made to convene a one day gala day event to acquit the balance of the competition, however this was not able to be achieved due to the school calendars and restrictions. The competition continues to thrive and will re-commence in term one, 2021.

Merrimac State High School  
Helensvale State High School

Miami State High School  
Hillcrest Christian College  
Marymount College  
Ormeau Woods State High School  
Pimpama State Secondary College  
Varsity College  
Lindisfarne  
Xavier Catholic College

## Mackay Schools Rugby Cup

The newest competition within Queensland was a welcome addition in 2020, with the Mackay Schools Rugby Cup taking place in term four and a representative team selected to play a one off encounter with St Ignatius Park College College, Townsville. Mercy College won both the year 7/8 competition as well as the open boys, while Mackay Christian College won the opens girls.

Mercy College  
Mackay North SHS  
Holy Spirit  
Mackay Christian College  
Northern Beaches SHS  
Whitsunday Anglican

## Southside Super 6

Sheldon College  
St Thomas Moore College  
Clairvaux MacKillop  
St Francis College  
Windaroo Valley State High School



Faith Luthern College captain Matthew Passfield





QAS Women's Sevens athletes pictured at the BrisVegas Sevens tournament at Wests Rugby Club.

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

## BOND UNIVERSITY

The Bond University Rugby Club continues to be the Club of choice for male and female Rugby players on the Gold Coast striving to reach their individual Rugby aspirations and to develop these

in a holistic and supportive team environment. Our strategy to assist the Gold Coast and Districts Rugby Union (GCDRU) to improve the standard of the competition on the Gold Coast is with a view to having a sustainable development pathway for both Gold Coast Rugby players and coaches into the future. This continues to be a major focus of the board as does our relationships with key schools on the Gold Coast where our coaches are encouraged to be involved at local Rugby schools, thereby also creating pathways for our future players.

In what has turned out to be a very difficult year for all Rugby clubs, the Queensland Premier Rugby competition was fortunate to start and it is a credit to the administrators of our code that the Premier Rugby Club General Managers, together with the Queensland Rugby Union, managed under very trying circumstances to deliver our game in a safe environment, albeit in a shortened format. Despite the disruption caused by COVID-19 to the playing season, the lockdown had a positive impact on our club culture where everyone pulled together to help those who were experiencing mental and financial stress. In many ways this has been a breakout season for our club and in a year of financial difficulty and uncertainty, the Bond University Rugby Club is very proud of the significant milestone of entering a Third Grade and a Women's XV team for the first time in the club's history. We fielded the following teams in the Queensland Premier Rugby competition and we hope that our finals performances outlined below are the building blocks for premierships in 2021 and beyond:

Senior Men's: First Grade, Second Grade, Second Grade

Colts: Colts 1 and Colts 2

Women: First Grade

### MEN'S RUGBY:

### SENIORS:

After narrowly missing the final series for the last two consecutive years, First Grade made their first visit to Ballymore in the Hospitals Cup Challenge, beating GPS in the Semi final and losing to Easts, eventual winners of the 2020 Hospitals Cup Challenge. Bond University Rugby is very proud of our First Grade team's achievement in reaching this milestone. Congratulations to Bond University Rugby's senior representative players for 2020 who were:

Wallabies: James Slipper (achieved 100 cap milestone)

Super Rugby: Angus Blyth, Alex Mafi, Zane Nonggorr (debutant), James Slipper (Brumbies)

### COLTS:

Colts 1 also made their first finals series in 2020. A further milestone for the Club. Losing in the Preliminary final to eventual winners Brothers, the Colts program ensures that our club is in good hands for the future. With 20-plus players graduating from the Colts program in 2021, our senior depth will continue to benefit.

The Bond University Rugby Club has in past years had a large number of players and staff selected to play for the U19 Bond University Qld Country (URC), Australian U20s, Australian Schools selection, youth Sevens and XVs teams. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, representative pathway programs did not eventuate for 2020. Planning for the 2021 season has indicated that these players may be given an opportunity for selection in 2021. Congratulations to the players who did gain selection in representative pathways in 2020:

Queensland Reds Academy: George Blake, Wilson Blyth, Spencer Jeans, Zane Nonggorr, Hamish Roberts, Dion Samuela, Jack Winchester

Junior Wallabies Camp: Spencer Jeans, Jack Winchester, Wilson Blyth, Tyrell Kopua, Dion Samuela, George Blake, Zane Nonggorr

QAS Sevens – Tokyo Olympic Trials: Dan Boardman, Ryan Menzies, Liam Dillon, Hamish Roberts, Joey Fittock.

Pathway to Premier: Our Pathway to Premier program, established in 2017 for Rugby players aged 16–18, is a skill-based program preparing



# AFFILIATE REPORTS

players for Premier Colts Rugby, while playing school and club Rugby locally. There has been significant transition from this program into our Colts Program as well as a number of players transitioning into Senior Rugby with an improved skill level and game understanding.

## WOMEN'S RUGBY:

The Bond University Rugby Club was proud to enter its first Premier Women's XV's team into the Queensland Premier Rugby competition. The inclusion was another significant milestone for the club which will complement the development of our AON Sevens players, while establishing a new pathway for female Rugby players on the Gold Coast.

The Aon Women's Sevens Program is about to commence with a new look format being played in April-May 2021. It will be an exceptionally long season for the women who have completed the XV's season and seeking selection in our AON7s program. Bond University Rugby Club is one of only two Queensland Premier Clubs that can offer women a XV's and Sevens program at this level, managed and delivered by experienced staff and coaches. Congratulations to the representative players in our women's programs for 2020:

Australian Women's Sevens: Charlotte Caslick, Lauren Brown

Walloos (XV's): Millie Boyle (VC), Taz Sheppard, Lucy Lockhart

Women's Queensland select team (XV's): Caity Costello, Aleena Greenhalgh, Sophie Holyman, Carola Kreis, Faythe Manera (Unavailable), Miah O'Sullivan, Grace Qaranivalu, Melanie Wilks (injured)

Queensland Reds - Super W 2020 (XV's): Aleena Greenhalgh, Emily Bass, Kirby Sefo, Melanie Wilks, Setu Naseri (Assistant Coach), Damon Virtue (Assistant Coach)

Women's QAS Sevens Squad: Emily Bass (National PONI Squad Member), Caity Costello, Maddi Levi, Teagan Levi, Faythe Manera, Miah O'Sullivan

## EVENTS

The Bond University Rugby Club continually aspires to bring significant Rugby events to the Gold Coast to assist in the promotion of

the game in our community. This year we were unable to host our regular school finals, the NRC competition, the Oceania U20s competition, the GCDRU finals, or the youth girls state championships. These events are targeted strategically for recruitment, financial opportunity and branding purposes which, again due to COVID-19, we were unable to host in 2020.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to thank Bond University, who whole heartedly support our Queensland Premier Rugby and AON Women's Sevens programs. We are indeed very fortunate that the University affords our club and members the privilege to train and play at such fantastic facilities.

Along with numerous other stakeholder relationships, the Bond University Rugby Club enjoys a strong relationship with the Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU), where we help develop both men and women academy players in our programs. This is a beneficial relationship for the University, the IRFU, the Bond University Rugby Club and our players and staff by engaging in international development and educational opportunities. We would like to thank the IRFU.

Within our Club we are extremely fortunate to receive unwavering backing and support from our parents, families, members and support group; our volunteers, including our Board, our staff, and coaches, the players and of course all of our amazing sponsors.

Bond University Rugby Club is fortunate to offer the exclusive John Eales Excellence Scholarship annually and this would not be possible without the continued support of some amazing people, Terry Jackman AM, John Eales AM and Bond University. The recipients of the scholarships are very fortunate to have the support of these stakeholders and the Bond University Rugby Club to set a holistic foundation to their promising rugby careers.

Another major milestone for our club in 2020 was that thirty-five registered players of the Bond University Rugby Club were enrolled students at Bond University. Our Rugby program does not require players to be a student at Bond University, however the club is fortunate to contribute to the student experience and supports the University's values.

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

As the Gold Coast's only Premier Rugby Club, we continue to develop and improve our programs, offering players, coaches and administrators an environment to improve and develop into the Queensland state programs and beyond while acknowledging our responsibility to assist in the growth of the game in our local district and surrounding areas.

**Dr Manny Pohl AM**

*President – Bond University Rugby*

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## BROTHERS

### PREAMBLE

On behalf of the Board and management, it gives me great pleasure to present my third Brothers Rugby Annual Report to the QRU. I would like to firstly offer a sincere thank you to the QRU Chairman Jeff Miller and the entire QRU team who provided outstanding leadership and support to all of the Queensland clubs and affiliates. I would also like to thank our fellow Brisbane Premier Clubs for their cooperation, professionalism and support in helping ensure we all got to participate and enjoy what was a very worthwhile and rewarding Rugby season. I'm sure like all; this year has been like no other in the club's 116-year history and despite the many challenges presented by COVID-19 across our entire Brisbane Rugby competition. Brothers is rightly proud of our accomplishments for the year which include to date: 169 Premierships across all grades, 28 First Grade premierships, 256 Queensland representatives including 26 State team Captains, five Queensland Championships, four Australian Club Championships. We have also had 91 Australian representatives across men's and women's including 13 National team Captains across XVs and Sevens.

I would like to remember and pay tribute to past players and members who sadly passed away this year. We celebrate their lives and we will not forget them.

No one has gone unscathed through this COVID-19 year and I'm proud to say that by pulling together as a Queensland Rugby family we have all managed to work hard to overcome the many social and economic challenges that

descended on us all in late March. What has been made very clear during this crazy year was the importance that community sporting clubs play in maintaining and strengthening the social fabric of our local communities.

While much of our business planning was shelved and we moved into survival mode, we were very grateful to close out the year with viable junior and senior Rugby competition and some very successful and moral boosting home games.

### SPORTING

We continue to develop our Rugby and touch programs with a welcomed increase in participation and pathways to the elite levels. I thank Sean Hardman and his subcommittee, Rugby Manager Ryan Schultz, Head Coach Anthony Mathison, Colts Coordinator Tony Wall and Club Captain Rueben Wall, for their leadership and guidance of our Senior and Colts Rugby programs. We again enjoyed a great deal of continued success with eight Grand Final appearances and four Premierships. In addition, we were awarded the Doughty Shield for the Club Championship jointly this year with the remarkably successful Easts. For the first time in the club's long and proud history we won Colts 1, 2 and 3 and were awarded the Triple Crown. Congratulations to and all of our amazing players and support staff for the way they conducted themselves both on-and-off the field throughout the year. The results are a testament to the efforts of both players and our tireless volunteers during what has been a very long year.

Congratulation to our newest centurion Jodie Moore (nee Kairl) and all Brothers players who gained selection at International and Super Rugby levels. We had a commendable representation at the elite level, with four Wallabies who took part in the Tri Nations and at one stage of the Queensland Reds Super Rugby AU season, we had eight players in the team. This continues to prove that the Brothers Rugby program is one of the best in Australia.

The Junior Rugby program has gone from strength-to-strength despite the pandemic, which derailed the season last March. With the leadership of Peter Bayo and his incredibly hard working Juniors Subcommittee we were able to provide our junior players with a season of



# AFFILIATE REPORTS

substance and enjoyment. In this COVID year what was extremely pleasing to see was the increased interaction with our parent base, which we will continue to nurture in order to deliver an improved season in 2021. Our Girls Sevens program continues to grow and we hope that our structured program will see them become a major force in the various BJRU competitions in the near future.

We will continue to further develop our rugby programs in 2021 to ensure we meet the needs of our players and the greater Rugby fraternity. Our organisational structure, which depends very much on the various subcommittees, is functioning effectively and continues to promote the engagement of a wider supporter base resulting in more enhanced outcomes for our players, support staff and members.

We are very proud of our Modified Rugby Program (MRP) supported by GingerCloud and lead by Megan and Anthony Elliott for organising and completing an abbreviated but successful competition for the their players. We should also acknowledge that GingerCloud were recently recognized as Community Group of the Year by Awards Australia for their significant contribution to their community. We are very proud that the birthplace of MRP was at Brothers and that we share a strong sense of community and team spirit.

The Brothers Touch Association has become a major part of our club. Unfortunately Season One Junior Touch was cancelled due to COVID. However, numbers were strong in our Season Two for junior girls and boys competition and we were able to run a Junior representative program despite the cancellation of the Junior State Cup. Our Senior Program includes the Metro Cup & Senior State Cup, and for the first time in our short history we ended with two teams playing in a Metro Cup Grand Final, winning the Women's Division 3 Premiership and going down narrowly in the Women's Division 1 Grand Final. I would like to thank Jodie Clarke and the Touch Subcommittee for their commitment and energy throughout this difficult year.

## CLUB FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

I would like to thank our loyal parents and supporters, our valued 40 plus sponsors and business partners, all who stuck by the club

during these uncertain times. Without their support and understanding and the financial leadership of our Treasurer Brenden Yantsch, we would not have achieved the club's modest positive financial end of year result

We must also recognise the generous support from all levels of government without which the going would have been considerably tougher. Initiatives such as Job Keeper, Cash Flow Boost, Gambling Fund Community Benefit Grants, water and rates relief all helped our club stay afloat. Predictably, the club's functions and event revenues were the hardest hit due to the limited number of opportunities that were available under the COVID Health Regulations. We anticipate that we will be able to run our normal schedule of events in 2021 including the largest of these events, our annual Pre-Test Luncheon.

I would like to acknowledge our club staff, led by our CEO Matt Kaye, who have all worked above and beyond their duties this year. All staff were stood down for a period during the year and unfortunately we are still in a position of operating under a reduced hours policy for some staff. I would like to thank these staff members for their patience and understanding. I acknowledge staff members Ryan Schultz, Jason Neylon, Karen Nichols, Alan Anderson, Manuel Cole Manolis, Nicole Elder and Jodie Clarke. Special thank you to all of our many hardworking volunteers including age group coordinators, parents, the Hobbits, the Butchery, coaches and team managers, thank you for your continued support of the club.

## COMMUNITY

With the guidance of Community Chair Scott Jensen and CEO Matt Kaye, we undertook a complete review of our sponsorship strategy and are now implementing a fresh approach to 2021. I am extremely encouraged and excited that our long-term Major Sponsors Ray White Ascot (Dwight and Tonja Ferguson) and Goulson Legal (Faran Gouldson) have extended their support for the club for a further three years. This is a testament to the club's brand and values, and we are grateful for their continued generous support.

Under the stewardship of Russell McCart and John Shepherd (Gallus) the Crosby Park Redevelopment Plan continues to be one of the most important milestones in the club's history.

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

It is an exciting time for the club as we continue on the journey to shape the club's future and provide a Community Sporting Hub that we can all be extremely proud of. With the upgrade of our second field currently underway, Stage 1A will be completed prior to next year's Rugby season. We hope that our development application (DA), which was submitted to the Brisbane City Council earlier this year and will hopefully be approved soon, which will allow the club to begin construction of Stage 1B sometime in the first quarter of 2021.

Finally, I would like to thank our Club Executive, Vice President Geoff Rodgers, Secretary Graeme Linklater and Treasurer Brenden Yantcsh for their leadership and the selfless contributions of the Brothers Board. They are all amazing volunteers who stepped up to the many challenges with gusto. I am very proud and grateful of our combined and sustained achievements during what has been the most difficult year in our 116-year history.

Thank you all.

**David Hine**

*Brothers President*

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## EASTS

2020 was a year to remember for Easts, yet for so many it was a year to forget.

When the pandemic hit in March and we were forced to close down all club activities, it looked like we may not have any Rugby in 2020.

But thankfully after a couple of months of no actual Rugby, we were back on deck mid year, and all Junior and Senior teams were able to start training and then playing.

Easts were able to weather the financial storm of 2020 and remain in a very strong position to commence 2021.

All Rugby competitions were modified due to restrictions, but this did not dampen the pride or enthusiasm of all players across the club.

Our younger age groups had an internal competition which was well received with the inaugural Tiger Cup on offer. We were also able to hold some junior carnivals with GPS and

Brothers at the end of season which proved very successful.

Our older junior teams played in smaller geographical clusters without traditional finals due to restrictions.

Whilst the junior season was truncated, we did have a successful year, particularly with our girls program, with our U16 Girls winning the BJRJ Sevens premiership.

However, the main measure of our success with Juniors in 2020 came in the form of our registered numbers and the support given by all junior members. Our registered numbers across all juniors age groups were 1000, which was an improvement on 2019. In fact, post pandemic our registered numbers increased. I can't thank our Junior community enough for the support given in 2020.

The Modified Rugby Program was also held in 2020, although shortened it was a very successful year in 2020. We are very proud of all of our MRP players, mentors and families. We are looking forward to our 2021 MRP program returning to a normal length season and hopefully growing numbers.

Our seniors stole the limelight in 2020 with our most successful year on record.

Firstly, our registered Senior/Colt numbers were circa 280 players with Easts fielding Premier Men's and Women's through to Sixth Grade. Colts 1 to Colts 4 (two teams in Colts 4 competition).

It was also a significant year in that we welcomed back Premier Women's Rugby to Easts. This is a wonderful milestone for Easts and will now be a permanent part of the club into the future.

The season was shortened to a single round of games which meant to make finals, winning most games was the only option.

Win we did. With a couple of clean sweeps throughout the season, Easts seniors and colts were heading for a year to be remembered. This started with winning the Doughty Shield (shared with Brothers) following stirring victories by our Premier Men's and Women's at Brothers in the final round of the regular season.

We had 10 teams make finals including Premier Men, Premier Women, Seconds, Thirds, Fourths, Fiftths and Sixths, Colts 2,3 and 4.

Unfortunately, Fourth Grade, Sixth Grade and



# AFFILIATE REPORTS

Colts 1, 2 and 3 didn't make the Grand Final this year.

We had six Senior teams in Grand Finals, and due to restrictions, the Grand Finals were held from Thursday through to Sunday. This made no difference to our teams. Starting with a stirring Colts 4 victory at University of Queensland on Thursday evening and five more victories at Ballymore across the weekend. Easts had made history – winning six titles from six Grand Finals. No club in the history of the Queensland Premier Rugby has achieved this.

I would like to thank all 2020 board members for the huge amount of time and effort that has been invested in our club including Dave Waldie (Vice-President), Darren Crothers (Treasurer), Dom Murphy (Junior Director), Quentin Masson (Senior Rugby Director), Helen Clarke (Marketing Director) and Luke Fraser (Facilities/Clubhouse Director). The support you have each provided me and the club is greatly appreciated.

Of the board of 2020 we have one outgoing member, Dom Murphy, Junior Rugby Director. Dom has given an unbelievable amount of time and effort into this role. And has created a system and structure that will be his legacy for many years to come. Thank you Dom. You are a true Tiger for Life.

Events 2020 - We were unable to hold any of our major events in 2021 however our home games were very successful albeit with restrictions in place. Again, this showed the strong community spirit within our club.

We were able to run our Junior Raffle which was an amazing fundraising success. A big thank you to our Junior Community for getting behind this important activity.

Whilst our Rugby year was somewhat shortened, we did rely heavily on volunteers to make things happen at Easts. A huge thank you to all volunteers across our club.

Our whole of community support in 2020 has been the highlight of a very tough year. This shows the importance of our club in the greater community. We are very proud of this culture and look forward to growing this in 2021.

I would like to thank our 2020 major Sponsors including Cromwell Property Group, Mullins Lawyers and Green Beacon Brewing Company. The support provided in a very tough year for

business will not be forgotten. This support has made sure we remain viable as a club.

I would also like to thank all of our sponsors including Jersey, Fence Signs, Field Maintenance and Training Shirt. The combined value of which is imperative to the club success.

I would like to thank John Mullins for his continued contribution as Honorary Solicitor in 2020. The assistance provided by John across a number of different issues has been invaluable to me and the club as a whole.

I would like to thank Cr Krista Adams for being Club Patron in 2020 and for her continued support of our club.

Finally, I would like to thank our staff. Our staff went over and above this year. Lead by Michael Lucas, the effort, dedication and commitment were unbelievable. The year started with the very sad passing of Julie Laws. Julie was such a large part of our club and had so much knowledge of all things Easts. But Michael brought the team together and worked so hard to make 2020 the year it was. I can't explain in words the effort and work that Michael Lucas put into Easts this year. Needless to say, Easts would not be in the strong position we are across all club elements without Michael's hard work and effort.

Erin Toohey and Tyrell Barker also assisted Michael to make 2020 a success. Erin managed all admin, social media, junior registrations, events and much more. Well done Erin. Tyrell assisted Michael with the Rugby programme while coaching Colts 1, Premier Women and also playing across three grades. I'm so proud of how our staff banded together to make so many things happen at short notice due to restrictions. The effort Michael, Erin and Tyrell have put in cannot be understated. Thank you also to Rachel Pietila our Book Keeper for her efforts in 2020.

I would also like to thank our casual staff lead by Kelly Stringer and her whole family. And, of course, Karl Stringer (a volunteer) who is here working with them for each and every event at the club.

On a representative front, we would like to congratulate Seru Uru who made his Super Rugby and Queensland debut in 2020, while Liam Wright was appointed Captain for the season. Off the back of his performances in 2020, Richie Asiata has also been welcomed into

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

the Reds program for 2021, while Rhys van Nek was awarded a contract at the Melbourne Rebels.

In what has been a difficult year for so many, we look forward to 2021 and continuing to see club Rugby thrive and be a huge part of all local communities.

## **Simon Box**

*President – Easts Rugby Club*

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## **GPS**

It is a pleasure to present my 2020 Annual Report for GPS Rugby Union Club Inc.

This was one of the more challenging seasons for the Club with the advent of Covid 19.

Notwithstanding these challenges the Club pulled together and managed to undertake a season both for Juniors and Seniors. I thank all those who assisted in making this happen.

I also congratulate our Fourth Grade team on winning the Premiership. To Coaches Mike Proctor, Ryan Freney, players and support staff – Well done!

### **RUGBY**

We fielded eight senior teams in 2020, participated in five semi-finals, two grand finals and won Fourth Grade. A special mention to our Women's team for their hard-fought performance in the finals this year, only going down to Easts 17-15 in the grand final.

The Club can certainly build on this going into 2021. We finished fifth in the Doughty Shield for overall club performance down from fourth in 2019. The measure of success in Brisbane Rugby is where we finish in the Doughty Shield being the measure of overall club performance, we last won the shield in 2008. With this in mind, the club appointed

Stephen Meehan as our Director of Rugby for 2021. The Club is fortunate to be able to draw on Stephen's experience that he has established with experts in the fields of coaching, performance and leadership around the world. I would also like to thank Elwee Prinsloo for his contribution to the club over the last four years and wish him well in the future.

Our juniors fielded some 54 teams in 2020 with

some 824 players.

The club, after much consideration, will be introducing "The GPS Rugby Scholarship" for 2021. The scholarship is designed to support outstanding new and continuing players 18 to 20 who have demonstrated exceptional ability in Rugby to combine a tertiary/trade education with high performance sport. There will be up to five Scholarships of \$4,000 p.a. awarded based on the yearly available funding.

I'd like to thank all coaching staff from seniors to juniors for their hard work to make the season an enjoyable one for all. It is important that we as a club deliver a consistent and well planned out program of skills development.

## **SPONSORS**

A club our size would not operate without the generous support of our sponsors.

A special thanks goes out to our sponsors, many of whom were dealing with their own difficult situations in 2020 but stuck with the club. A special thanks to Ken Baker and Height for Hire for being our principle sponsor for 2020.

Also, our Major Sponsors for 2020 – McDonald's Newmarket, Hart Sports, Midas Ashgrove, Meat at Billy's, XXXX, Wonder White, BLK and Witches Falls.

Thanks also to our First XV, junior and other sponsors mentioned in this report.

## **FINANCES**

The club continues to be run in a fiscally responsible manner and from the financial report we remain in a sound financial position. With Covid 19, revenue certainly took a hit. Expenses for 2020 were managed tightly and was supported with Government Assistance in the form of Job Keeper; Cashflow boost for not-for-profits and various State and local government assistance. The club needs to be very mindful of the environment we enter for 2021. Capital improvements at the club are always best managed with the assistance of government grants requiring generally only a 20% contribution from the club. The cash reserves of the club continue to be used to ensure the facilities are maintained and over time brought up to date.

It is appropriate that the club acknowledges the



# AFFILIATE REPORTS

bequest to the club of \$100,000 from the late Bob Armstrong. Bob played for GPS between 1970 and 1979 playing 148 games including 68 First Grade Caps. He scored 18 tries. In 1975 he served on the committee and has been a regular supporter of GPS from the sidelines for many years. These funds will be set aside and used to fund the GPS Rugby Scholarship. We believe it is appropriate to name the individual GPS Rugby Scholarships in honour of those bequeathing funds to the club moving forward.

## VOLUNTEERS

A club of our size relies heavily on the volunteers which make it the successful community club that it is. A very special thanks to those who gave up their time this year. The support from volunteers with coaching, managing, assisting with ground set up, working behind the canteen or bar and assisting with functions and events has contributed to a successful season.

## STAFF

The club's employees put in a tremendous amount of time and effort during the Rugby season. A very special thanks to Anthony Herbert our CEO who puts in an enormous amount of time and effort to see the club excel and continues to improve the experience at the club. Matt Muller – operations manager, and Colleen Murphy – office manager, all of whom have put in a massive effort in 2020.

## FACILITIES

We have in recent years consulted members and the community on what you would like to see occur at Ashgrove Sports Ground and the constant response has been to address the aging facilities, car parking and playing space. I would like to congratulate our new state member Jonty Bush on her election and her \$2.5M commitment to fund:

- two new additional dressing rooms dedicated to females;
- replacement gym for strength and conditioning training;
- first aid room;
- replacement merchandise store and administration offices;

- significant refurbishment of the community hall and public space around the existing main building.

This should be well underway in 2021.

With the closure of the Ashgrove Bowls Club we would hope that Brisbane City Council would use the opportunity to address car parking and look at increasing the available Parkland both to existing clubs and the wider community.

A reminder that the club has a foundation established which now enables tax deductible donations to be made. All funds are used to fund facility improvements. Below is the website address of the foundation page.

<https://asf.org.au/projects/gps-rugby-club/>

## SUPPORTERS

To our members, you are regarded the best in the Brisbane Club Rugby scene. This is acknowledged by other clubs when we travel to play away and our home game set up is the envy of all. The finals series again saw large numbers of supporters travel to Ballymore to support our teams. Clubs enjoy travelling to Ashgrove and do comment on the standard

of home game that we put on. Thank you all for your support, enjoy the off season and we hope to see you all for the commencement of 2021.

## COMMUNITY

The club has a history of contributing back to the community. In 2020 we continued through our Charity Day to raise funds for Ronald McDonald house, who help families of hospitalised children. We also took the opportunity to donate to Pancare and Lymphoma Australia where we have had players directly affected.

The Club assisted the Dunn family when James, one of our U8 Junior coaches, passed away in tragic circumstances as a result of a cycling accident. James left behind his wife Caroline and three kids – Arthur and Isabelle aged 8 and Charlie aged 2. He is sadly missed by the club and our community.

## EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

The club held numerous and well attended functions during the year. Unfortunately, due to Covid, the Ladies Day which is now an institution in Ashgrove needed to be cancelled. We managed to hold the annual Golf Day which was a great success. Covid also forced the departure from the annual pre-test lunch in town being substituted by smaller lunches with guest speakers at the Caxton Hotel. Hopefully next year we may be able to reinstate some of our more favoured events.

## COMMITTEE

In concluding I would like to thank our 2020 Committee: Liza Hammond – Club Secretary, Darren Dowse, Paul Stone, Ben Whitten and Jason Raft. A special thanks to the ongoing support of Rob Melloy.

It is a pleasure to serve this great club and we look forward to seeing you all for 2021.

A very special thanks to my wife Kelly!

**Michael Taylor**

*President – GPS Rugby Club*

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## NORTHS

2020 brought many challenges to us here at Norths. With our trials beginning in March and our final games in October, it was an extremely long season, but with the support from our amazing community and sponsors, we made it through!

Like many sporting organisations, we were faced with a lot of uncertainty this year, but we managed to continue to achieve progression in an area the club has identified as a key component to our growth - community engagement.

Our Food Truck Fridays has continued to build a strong social calendar for not only our members, but the local community. With a variety of trucks and live music to entertain, it has certainly become a must-do on the Northside on Friday evenings.

Our key relationships with sponsors, suppliers, governments and the governing bodies are stronger than ever. We have upcoming works to

be completed at Norths in the new year, with the Independent Accessibility Scheme providing our venue with new, more accessible and friendly facilities for all.

We see the continuance and strength in the relationships vital to our being and success as a community organisation. Special thanks go to all for their ongoing support.

Within the club, our juniors and the junior community continue to be a great source of inspiration. This season was just as tough on our junior players, if not tougher, so the ongoing support from the junior club is greatly appreciated and we are looking forward to growing this relationship in 2021.

Family Day at Norths in our annual home game vs Brothers continues to be a great day for the whole club. We also enjoyed a large and Covid-Safe Heritage Day event, where we

acknowledged our era of the 90s and early 2000s with the Barbarians themed jerseys. Our Ladies Day to end the season was also a very successful event and we thank all members and supporters for your continued support for our special event days.

We had over 250 registered Colts and Senior Mens and Womens players, which allowed Norths to field eight senior teams. In our Junior club, we had over 430 registered players.

Our flagship team, The Green Beacon First Grade side, played a traditional Norths brand of Rugby - expansive attacking football, but struggled to close many close games out. A fairly young side, with a sprinkling of experience throughout the line up, they will be better for it in the near future. Norths would like to thank the outgoing First Grade Head Coach - Luke Oxford for his efforts

over the last two seasons. Also, a massive thank you to all involved in our Rugby programs.

Coaches, managers, medical staff and volunteers - we cannot do it without you.

Off-field, our medical & support staff have continued to refine their practices and improve the

performance of the players. The involvement and



# AFFILIATE REPORTS

professionalism shown by our team is certainly worthy of our investment. I encourage all players, coaches, managers and support staff to keep striving to improve both on-and-off the field.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank Zac Litherland and his team at Inspire Health Services, and Patrick Cruise and his team at All Care Physiotherapy for their continued efforts in supporting Norths over the years and wish them well for the future.

Thank you must also go to our Norths Committee for their ongoing efforts in this incredible season. Here's hoping we never have another one like it!

To our members, supporters, past players and community, Norths loves the support that you give. A hill full of fans when our boys take to the paddock on a Saturday is a glorious sight to behold. Thank you.

Our culture is still good, getting strong and changing for the better. When our people are the same, we can only continue to grow.

Thank you for a great 2020 and we will #seeyouatNorths for an exciting, and hopefully uninterrupted, 2021 season.

## Glenn Barron

*General Manager - North Brisbane Rugby Union Club Inc*

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## SOUTHS

Although a shortened playing season in all competitions, season 2020 ran for almost a year for most at the club. Beginning with pre-season in November 2019, the season finally finished almost 12 months later due to COVID-19 season suspensions and late restarts.

I would like to acknowledge the work of the Queensland Rugby Union and the Brisbane Junior Rugby Union in coordinating the break and restart process for a safe return to Rugby. In particular, Gaven Head (GM Community Rugby) from QRU and all the club managers that

met every week to ensure a seamless flow of information during the many weeks when it was unknown if we were to even have a season this year.

After a promising start to the season, on field success was elusive this year for the Magpies. Second Grade went close again before dropping out in the preliminary finals. Colts 1 and Fifth Grade were both in finals contention but missed out going down in their respective semi-final matches. Congratulations to all involved in those teams.

Congratulations to those players that achieved milestones this year, including Alex Hatzis, Paul Mafi, Nic White and Georges Khoury, all of whom notched 100 games for the club.

I would like to thank all involved in our junior Rugby programs including the 505 players from U6 through to U18, all the coaches, managers and wonderful families who give their time to ensure the players are provided with a safe and enjoyable Rugby environment.

Junior ten-year service trophies were earned by Jordon Free, Nate Allan, Sam Cairncross, Lewis Blaikie, Sam Benham, John Bryant, Lachlan Marchant and Noah Coleman. Congratulations to you all.

It was pleasing that even in this interrupted year, we were able to field seven grades teams, three colts teams and a Women's XV team. It is a testament to the coaches, managers and players that the teams were able to stay together after being shut down just after trial matches at the start of the season.

On the representative front we had Lukhan Salakaia-Loto turn out for the Wallabies and Queensland. Chris Feaui-Sautia, Sean Farrell and Wynona Baice also featured in the Reds with Sean Farrell making his debut for Queensland this year. Congratulations to you all.

Of course, on-field success can't happen without massive off-field support. This includes all the coaches and managers involved but also our club doctors, Dr Matt Young and Dr Marriana Zukiwskyi. They have offered their services week-in-week-out, home-and-away for 17 and 11 years respectively. Also, thank you to our ground announcer Danny Hoyland. A huge thank you from the club.

Thank you to our club manager Nicole Lauder for

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

her efforts during this challenging year and thank you to our executive management committee, as well as the senior and junior Rugby committees.

A special mention and thank you again to Chris Hourigan, Simon McNeven and Bob Hammond for all their great work on securing and implementing the many Government grant funded projects at the club this year. Thank you to our Federal Member Graham Perret MP, State Member Mark Bailey MP and local councilor Cr Nicole Johnston for their support of the club.

Thank you to Bob Hammond and Bill Brammer for all their work in preparing our fields for training and play each week.

Lastly, thank you to our sponsors. A special thank you to our naming rights sponsor, the Index group, for 44 years of continuous sponsorship of Souths Rugby. Thank you to Alceon for their jersey sponsorship, to Nelson Australia in their 14th year of sponsorship, as well as Gilbert, Napier & Blakely, Regis Aged care, and the Hastings Deering.

I look forward to seeing everyone back in 2021 for a full year of Rugby.

**Anthony Shepley**

*President - Souths Rugby Union Club Inc.*

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## SUNNYBANK

The 2020 season has presented numerous challenges and curve balls for all aspects of the community game. The true strength of people who are committed to the game in Queensland and the clubs attached has shone through and this has been very evident at Sunnybank in 2020.

We have seen these challenges as opportunities to streamline approaches which sets the platform for the future success of Sunnybank.

We are proud that the final pieces of an infrastructure plan set five years ago have been able to be achieved and with assistance from State Government and Brisbane City Council, we have upgraded the lighting on Field 2 and 3 and in the off season, Field 2 is undergoing a full makeover continuing to develop Sunnybank into premier facilities.

It has been wonderful to see several current

professional players giving back to club Rugby this year and a special mention must go to Digby loane, who has lent coaching and mentoring support to juniors and seniors.

A special mention to all the players who went through two preseasons and a lot of stop start processes. The Women who are no strangers to finals were unfortunately knocked out in the preliminary final, but played to the last minute to defend their title. We saw numerous close games in the Men's Rugby which showed the grit of this group and I am sure that the winners circle for them in 2021 will be a regular place.

Our junior program was strong with over 430 Dragons participating in all age groups from U6s to U18s with great Junior programs running on-and-off the field, this has seen good engagement at all levels of the club and is inspiring for the future.

A Special Mention and thank you to the QRU who throughout these times ensured clubs were included and informed of the sporting restrictions and return to play guidelines. While the season did not represent 'normal' we are thankful for their ongoing management of the competition.

2021 is well under way for committees and players alike and we welcome back to the Premier Grade Head Coach role - Sione Fukofuka. Sione and his team are well into the detail of the season and it is great to see some old boys assisting in key roles that continue the development of great Club Rugby spirit. In the latest news, we welcome TFH (Temporary Fence Hire) as a major sponsor of Sunnybank.

On behalf of Sunnybank Rugby I would like to thank our players, supporters, sponsors, life members, committee members and teams of volunteers who continue to support and promote the Sunnybank Rugby mantra - 'A place for everyone'.

**Andrew Staff**

*Chair – Sunnybank Senior Rugby Club Inc*

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## UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

2020 wasn't the season we expected.

We started as normal with our season launch

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

breakfast on March 13th. The next day many of us flew to Sydney where we performed admirably but lost the Australian Club Championship match to Sydney University. In the coming days we learnt a Sydney Uni player had COVID-19 and about 50 of us ended up in isolation for two weeks. Welcome to season 2020!

Following an extended period of uncertainty, delays and a never ending and protracted pre-season we eventually commenced an abridged season in August.

Huge credit goes to all club General Managers and Gaven Head from the QRU for their tremendous efforts to get us back on the paddock. The intense, competitive one-round season that followed belied the chaos that preceded it.

Overall, we had a solid season coming third in the Doughty Shield and did well in the first week of finals to have five teams advance directly to Grand Finals, Colts 1 to 4 and Premier Grade.

Unfortunately, all five teams lost the big dance. It was a tough weekend for Uni fans however we can take pride in our efforts.

Congratulations to Easts and Brothers, who were by far the strongest clubs all year and to Easts for rolling us in First Grade.

Sadly, our elite AON Women's 7s team fell victim to the circumstances with all major tournaments cancelled. RA has done a great job developing this series and we hope it resumes next year. The Women were able to compete in a Queensland internal University Sevens Series against Griffith University and Bond University.

Our joint venture with Taylor Bridge continues to be a highlight, with the Junior Heavies program a further collaboration with Kenmore, Forrest Lake and Springfield junior clubs. We're proud to support these vibrant junior clubs and play a small role in giving young people the opportunity to play Rugby.

In an abridged representative season, Jock Campbell, Angus Scott-Young, Harry Hockings, Tate McDermott and Josh Nasser performed admirably for the Reds. Avery Mitchell represented Queensland and was selected for the Wallaroos while Jamie Cope and Rylie Douglas earned selection in the Queensland Maroon squad.

Special congratulations to Tate McDermott for

becoming our latest Wallaby and Tom Banks for getting an extended run in the Wallabies fullback jersey.

We have over 100 volunteers across all teams, ages and formats. There are so many I don't know where to start in offering gratitude other than saying - thank you – you are what makes Rugby great.

In a normal year we run ten major events in different formats. This year we were only able to host our season launch breakfast with guest speaker Phil Kearns, an abridged lunch at the end of the season and our awards dinner – now combined with the awarding of the Halley Appleby Scholarship.

These events were critical to maintain engagement with our sponsors, supporters and stakeholders. All were very well run and successful – a great credit to our new GM Jason Greenhalgh, Events and Marketing Manager Laura Mitchell and Rugby Manager Stu Hubbert.

Another off-field highlight executed by our staff was the training and implementation of 14 Mental Health First Aid Officers throughout the club. Duty of Care to our members is an absolute priority and we are proud to be leaders in this space.

Our sponsors are loyal partners in everything we do. Special thanks to Buildcorp – great supporters of Australian Rugby, the Business, Economics & Law (BEL) faculty at UQ, Flight Centre and Morgans. This year we also welcomed Brisbane BMW as a Major Sponsor. We thank them all for the great support.

We are fortunate to enjoy some of the best facilities in Australia and are very appreciative of the support of UQ Sport and the University of Queensland.

Thanks to all for another fantastic year of club Rugby – we look forward to a full season in 2021.

**Mick Zaicek**

*President – UQRFC*

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## WESTS

2020 started reasonably well with our committee members making adjustments to their work



# AFFILIATE REPORTS

and family commitments to step back into their volunteer roles at Wests. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the season start for juniors and seniors was short lived with restrictions implemented for all sports, including Rugby. Our game and our club came to an abrupt halt on 16 March 2020. After a period of almost three months, the Queensland Government relaxed restrictions from 12 June 2020 (Stage 2) to allow non-contact training sessions, providing clubs submitted and complied with individual COVID Safety Plans meeting Queensland Government requirements and approved by QRU / BJRU.

As part of our Covid Safety Plan, after attending the necessary training / accreditation, Covid Safety Officers were appointed for our juniors and seniors to ensure compliance across the club (particularly with regards to check in / check out requirements for contact tracing). I want to thank our COVID sub-committee and Peter Mitchell for their great work in drafting and implementing the plan which was compliant for both sport and a licensed venue.

Even though not all players returned post-COVID, for a half season there were only a small number of COVID related refunds and our player registrations for 2020 were 543 juniors and 348 seniors.

Largely due to the enormous investment of time and ongoing commitment of Felicity Bennetts, our teenage girls Sevens player and team numbers continued to grow in 2020 with further success on the field. Our Modified Rugby Program had four teams this year including MRP Sevens and MRP Colts and I am proud to say that Wests is still the largest club in Australia for MRP participants. Thanks to Marc Eslick of MRP/ Gingercloud and our own Megan Clifford who do a fantastic job ensuring these kids and families are well catered for each week.

Our junior teams performed very well across all age groups. Congratulations to coaches and managers for doing such a great job in keeping everything together and getting our junior players onto the park for a fun, albeit shortened, season in 2020.

Our senior teams this year had First Grade to Seventh Grade, our Premier Women's team, and three colts teams. Our senior teams really stepped up with six teams making finals. Most importantly I am very pleased with the progress

we made in the Club Championship (the Doughty Shield). We secured fourth this year, up from fifth in 2019 and seventh in 2018. We certainly are heading in the right direction. I want to acknowledge and thank our coaches and managers that have volunteered and committed to improving and progressing our club.

I am also very pleased to welcome two new employees Courtney Bennetts and Myles Rutherford. They are already making a big difference here. Thanks to all our committee members that really stepped up this year. Mostly importantly I must highlight two people, our Junior President Mark Jenvey that got through a mountain of work and Felicity Bennetts. Felicity just keeps giving to our Club and our game. Her capacity to just keep doing work for us is extraordinary. Rightly so Felicity won our clubs most coveted award - The Rose Bowl.

Finally, thank you to the BJRU, QRU and all the volunteers for their tremendous effort to ensure there actually was a rugby season in 2020. In extremely difficult circumstance due to COVID the QRU really stepped up and lead our game through very trying times, thank you to all involved at the QRU.

## **Graham Brown**

*President – Western Districts Rugby Football Club*

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## **BRISBANE JUNIOR RUGBY UNION**

The 2020 Brisbane Junior Rugby Union (BJRU) Board was a very productive and well-balanced team of people who held the best interests of Junior Rugby to heart. We aspired to improve our operations across all areas and improve the competitions we supported.

As your Board our key “non Rugby” objectives for 2020 remained focussed on

1. Engaging more effectively with our members.
2. Develop and improve on our relationships with the QRU and other affiliates.
3. Develop financial sustainability.
4. Develop/establish Secretariat.

Junior rugby continues experience many challenges and this year this was no exception as COVID-19 impacted, throwing a few more

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

challenges our way. As always, the Rugby community pulled together. We were able to work through plans and overcome a few hurdles to ensure a 2020 season could get underway. The support, advice, and compliance from all our member clubs, QRU and QRRRA was exceptional. We all untied and were totally focussed on getting our players on to the field safely and as close to “normal” as feasibly possible. It was unfortunate the 2020 representative programs were not able to proceed. I sympathise with the players who may have missed their “turn” to shine in this forum. These programs were just one step too far in the 2020 climate.

Like many organisations we faced some operational challenges as well. Our permanent team moved to working from home, meetings were conducted via Teams and phone conferencing and our cloud-based workflow/repository implemented in 2018/9 was put through its paces. All obstacles were overcome and, in many cases, provided better, more effective outcomes.

To the club Presidents thank you for your contribution and support this year. If this year has achieved nothing else, it has brought together everyone in an open and positive forum trying to find solutions to some very difficult issues. To all outgoing club presidents, committee members and volunteers thank you for your efforts and on behalf of the board we wish you all the best. Your friendships and commitment to your roles and to Rugby in general has been fantastic.

As always, our season is supported by several amazing people. Without these stars we would not have the great competition we all enjoy. The many volunteers who take time to coach, manage teams and run our clubs, we are forever grateful that you put your hand up and get involved in our game.

Thank you to all our special event host clubs;

- Lightning Series – Albany Creek
- Brisbane Sevens – Albany Creek
- Summer Sevens – Kenmore, Sunnybank, Easts and Albany Creek
- The Junior Colts Program – Sunnybank, Souths, Wests and Ipswich
- Final series – Logan

Thank you to Gary Camplin and his team of officials at the QRRRA. A special call out Laurie Monaghan who works tirelessly to ensure we can have our games managed well under the guidance of the referees. Gaven Head and the team at the QRU thank you for your support, particularly through the COVID minefield.

Kim, Shantel, Courtney, my fellow Board members and the Girls Sub-committee - thank you for your support, guidance and patience through the year. You have had to wear many hats as we worked our way through the season. I know we will continue to work collaboratively to further enhance junior Rugby in Brisbane and wider South-East Queensland.

All the very best for the coming 2021 season, we will see you around the grounds no doubt. Stay safe and enjoy the break in the “offseason. I am sure you all need a breather after a very eventful 2020!

**John Miller**

*President – BJRU*

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## QUEENSLAND SUBURBAN RUGBY UNION

This year was a change in roles for the first in a This year was a stable year as far as the QSRU Management committee went, I would like to thank the following Members of the Committee for their enthusiasm and advice:

- Secretary/Treasurer - Cameron Legget
- Competition Manager - Shane Robbie
- Representative Co Ord - Brendan Alexander
- General Committee
  - Natalie Chong Nee
  - Jason Garrick
  - Adam Mulherin
  - Cath McDonald
  - Haare Rawson

I would also like to thank all member clubs for their support in ensuring we have a great competition and continue to grow the game of Rugby in the south-east corner of the state. 2020 was another rebuilding year for QSRU, there were two main objectives for 2020 and these were:

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

1. Provide a competition for those members affected by COVID-19
2. Establish a standalone QSRU Women's competition

These priorities in a difficult Rugby environment were great objectives. For providing the competition we were forced to modify our approach due to a number of Clubs withdrawing either the whole club or teams within the Club due to the uncertainty around the ability to compete. This Year we had an objective to develop a Women's completion. The had five clubs take this challenge on and managed to play a 12-a-side competition with most teams having some success. The inaugural Clubs were Redlands, Ipswich, Logan City, Brisbane Irish and North lakes. Overall, we had just four separate competitions for 2020:

1. Barber Cup (Won By Goodna Gladiators RUC 27-26 defeating Brisbane Irish RUC)
2. Pegg Cup (Won By Goodna Gladiators RUC)
3. Women's Cup (Won By Redlands Mud Crabs RUC 21-nil defeating Ipswich Rangers RUC)
4. Normanby Cup (Won By Ipswich Rangers RUC 32-3 defeating Logan City Saints RUC)

The Presidents Cup saw Goodna defeat Brisbane Irish 33-10. Ipswich Rangers RUC with two teams in Grand finals and their other team being knocked out in the second week of finals, were a strong winner of the Club Championship (Sydney Cup) this year. They scored a collective 2156 points with Redlands RUC being runners up on 1716 Points.

Our Grand Final matches for Saturday competitions were played at Ballymore with the assistance of the QRU, these games saw large attendances and they were live streamed on the QSRU Facebook page as well as Rugby Xplorer. Our Friday Night competition Grand Final was held at Ipswich Rangers, with the largest Crowd for a Friday night Grand Final in recent years. I would like to thank Redlands, Ipswich and Brisbane Irish for hosting our finals matches for Saturday competitions and Southern Bay, Logan City and lastly Riverside for hosting our finals series. I would also like to thank the continued support of the QRRA in providing officials to our

games in a difficult year.

2020 was a challenge to continue our representative program due to COVID-19, the decision was made to suspend the Mens' Program for 2020, however with conditions improving, six weeks prior to the end of the season, we made a decision to put together a team for the inaugural QSRU Women's XV team. Brendan Alexander took this on and approached the Sunshine Coast Stingrays about a possible game. They agreed and we worked together to play a game as the Curtain Raiser to the QRU Women's Representative Match at Ballymore on the 7 November 2020. The game was a closely fought affair with QSRU losing the match on the final siren. We hope to continue this next year. QSRU appointed and would like to thank the following for their commitment to the representative program:

- Head Coaches - Nicky Muller and Cheyenne Campbell
- Strapper/Trainer - Gordon Murphy
- Team Manager - Brendan Alexander.

The Players selected for the team were as follows:

1. Urutakai Rikihana (Redlands)
2. Alisi Wilson (Redlands)
3. Kayla Shepard (Ipswich)
4. Saxon Campbell (Redlands)
5. Alana Grace (Redlands)
6. Breeanna Nibbs (Brisbane Irish)
7. Aria Hudson Davies (Ipswich)
8. Emily Robinson (logan City)
9. Hope Hutchins (Ipswich)
10. Kyrstle Gemmel (Redlands)
11. Anastasia Tagataese (North Lakes)
12. Natalie Gala (Ipswich)
13. Vatuulima Soe (Ipswich)
14. Lowis-Ngarangi Blake (Logan City)
15. Jasmine Zischke (Redlands)
16. Lauren Graham (North Lakes)
17. Ange Tanoai (North Lakes)
18. Vai Lafaele (North Lakes)
19. Rangiwekea Rikihana (Redlands)



# AFFILIATE REPORTS

20. Sopaima Faalelei (North Lakes)
21. LaToya Saltner Broome (Ipswich)
22. Cheyanne Campbell (Redlands)
23. Veronica Godinet (North Lakes)

QSRU's financial position remains viable and in a challenging market with reducing teams/ player pool this saw a relatively stable position to previous years. Goals for 2021 include seeking sponsorship for the representative program and expanding the opportunities to include some South East Queensland games.

Again I would like to reinforce the thanks to my committee and the member clubs for 2020 along with the support provided by the QRU, in particular Gaven Head and Connor Ellis.

## **Craig Eason**

*President – Queensland Suburban Rugby Union*

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## **QUEENSLAND RUGBY REFEREES ASSOCIATION**

This report is my first as President and it comes after a rewarding and challenging year for the QRRR (Brisbane), its members, Committee and myself.

2020 has been a year of many challenges and trials for the association and individuals. Fortunately, one thing did not change, the commitment to service as volunteers by QRRR members, whatever their age, experience or level of expertise. A great majority of our members referee because it is an enjoyable pastime which allows us to give back to the community and help instil life values such as teamwork, respect, enjoyment, discipline and sportsmanship. Additionally, the opportunity for intentional exercise is a valued benefit of refereeing.

Thank you to all members formally for their commitment in providing the community with a generally enjoyable and well managed pastime.

### **Sponsorship**

QRRR could not exist and achieve its goals as an independent volunteer body without financial support. Remembering, the QRRR is a member

of the QRU, not a subsidiary.

This season was the final year of the sponsorship commitment by Shaw+Partners and I would again like to thank QRRR members Shayne Gilbert and Alan McLaughlan for the negotiation and continued support of the sponsorship. Since COVID, sponsorship negotiations are more challenging.

### **On the Field**

Resulting from our work with the Rugby Australia referee team, and with our own education, coaching and fitness efforts, it is pleasing to see further success for QRRR referees across a range of levels. I am intentionally choosing not to single referees out for special mention this year as all have been called upon to do the extraordinary. Notable achievements have included numerous community referee's milestones. Two notable milestones were for 400 and 500 games refereed. Two other referees bought up 25 and 35 years, respectively. Many referees officiated more games each weekend than would normally be expected. As such, it was not uncommon for referees to be appointed to five or more games with some continuing whilst managing injuries.

Yes, we have had referees officiate test matches, Super rugby, Super W, Super Rugby AU, Premier, Suburban, junior club and schools. Let us not forget the University competitions, Sevens and the many community competitions we are asked to officiate. In the space allocated for this report, I cannot list off all the achievements of QRRR members at the elite level matches.

### **BCE or CE?**

Any time before mid-march can be referred to as BCE (Before COVID Era) and after that time CE (COVID Era).

In the BCE times, Super Rugby had started and run numerous rounds with some of our members officiating in matches in locations such as Argentina. Another was in the South Pacific refereeing.

During the pause, the Association in partnership with Rugby Australia were able to shift to more regular referee and referee coach education. These happened once a month and were delivered via Zoom. Thanks to Rohan Hoffmann and Cholm Johnson for facilitating this.

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

Rugby re-commenced within the CE frameworks. A simple outworking of this was the compression of the season including the playing of the three school competitions in term three. Apart from the previously mentioned need for referees to officiate more games than they would normally undertake, it also required a reduction of referee coaching so the human resources could be put to refereeing matches.

## Drivers of Success

As an association we do strive to not only provide a service but the best service we can. Whether it be referees appointed to U10s or through to Premier Grade, developing referees for higher appointments such as Super Rugby, International matches or Sevens.

There have been two main pillars to achieving this in 2020. Firstly has been the regular referee education sessions. Session delivery via Zoom enabled the use of breakout rooms so the needs of referees at all levels and experiences would be met.

The second pillar is fitness. The association has engaged Sophie Dodd to co-ordinate the fitness sessions. The sessions in BCE were held at Ballymore on Wednesday evenings. Ballymore's availability in the CE meant that the sessions were moved to Easts on Monday evenings. Thank you to Easts for hosting us.

## Some Costs of COVID

The obvious cost of COVID for the association was the loss of part of the Rugby season. There was a financial impact as we operate on a fee for service model. A reduced number of games meant that this revenue stream is reduced. Tied to this, several of our expenses are fixed and still must be paid if games happen or not.

The Junior Development Program which had a focus on referees who were still at school or young and in their early years of refereeing was unable to be undertaken.

Referee Coaching had to be reduced for the reasons previously mentioned. In 2021, we will be working on the goal of every referee having the opportunity to be coached at least once in the season.

## Challenges

In last year's report the following was written:

"While QRRA has maintained its membership in the Junior and Competitive age groups, our ongoing urgent challenge, due to the Association's ageing population, is the recruitment and retention of young females as well as males in the 30-plus age group." This remains a challenge for the association and one which is to be a focus in 2021.

As in previous years, referee abuse has been a concern. Again, there were instances of reportable referee abuse this year. Ongoing work with QRU and clubs is being undertaken to reduce incidents in future years.

## Thanks

I express my thanks to the 2020 Committee, Barry Leask (Vice President), Gert Erasmus (Secretary), Simon Moore (Treasurer) and Committee members Alan McLoughlin, Michael Kent, Michael Orgill and Chalm Johnson. This is along with the Association Administration Officer, Appointments Officers and Referee Coach Co-ordinators.

Our relationship and collaboration with the QRU, BJRU, QSRU, Clubs and the three schools associations, including Jeff Miller and his Board, David Hanham, Gaven Head, John Miller, Kim Schuck and Craig Eason, continues in a positive and progressive manner.

## Garry Camplin

*QRRA President*

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## QUEENSLAND COUNTRY RUGBY UNION

These reports normally commence with reference to our representative program for the year and we have, fortunately, been able to regularly report successful years in that area.

The year of 2020 has been different on many levels. COVID-19 has delivered us many challenge, and in my view, our report card reads very well for all of Queensland Country. Firstly, to dispense with the negative aspect and effect of COVID-19, we were not able to run a representative program. With shutdowns, borders closing, financial doubt, travel doubts and of course the ever-present health risks, it would

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

have been irresponsible to forge ahead. We were able to liaise with our sub-unions collectively and after doing so that decision was made.

So, to the positives. Unlike rugby league, we were able to run abridged competitions throughout Queensland Country and my admiration for the people on the ground and sincere thanks need to be expressed. Our Rugby people throughout the state refused to just roll over and be beaten, and every time the goalposts were moved, we developed an alternative plan just to get players on the field. We made presentations to local members explaining that in difficult times, our young adults needed the companionship and direction that local Rugby competitions provide. My sincere thanks goes to all who contributed in any way whatsoever.

COVID-19 also helped us develop a new and efficient way of communicating - Zoom conferences. They were instrumental in keeping our communication lines open, and our heartiest thanks go to Gaven Head as the General Manager for Community Rugby for involving us and updating us on a regular basis through this medium. Zoom conferences are here to stay, and although they will never entirely replace face-to-face meetings, they have provided us with an effective alternative, and due to their ease of creation, have increased communication levels in this difficult period.

To move on to a couple of housekeeping matters, we continue to need to do things better. The 2021 Country Championships have come upon us quickly and we have had to remain flexible to be able to cope with changes forced upon us. This has unfortunately caused delays and doubts, not of our making, but it is our job to deal with them, and we have and will. I know that 2022 will be better. It is our intent to, by August 2021, have the format, dates and program locked away, and involve sub-unions in the lead up to these decisions.

As was reported at the half-yearly meeting, we were able to tick all of the boxes this year to deal with the issues of incorporation which lapsed many years ago, so we move into this as our first AGM under the new incorporation. Our proud history remains intact but now we are again a fully recognised legal entity.

Thank you to the entire Country Committee for their efforts in the most frustrating year that I think that we have ever had to deal with.

**Greg Dodd**

*President – Queensland Country Rugby Union*

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## BUNDABERG

As it has been for the majority of our country, 2020 proved to be more challenging than any other

season we have had to previously face.

With this said, Rugby Bundaberg felt that we could still have a strong season and see increased player numbers due to the position of which our season runs (Oct-Dec). Unfortunately, even with the QRL cancelling all regional rugby league competitions and many league players not taking the field in other winter sports, we did not get any increase of player registrations.

In fact, the reality was that two of our local clubs did not participate in the 2020 Elders Insurance Bundaberg Spring Cup. This left the Senior competition with only three clubs to take part - 2019 Champions Fraser Coast Mariners, Bundaberg West Barbarians and Turtles Brothers.

Thanks to the open minds and full agreement of our Rugby Bundaberg Board and Committee, we saw the rising of a new fourth side to compete in the Spring Cup to make sure the competition would proceed. The Rugby Bundaberg Renegades was made up of non-participating players and new players to our game. Rugby Bundaberg was fortunate that they were able to enlist a competitive side to make the Spring Cup viable for the other three sides and maintain the ten round plus finals draw as initially produced.

As proud as Rugby Bundaberg is to be able to prove that the side could be produced, this team and

the COVID-19 precautionary measures put a massive strain on the 2020 budget and volunteer resources.

After the most inconsistent season in our history, the Grand Final was played out between Turtles Brothers and Fraser Coast Mariners. For the second straight year the Mariners took the Elders



# AFFILIATE REPORTS

Insurance Bundaberg Spring Cup back to Hervey Bay.

We would like to thank our Senior competition sponsor's Elders Insurance Bundaberg and The Waves Sports Club.

Fraser Coast continued to run their amazing Junior program alongside the Senior Season.

2021 has commenced with the Reds to Regions visits across Queensland and Bundaberg and Hervey Bay were lucky enough to host Grant Dwyer and players Filipo Daugunu and Tate McDermott. The players met with local media, underprivileged members of the community, got their hands dirty with some farm work and visited local businesses. Rugby Bundaberg hosted an amazing semi-formal meal which included both players being interviewed by local Bundaberg Rugby legend Ian Loeskow.

We'd like to thank Brad Thorn for encouraging all the Reds players to get back into the grassroots as to which they come from and give our areas a boost, as well as regaining the faith in the QRU and Reds. Thank you also to the player's host families - the Freemans, the Deveres and the Plains for taking the lads on during their visit.

We are now focused on the 2021 representative season, growing our Junior Rugby footprint and the 2021 Senior Spring Cup later this year.

## **Luke McCloskey**

*President - Rugby Bundaberg Inc.*

## **Sub Report: Fraser Coast Rugby Report 2020**

2020 started well for Rugby on the Fraser Coast with a visit from Reds players and future Wallabies

Tate McDermott and Filipo Daugunu. It was a great reward for two of our families to have them stay

and join in with our community for a few days.

We are lucky to run our Rugby season, both junior and senior from September to December so that COVID did not stop us playing.

Our junior competition focus is on Friday night Sevens from September to December. This year we did not charge our players to play junior Rugby. This saw an increase in players aged from 6-to-14.

Unfortunately, there was no representative Rugby for juniors this year but we are keen to be involved again with the CQ Bushrangers trials and possible selection for the State Championships in the future.

Senior Rugby saw the Fraser Coast Mariners dominate the Bundaberg Spring Cup competition, losing only one game on their way to the premiership.

While 2020 was a difficult year for many, Fraser Coast Rugby continued to offer opportunities for juniors and seniors to continue playing, and we are looking forward to continued growth in the year ahead.

## **Mark Cassidy**

*Vice President Fraser Coast Rugby*

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## **CAPRICORNIA**

Rugby Capricornia (RCL) started the 2020 Rugby season as all of Australia did, that is the season in question due to COVID restrictions. However, the RCL members and players were determined to play Rugby all be it a shorted season. The season started in late July and concluded in late September. The first seven weeks were played as A grade competition rules with some extra substations due to fitness concerns. From there the top four played for the A Grade premiership and the bottom four played out for the Reserve Grade Cup.

One club declined to participate in the 2020 season as they felt that the season was too short. The remaining clubs benefited from the absence of a 2020 league competition in the area. Most clubs, including the women teams were bolstered by extra players. This in itself bought challenges at times of poor discipline and lack of knowledge of the game. However, by the closing of the short season, there was some quality Rugby being played.

RCL junior participation also increased slightly due to the lack of other sports available in 2020.

Gavin Head of QRU needs to be commended for his guidance through the 2020 season. The flow

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

of information in a timely manner was very much appreciated by RCL and the clubs in our area. This made the implementation of COVID safe playing environments easier to implement at a grassroots level.

The 2020 season had many challenges that has had flow on affects to the 2021 season. One of those being the restructure of the placement of the QRU development officers. We look forward to working with the QRU in the new structure to enable a smooth delivery of services to our area.

An area of development for our area is the transition of players from junior to senior club level. This is an area that all our clubs struggle to do and the board is working on outcomes to help in this area.

The 2021 season has seen one of our long standing clubs withdraw from this year's competition due to a lack of player numbers. We are working with this club to help where we can to make sure they are able to participate in the 2022 season.

Once again, I thank QRU for their involvement in the 2020 season and look forward to the 2021 season.

**Laurie Brosnan**

*Chairman - Rugby Capricornia Limited*

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## CENTRAL HIGHLANDS

The 2020 season saw four senior teams take part in the Arcadian Organic Shield for senior men with Blackwater Basilisks, Capella Cattedogs, Emerald Rams and Moranbah Bulls competing for the title.

The season was a very competitive one with no team going through undefeated. The Grand Final was contested between Blackwater Basilisks and the Emerald Rams, with Emerald coming away with the premiership.

Morgan Baker of the Blackwater Basilisks was awarded player of the Grand Final. Aleell Wedel of the Capella Cattedogs was awarded the Player of the Year award for his consistent performances throughout the season.

Given the challenges of the year with COVID-19, firstly a huge thank you to Gaven Head & the

QRU for their tireless work for providing us with the guidance and planning to hold a season, a massive effort on their part.

To our local committees in the Central Highlands thank you for your flexibility and adaptability during 2020 and making it possible for people to play and be a part of our Rugby communities.

Central Highlands Junior Rugby Union Club Inc had a massive year with an influx of new registrations for boys and girls. A huge congratulations to Kurt Mayne and his committee on what they were able to achieve with junior Rugby in 2020 and hopefully it is something that can be built on for the future.

Finally, a huge thank you to our competition sponsors Arcadian Organic for their very generous support we are truly grateful.

**Cameron Heath**

*CHRU – President*

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## DARLING DOWNS

Downs Rugby has wrapped up a remarkable year to complete all active competitions. Downs Rugby would like to thank all affiliated clubs and schools with their volunteer workforces and Executive Committees. We also thank the Darling Downs Rugby Referee Association and Sports First Aid, our Sub Committee Members and Board of Directors.

This year has shown the true unrelenting character of the Rugby Community to shrug aside the drought, bushfires and pandemic to enjoy our great grassroots game. Thank you Queensland Rugby Union - especially Gaven Head and David Southwood. The fortitude of all is not to be underestimated.

Downs Rugby was delighted to host one of two Super Rugby Pre-Season Trial Matches at Dalby between the Queensland Reds and NSW Waratahs on Friday 24th January 2020. A crowd of over 4,000 witnessed a 28-19 Reds victory with vital funds raised for Rural Aid at the Sportsman's luncheon.

The Junior competition upon resumption for most competitions on 18 July, played nine rounds in U6s to U12s. The Teenage Boys XV competition grew it's participation base by 7%

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

with the pandemic break and a resumption of the competition in term four allowing the GPS and Downlands players to play, with the Grand Finals held at Gold Park in the evening of 14 November 2020, where a minute's silence was observed for dec. Scot Gale. Downs Rugby looks to capitalise on this growth in 2021.

The Wagners Risdon Cup was once again the pinnacle of Rugby in the Darling Downs, with two of our senior grades having another great season. Toowoomba Bears claimed their first Risdon Cup premiership in ten years, whilst the Warwick Water Rats claimed their maiden Nutrien Ag B Grade Premiership. USQ Saints won their first Women's Sevens Black Isuzu Ute Emilee Cherry Cup with a 21-19 victory. Over 1,900 people flooded through the gates for Grand Final Day at Toowoomba Sports Ground on Saturday, 3 October, being the largest post-pandemic crowd in the region at that time.

Downs Rugby coveted award recipients for 2020 included the joint Mal Eiby medallists: Matt Bougoure and Fraser Hess (Toowoomba Rangers) for the best players during the Wagners Risdon Cup regular season. Top points Scorers: Men's - Martin Van Stadewyn (USQ Saints) and Women's - Meg Jakins (St George Filly Frillnecks). Volunteer of the Year was awarded to Rick Lingard. St. George Frillnecks claimed the club championship.

The expansion of girls, teenage and Women's sevens in the Downs Region is nothing short of phenomenal. Our U15, U17 and Open Women's sides all participated at the Noosa 7s in lieu of representative fixtures.

Downs Rugby looks forward to again hosting the 2021 Queensland Rugby Boys State Championships (3-4 July) at Downlands College and will also host a live event for a Wallabies match in Toowoomba.

Off the field, Downs Rugby have been making improvements to 'Downs Rugby House' in Toowoomba which is now our fully fledged administration base and meeting facility. This will provide an asset to the region to ensure financial sustainability and a stable headquarters for our staff, board and committees.

I would like to finally pay our thanks to our major sponsors – Wagners, FKG Group, Black Isuzu Ute, Nutrien Ag Solutions, Artic Energy Solar and Chris Buckley Plumbing & Civil. We acknowledge

the Queensland State Government's Active Restart Infrastructure Recovery Fund for vital equipment purchases. Without their support we would not have been able to have such a successful year.

We are looking forward to turning this momentum into a bigger and better 2021.

**Rob Johnston**

*Chairman – Downs Rugby Ltd*

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## FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND

2020 was a great success for Rugby in FNQ. It had its obvious challenges to get us up and going but FNQ Rugby showed great character and through some hard work we were the first sporting code in our region to announce a 2020 season.

2020 also saw the return of a Women's competition with four clubs entering and creating a positive and competitive competition, with the Mudcrabs taking out the season honours by beating Wanderers in a thrilling Grand Final decided by four points. Our Reserve Grade was won by Penrhyn Sharks, who went through their impressive season undefeated, taking out their first ever premiership in any grade.

The 2020 Rainforestation Cup was won by Port Douglas, who defeated Wanderers by 5 points in another absolute thriller of a Grand Final. 2020 was the club's third premiership in the top grade.

Grand Final day was a huge success. It was the most people I have seen attend a Rugby event at Barlow Park in my time being involved in the region's Rugby community. The Grand Final Day was the perfect way to cap off the season for FNQ Rugby, which was one of most challenging yet rewarding seasons to date. None of it would have even been possible without the great volunteers we have at levels of Rugby here. We can never thank them enough for their tireless commitment to our sport.

**Bradyn Boske**

*President – FNQ Rugby*

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## GOLD COAST



# AFFILIATE REPORTS

Congratulations to the Gold Coast Rugby community for rising above the challenges of 2020 and not only completing two full rounds of senior and junior Rugby but also recording a growth in participation numbers compared to last year. Considering that three clubs withdrew from the competition, and the pandemic put an end to our Women's Tens, Super Schools Cup Competitions and representative programs, then there was actual growth in player numbers when we returned on 24 July. There also was a significant increase in the number of coaching staff, training only registrations and volunteers. Furthermore, the APS Schools competition recommenced to go through to finals in Term 3. It was this emerging spirit of cooperation that has not only strengthened our game but also delivered exciting running Rugby played across all levels and typified by the close matches in our summer Grand Finals. The rise of Nerang Bulls, who qualified for the First Grade grand final, was our Cinderella story. Similarly, the inclusion of Coomera in First and Second Grade not only compensated for the loss of Coolangatta-Tweed, but also provided very competitive Rugby with Crushers just missing out on a top four spot and final contentions. The 14 rounds of home-and-away matches were successfully completed and culminated in a two-week finals series and Grand Final played on 7 November.

In the Senior competition, First Grade was comprised of eight teams, Second Grade had seven teams, and Third Grade comprised of five teams. All grades were keenly contested with Griffith University Colleges Knights taking out the minor premiership in each grade and ultimately going on to win the First and Second Grade Premierships. Their pathway to a clean sweep was derailed by the home side, Helensvale Hogs, in Third Grade. Home and away rounds were competitive and did see defeats for more fancied teams at the hands of those lower on the competition table and with more time to develop teamwork it is anticipated that an even more competitive competition will evolve in 2021.

In relation to the Junior competitions the Modified Game again attracted a strong following. Several clubs embraced the First Fives concept, and these events were well attended. A Finals series was played in the U13 to U17

age grades and the grand final results were as follows.

U13s – Surfers Paradise 34 def Bond Pirates 5

U14s – Gold Coast Eagles 21 def Palm Beach Currumbin 7

U15s – Surfers Paradise 19 def Bond Pirates 12

U16/17 – Helensvale Hogs 71 def Surfers Paradise 7

Summer Sevens also proved popular following on from the Junior XVs competition with team numbers competing remaining constant from the previous year - U8s (10 teams), U9s (12 teams), U10s (16 teams), U11s (20 teams), U12s (12 teams), U13/14s (16 teams) and U16s (16 teams).

The player numbers registered for 2020 were:

Senior Players – total 625

XVs Men's QLDC – 621 active players

Sevens Women's – 4 active players

Junior Players - 1708

XVs Juniors QLDC – 1540

Sevens Junior Girls - 82

Sevens Junior (not included in the above) - 86

At the GCDRU Board level there was a change in leadership with the resignation of the Chair Kim Bending in July. Credit is due to Kim and his outgoing Board for their work re-establishing the GCDRU and as a result the district is in a strong financial position.

The new Chair and Board have sought to create closer relationships with the clubs based on three principles of 'consultation, communication and consolidation' and held a President's 'Think Tank' on 21 November 2020. New initiatives include building a stronger relationship with Bond University Rugby Club and a plan to share coaching skills and ideas in 2021. Attention will also be placed on rebuilding the Cyclones program and Women's Rugby.

In 2020 the Gold Coast Bulletin presented a live stream of the First Grade match of the round and each club was afforded the opportunity of being viewed through that medium. This is to be extended to all First Grade matches. Along

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

with Channel 9's plans for free-to-air community Rugby broadcasting the game is set for growth in numbers in 2021.

## **Rod Thomas**

*Chairman – Gold Coast District Rugby Union*

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## **MACKAY**

Rugby in Mackay was very challenging in 2020 with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The season had commenced in MRCH when matches were postponed.

Ongoing monitoring and production of appropriate plans to recommence playing required significant effort from MRU and Mackay club volunteers. MRU would particularly like to express their gratitude to QRU staff who coordinated the return to play process. One positive aspect of the pandemic was the ability to participate in state-wide video meetings via the Zoom platform.

The season recommenced in July with a reduced format (15 matches reduced to 10) and a finals series was held in September/October. In a first for Mackay Rugby, the Grand Final was hosted by the first team to qualify for the Grand Final, Bowen Rugby Union Club. Bowen put on an impressive show with a good crowd supporting the game.

The Plate final was won by Proserpine Whitsunday against Brothers.

The Grand Final was won by Mackay City team against Bowen.

## **Bruce Wolsey**

*Secretary*

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## **MT ISA**

The past year was certainly a test for many and our sincere thanks must go to the many people within the Queensland Rugby community who have come together to provide competitions for the game we love. The local club competition kicked off with a tens round which proved very successful and popular with local clubs and community. In particular, the committee

express our gratitude to all of the Mt Isa Rugby community, teams and volunteers for their support and resilience to work through the challenges faced as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions placed on community sport.

Off the field we continue to struggle with committee development and retention and recent changeovers of committee have seen Kurt Gibson (Committee) and Vanya Foster (Treasurer) both relocating for work and family. Both Vanya & Kurt have been a significant loss to the local Rugby community but continue to maintain their connection with local Rugby.

Juniors failed to get off the ground after a lower level of engagement through the Sporting Schools program in 2019, however, this continues to be a focus of the Committee moving into 2020 summer competition. Mt Isa Rugby have opened dialogue with the local rugby league teams and are currently collaborating to bring nine teams across to play junior Rugby Union during their off season, with a view to have teams regularly playing curtain raisers to the local A-Grade competition.

The competition itself has three rounds of Rugby during which Keas have withdrawn due to accumulation of forfeits. Keas participation will continue on a semi-regular basis where possible to encourage participation and support the sustainability of local Rugby.

Cloncurry, Warrigals & Euros remain in the finals play-offs and local games enjoy a vibrant atmosphere at Mt Isa Rugby Park. Female rugby remains focus for future competition development and indications are positive for Women's rugby to make an impact locally.

Mt Isa Rugby is proud of their annual Superhero's Sevens which fluctuates between a four-six team annual fundraising event supporting local charity and families. 2021 Superhero's Sevens included four teams - Batman, Deadpool, Green Lantern & Spiderman - raising more than \$1,000 for the Green family. The club presented the cheque to Clair Green and family who lost a husband and father in 2020.

In an effort to provide more family friendly facilities at Mt Isa Rugby Park, our venue is now home to a playground which has recently been relocated from Healy State School. This has

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

been brought about through local school and club community members.

## Committee:

Justin Neilsen (President)

Jai Wilson (Vice President)

Jason Newell (Committee)

Vanya Committee (Treasurer)

Sabrina Gasio (Fundraising & Events)

## Justin Neilsen

*President – Mt Isa*

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## SUNSHINE COAST

With our heads held high and sheer determination, the Sunshine Coast Rugby Union (SCRU) have managed to complete a season of competitive Rugby at all levels, be it shorter than previous years, whilst other sports have not been as fortunate.

Without trying to state the obvious, the shortened season and social distancing restrictions placed on everyone throughout Australia by the COVID-19 pandemic restricted a lot of representative participation, which was a shame given the Stingrays impressive performance in past years.

The Ramsay Health Care grant continues to see increased player participation in the area of the U14s that is desperately needed. A huge thanks goes to Rod Jenkins and Rick Archer for continuing with developing rugby in non-playing schools and in the junior ranks. We also thank the Schools and Sports administrators for continuing to assist us here as well.

Once again our junior competition involved 12 Clubs and 85 teams from U6s to U16/17s.

Our Women's competition continues to go from strength-to-strength. Apart from the outstanding effort to even manage getting teams back on the fields our only Stingrays representative side (Women's XV) for 2020 played against a Queensland Suburban side at Ballymore on 7 November and came away with the win. We were also able to enter two Junior Stingrays girls teams into the Noosa 7s.

Unfortunately, we saw the late withdrawal of

Maleny from our senior teams but we also saw the emergence of Eumundi after a greater than 100-year absence from senior Rugby. Although senior player numbers did drop slightly there has been a big leap forward in player satisfaction, as well as player skill levels continuing to improve.

Finally congratulations to all Sunshine Coast Rugby Union participants and a huge thanks to all the players, clubs, coaches, trainers, administrators, volunteers and committees. How these wonderful people managed to bounce back into the revamped 2020 competition after a world-wide lockdown cannot be truly expressed in words.

## Paul Biggs

*Chairman SCRUI*

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## TOWNSVILLE

What a year the 2020 season has turned out to be.

The year of COVID has really torn the world apart and continued to throw obstacle after obstacle at everyone. First and foremost, our thoughts go out to anyone who may have been impacted by the pandemic with illness or death in their family, and to those who have been impacted financially through a loss of employment or reduced hours, we feel for you and hope that every day your prospects look better.

Over to Rugby matters, the season kicked off as planned and saw the first few rounds completed without a hitch. Then the restrictions hit us and our lives as we knew them were turned upside down.

As the Rugby action ground to a halt in the TDRU competition, our dedicated staff went from sporting administrators to jack of all trade roles at our tiring Hugh St facility. Whether it was grounds repairs, painting, air-conditioning replacement, carpet, tiles or windows and doors, our team got stuck in and ensured that when Rugby could recommence, our facility would be in the best condition it could with what we had available. Thank you to Denise, Jack, Blair, Dan and Terry.

Our governing bodies (RA and QRU) in consultation with all levels of government then provided us with a framework to get back to



# AFFILIATE REPORTS

what we love. Playing Rugby. At the beginning it was a very different feel to life and Rugby as we assimilated into the new requirements. Sign in here, register here. It is for the time being, our new way of life.

We were able to re-launch our season locally and everyone was just happy to be back on the field. I would like to thank all parents, players, coaches, referees, administrators, presidents, sponsors and our committee for their efforts to make the season work. Without all of you, we would not have been able to restart.

Over 90 teams competed in our 2020 Junior and Senior season with our Junior finals taking place in September, followed by our Senior finals in October. I would like to congratulate Brothers for winning the Junior Club Championship and Teachers West for winning the Senior Club Championship.

After another dominant season in the regular competition, Teachers West entered the A-Grade grand final favourites to secure their sixth straight premiership. A committed Brothers outfit led by Captain Blair Morgan had other plans though and came out victors in a tight match that went down to the wire. The final score 22-19 in favour of the Brethren. Congratulations Brothers on another 1st grade title.

Our finals series was closely followed by our Festival of Sevens Rugby which was a great success.

All representative Rugby at the community level was cancelled in 2020.

## Gary Lewis

*Townsville and District Rugby Union President*

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## WESTERN QUEENSLAND

The 2020 Western Queensland Rugby season was a testing time for all people associated with Rugby and the wider community. We saw all local sports and community events come to a halt and a lot of major events cancelled. This has been a trying time for all.

Our Rugby committee decided very early to put a stop to the 2020 season, training and representative season due to the risk of exposure we posed to others because of the

large distances we travel between games. We were lucky in the end that none of our players or community members tested positive and we were able to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

This year we were lucky to have Reds players and staff come to Western Queensland communities and interact with our Rugby players, staff and wider community during the annual 'Reds to Regions' tour. It was very well received and the connection between the Reds and the community was spoken for long after their visit. It is great to see players and staff giving back to the grassroots. The community felt that the players learnt just as much from them as they did from meeting these leaders of the Reds playing group.

WQ has been struggling with drought and declining numbers but we are confident in getting more Rugby numbers and participation in either Sevens, Tens or a XV's competition in coming seasons if we all can get some rain and some numbers back into the west.

Many thanks for all the staff and players at the Queensland Reds for all that they have done in helping our Rugby community get through this hard time. We are looking forward to working with you all in the upcoming season.

## Paul Donnelly

*President – Western Queensland Rugby Union*

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## QUEENSLAND RUGBY FOOTBALL SCHOOLS UNION

Rugby Union is one of 21 affiliated sports in Queensland School Sport's representative program. This is managed by QRFSU, a committee of dedicated teachers who oversee:

1. State Championships,
2. State Teams
3. Other associated events.

QRFSU committee operate within the Queensland School Sport framework and are one of 34 sports-specific committees and one Disability Advisory committee. QRFSU reports to Queensland School Sport through the Queensland School Sport management group (QSSMG). The QRFSU committee is comprised of teachers from all 12 geographical regions, state,

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

AIC and GPS sectors.

This is achieved through the co-ordination of regional programs across the Queensland 12 school sport regions.

Capricornia, Darling Downs, Metropolitan East, Metropolitan North, Metropolitan West, North Western, Northern, Peninsula, South Coast, South Western, Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay.

QRFSU oversee the representative program for School Rugby opportunity-

1. 11 to 12 years to compete at state level  
11/12yrs Representative Pathway- 230 players from across the state.
2. 14 to 15 years boys to compete at state level  
14/15yrs Representative Pathway- 230 players from across the state.
3. 17 to 18 years boys to compete at state and national championship levels  
17/18yrs Representative Pathway- 230 players from across the state and 44 of these to nations.
4. 15 to 16 years girls Sevens to compete at state level  
15/16 Invitational Representative Pathway- 80 players from across the state.

QRFSU vision is- "Diversity in Learning through RUGBY "

- Three pillars of Inclusive, Aligned and Professional.
- Inclusive - Every student from every affiliated school in Queensland, gender.
- Aligned- Supported QSS/QRU, match officials.
- Professional- venues, officials, player safety, selection transparency.

IN 2020 Queensland School sport was to celebrate 100 years and the QRFSU (33 years) organised

- The 11-12 and 14-15 years carnival to be held at one tournament hosted by Metropolitan North School sport.
- The 17-18 boys carnival have an invitational 15 -16 year girls Sevens tournament running in parallel on the weekend. An important milestone in Queensland school sport Rugby as we looked to increase our representation of female sport given the success of our female Sevens teams. Change to day three of the boys program was approved.

- Select Qld 1 and Qld 2 teams.
- 15-16 girls had six to eight regions tracking for involvement. Note out of the 12-16 officials required, we had two female teachers on board. Strategic plan to increase this number in 2021.
- Brew/Barker Trophy (formerly known as the QRFSU school boy challenge) date TBC with QRU representation Gaven Head.
- Dynasty continue with apparel partnership.
- Rohan Hoffman from ARU to facilitate both championship as Referee convenor. No QRFSU SOM, rather the host region/ convenor support Rohan in his planning.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions- No QRFSU championships.

National School Strategy involvement- ARU with a QRU working party. Clint Curran as chairman involved. Plus delegate Todd Wells, Noel Gardner, Chris Leadbetter and Tyron Mandrusiak invited.

2021 planning-

- Roll over the two combined championship plan.
- Met North to convene 12/15. Met East to convene 18/Girls Sevens.
- Select Qld 1 and Qld 2 teams.
- Brew/Barker Trophy (formerly known as the QRFSU school boy challenge) date TBC with QRU representation Gaven Head.
- QRFSU to support delegates to attend a Queensland School Rugby Conference hosted by QRU/NSS.
- Dynasty continue with apparel partnership.
- Rohan Hoffman from ARU to facilitate both championship as Referee convenor. No QRFSU SOM, rather the host region/ convenor support Rohan in his planning.

QRU support requested through Gaven Head-

The QRFSU has 4 major carnivals combined on 2 dates as follows:

- QRFSU Under 15 Boys XVs and QRFSU Under 12 Boys XVs / 22-25 July 2021/ Padua College, Brisbane

# AFFILIATE REPORTS

- QRFSU Open Boys XVs and QRFSU U16 Girls Sevens/ 27-30 May 2021 / Sunnybank RUFC, Brisbane

**Darren Kayrooz** - Secretary

**Andrew Rye** - Treasurer

*Queensland Rugby Football Schools Union*

The request has been made for the following support at these events:

- Coach Education
- Event based player appearances by Reds
- Dinner Speakers – There will be a dinner associated with each event for the attending officials
- Opportunity to attend an aligned Reds fixtures as the Open Boys and Girls U16 Sevens events coincide with the Super Round
- Ticketing and/or curtain raisers.

Support of Qld 1 & 2 teams - FOC

- Two x Playing Kits of Jerseys, Short and Socks
- Four day training at Ballymore before Nationals.

We would like to acknowledge the efforts of all the Regional Delegates / committee / QRU and RSSOs in supporting our programs.

**Clint Curran** - Chairman



Sunshine Coast Grammar's Louis Werchon takes on the Downlands College defence





Logan Saints enforcer Galu Te'o poses for a photo for Queensland Suburban Rugby Union at Mt Cootha

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

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## QRU JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

2020 was an unusual year for the Judicial Committee. As a result of COVID-19, there was a shortened season. This shortened season found itself with a significantly less number of players appearing before the Judicial Committee. For the first time in the history of the Judicial Committee, hearings were held by video conference. This system of Judicial Hearings has been used in higher levels of the game for some years and it would seem that due to the success at this level that the Judicial Committee will continue to convene and hear and determine cases by this medium. This is more so relevant now with players having to travel significant distances for the hearings as well as some Judicial Officers being some distance from Ballymore. The total number of players cited or sent from the field in 2020 was 32. This was a significant decrease from the 60 in 2019 but is consistent with the shortened season in 2020. Pleasingly, there were no players from Premier Grade who appeared before the Judicial Committee. Also pleasing to note was that there were only four players to appear from the Colts Competition. The Colts Competition has traditionally been a fertile ground of work for the Judicial Committee and even on a reduced game basis as it was in 2020, there was a not insubstantial decrease in the number of Colt players appearing. The classification of breaches which led to the issuing of a red card did not fall within any particular foul play incident. The greater number of incidents fell within a classification of reckless rather than intentional which of itself, is positive. There was a pleasing decrease in the number of red cards issued for referee descent. Once again, it was satisfying that we did not have to determine matters associated with reserve players, coaches, support staff etc. unlawfully entering the field of play. The Committee wish to acknowledge the cooperation of clubs in ensuring that players attend with representatives. The Judicial Committee has a view that a player represented by an official, coach or manager assists the process greatly and allows that representative to pass to the respective clubs the position the Judicial Committee takes on illegal/foul play. The Committee particularly wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Connor Ellis of the QRU for his diligent record keeping, preparation of committee papers, advice

to clubs of committee decisions and facilitating the video conferencing calls. As Connor is new to this position, it came as somewhat of a challenge but he performed to the highest degree. I also wish to acknowledge the assistance of my fellow Judicial Committee members, Mr Geoff Gardiner, Mr Timothy Conroy, Len Watt and Russell Davies for their support throughout the year.

**Paul Tully – President**

*QRU Judicial Committee*

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## QRU JUDICIAL APPEALS COMMITTEE

This year was a very quiet year for the Judicial Appeals Committee. There were probably a number of reasons for that including COVID-19 and the shorter season. The Appeals Tribunal only sat on one occasion in 2020.

The Appeals Committee is very conscious of any actual conflict of interest, perceived conflict of interest or potential for a perception of conflict of interest. Consistent with that policy I disqualified myself from hearing the one appeal and the Appeal Committee was chaired by Mr Chris Newton, a senior barrister and member of the Committee.

The low number of appeals also indicates that the Judicial Committees, both in Brisbane and around the state, are operating in a competent manner and their decisions are being accepted and respected by the clubs and the players.

It was also very interesting that there were no finals eligibility appeals. This may indicate that the clubs were more acceptant of the finals eligibility decisions of the QRU.

I was remiss last year in not acknowledging the remarkable service that Michael Backstrom had provided to Queensland Rugby Union and the disciplinary processes and on behalf of the Appeals Committee I thank Michael for this diligence and commitment over many, many years.

**John Mullins**

*Chairman – Judicial Appeals Committee*





Toowoomba Grammar old boys Matt Faessler, Harry Hoopert and Hamish Stewart visit their old school



# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION LTD



# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors of Queensland Rugby Union Ltd, except where otherwise stated, present their report on the Company for the year ended 31 October 2020.

### DIRECTORS

The name and particulars of the Directors of the Company in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

Mr J Miller – Chairman  
Mr J Beirne  
Mr M Stanton  
Mr B Curran  
Ms J Schmitt  
Dr M Carroll  
Mr S Button  
Mr P Howard (appointed July 2019)  
Mr B Clark (appointed December 2019)

### INFORMATION ON DIRECTORS & OFFICEHOLDERS

#### MR J MILLER – CHAIRMAN

Jeff Miller played 69 games for Queensland and 26 Test matches. After retiring from Rugby, Jeff moved into coaching and was the high-performance manager for Australian Rugby and Wallabies assistant coach from 1997 to 2001 (including the 1999 World Cup) before becoming CEO of QRU. Miller returned as head coach of the Reds from 2004 to 2006. He served as QRU President from 2015 – 2018. Jeff Miller is a financial specialist with over 10 years' experience and manages the BOQ Specialist Queensland team.

#### MR J BEIRNE

James Beirne is an experienced senior finance executive with more than 25 years of progressive experience that bridges commercial growth with finance and operations management within the Public and Private sector. He has a comprehensive understanding of corporate governance, risk management and managing financial performance. James has extensive involvement in Queensland Rugby having played with GPS Old Boys Rugby Club and coached junior club, schoolboy and colts Rugby.

#### MR M STANTON

Mark Stanton, a chartered accountant, has had a successful career leading a number of large SMEs. He has made an extensive contribution to community Rugby and has been awarded life membership of Brothers Rugby Club. Mark is the President of Royal Queensland Golf Club while also managing his family's investment portfolio and his own philanthropic initiatives.

#### MR B CURRAN

Boyd Curran has a long history of playing and being involved at an administrative level in Rugby in Queensland. Boyd played rugby with the GPS Club in Brisbane and then in regional Qld, captaining Qld Country and representing Australia at U/21 level. He held the role of Western Queensland Rugby President from 2007 - 2009, and more recently served as Queensland Country Rugby President from 2010 to 2013. Boyd is currently Managing Partner at Nutrien Ag Solutions Western Queensland and has a cattle property at Longreach.

#### MS J SCHMITT

Jane Schmitt is a lawyer by profession with significant experience in executive management and was appointed Executive Director, External Relations, Marketing, Communications and Brand at Mater Group in September 2020. Jane joined Mater from the AMA Queensland, where she held the role of Chief Executive Officer for more than 11 years. Jane has a strong governance background with exposure to and understanding of Board relationships and engagement. She is currently also Chair of MND and Me Foundation.

#### DR M CARROLL

Dr Carroll is the Headmaster of St. Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace in Brisbane and, as a teacher of 35 years, has coached school teams including First XV teams at TAS, AIC and GPS levels, as well as at club level. Dr Carroll also played over 200 games for Souths Rugby Club and has remained an advocate for grass-roots participation throughout his professional career.

#### **MR S BUTTON**

Selwyn Button is the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations, an independent statutory office holder appointed by the Minister for Indigenous Affairs to administer the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (CATSI Act). Selwyn has extensive experience in Queensland health and education sectors. From 2014 to 2018 he was Assistant Director-General of Indigenous Education in state schools. Prior to that he was CEO of the Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council (QAIHC); chairperson of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service Brisbane Limited; and director of the Indigenous health policy branch within Queensland Health. He is a former teacher and worked as a Queensland police officer.

#### **MR P HOWARD**

Pat Howard represented Queensland and the ACT Brumbies and played 20 tests for Australia, before pursuing a highly successful Rugby career as a coach, player and administrator in Europe. Pat is the CEO of ASX-listed organisation, MSL Solutions, which provides solutions to the sports, leisure and hospitality sectors globally, and has previously held a range of senior executive and director roles including COO of the ASX-listed Cromwell Property Group, and Executive General Manager with Cricket Australia and Rugby Australia. Pat has Applied Finance and AICD qualifications, as well as a Bachelor in Pharmacy from the University of Queensland, and an MBA from UQ Business School.

#### **MR B CLARK**

Brett Clark is the founder and managing director of ePharmacy and the managing partner of Chemist Warehouse stores in Queensland and Northern NSW. Brett graduated from the University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree in 1988 and a MBA in 2005. He also has an advanced diploma in Nutritional Pharmacy and a diploma from the AICD. In addition to being a director of the ePharmacy / Chemist Warehouse and Market Reach Boards, Brett stepped down earlier this year after 10 years on the Queensland Ballet Board, the last 6 years as Chair. Other past board and committee positions in the NFP sector include

Chair of Bridgeworks - a RTO owned by the Sisters of Mercy, and a founding committee member of the Mater Little Miracles.

#### **MR D HANHAM - CEO**

David Hanham joined Queensland Rugby Union in 2002 in the Game Development department, quickly becoming a Development Manager and later General Manager – Game Development. Mr Hanham also served as the QRU's Chief Operating Officer and later Deputy CEO, before an appointment as QRU's interim CEO in July 2018, which preceded David being confirmed in the CEO role in December 2018.

#### **MR D PETERS - CFO / COMPANY SECRETARY**

Damien Peters was appointed Company Secretary on 10 August 2016 as part of the Chief Financial Officer function within Queensland Rugby Union.



# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

### PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The Company's principal activities in the course of the financial year were the control and operation of Rugby Union in Queensland.

During the financial year there was no significant change in the nature of these activities.

### LIKELY DEVELOPMENT AND RESULTS

Likely developments in the operations of the company and the expected results of those operations (such as the redevelopment and the future of Ballymore), have not been included in this report as the Directors believe, on reasonable grounds, that the inclusion of such information would be likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the Company.

### AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act is set out on page 6.

### MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS

COMMITTEE	BOARD		AUDIT & RISK		BALLYMORE		BOARD NOMS		OTHER	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
Mr J Miller	11	11	9	11			3	4	6	6
Mr J Beirne	11	11	11	11						
Mr M Stanton	11	11	11	11	10	10			7	7
Mr B Curran	10	11					4	4	4	4
Ms J Schmitt	10	11							4	4
Dr M Carroll	11	11							4	4
Mr S Button	9	11							4	4
Mr P Howard	10	11							6	6
Mr B Clark	11	11							4	4

(i) A = Meetings attended

(ii) B = Meetings eligible to attend

### MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES

Committee meetings are also attended by QRU Executive Staff and external stakeholders / advisors, by invitation. Other Committees include the Rugby Committee, the HR & Remuneration Committee and the Schools and Community Rugby Committee.

## OPERATING RESULTS

The Company's profit for the 2020 financial year after interest and depreciation was \$2,113,103 compared to 2019's reported profit of \$32,002.

The Company's 2020 profit includes Government stimulus funding (in response to the impact of COVID-19) in an amount of \$1,950,921, which partially offset a reduction in annual broadcast-related funding from Rugby Australia in an amount of \$2,785,212.

The Company's 2020 profit also includes a depreciation charge of \$448,969 (2019: \$537,282) and interest expense of \$183,682 (2019: \$330,921). After adding back these charges, the Company recorded earnings before interest, taxation, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) of \$2,745,754, an improvement of over \$1,845,549 on 2019's EBITDA (\$900,205).

The COVID-19 pandemic and related public health measures significantly impacted Rugby nationally and in Queensland, most notably resulting in only five Red's home games at Suncorp Stadium with reduced crowds.

As a result, the QRU Board and Management moved to implement a number of cost saving initiatives including:

- Temporary reduction in all staff and player remuneration;
- Renegotiation of key supply contracts; and,
- Restructuring of the Club workforce in an interim and more permanent nature.

Pleasingly, the QRU was able to maintain its efforts to strengthen its Balance Sheet and reduce debt exposure during the pandemic.

The QRU would like to acknowledge and thank the continued contribution of its members, St George Bank as Naming Rights partner and all other Corporate Partners for their support during 2020.

## BALLYMORE DEVELOPMENT

Prior to the end of the 2020 financial year, the QRU received a grant of \$1.5 million from the Federal Government as the first tranche of a \$15 million investment in the National Rugby Training Centre (NRTC) and new McLean Stand. In October 2020, the State Government also announced a matching investment of \$15 million in the project.

At the end of the financial year, \$696,933 had been committed in expenditure to the project.

This funding will be finalised in the 2021 financial year. The QRU has also committed to providing funding to the project through its own fundraising

initiatives.

The grant funding is specific to the construction of the NRTC and new McLean Stand and is quarantined from operating expenditure.

Concept Design for the NRTC and new McLean Stand was completed in September 2020.

The project is currently in the Schematic Design phase and construction is expected to begin mid-2021.

Details of other Commercial, Game Development, Professional Rugby and Corporate activities of the Company for the year have been outlined under those operational headings in the Annual Report.

## OUTLOOK

As noted above, the pandemic resulted in the implementation of a restructure during FY20 with several employees departing the QRU – we acknowledge and thank those individuals for their contribution to the organisation.

As in 2020, the QRU will continue to consider and implement all necessary measures in 2021 to mitigate the financial impact of COVID-19 and protect and enhance the future of Rugby in Queensland.

## MATTERS SUBSEQUENT TO THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR

### COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT "CBA V" AND "CBA VI"

In September 2020, various Australian Rugby Bodies (including the QRU) and the Rugby Union Player Association (RUPA) agreed - given the scheduled expiry of the CBA V on 31 December 2020 and the impracticability of agreeing a new CBA (version VI) for the start of 2021 due to Covid-19 - to a one-year extension of CBA V on the basis that satisfactory variations to CBA V would be agreed between the parties before the expiry of the of a short extension period concluding 31 January 2021.

Following several months of detailed discussion, on 20 January 2021, Rugby Australia (RA) and RUPA tabled the draft Term Sheet with the QRU and various other Australian Rugby Bodies for review and subsequent signing.

The final agreed and signed Term Sheet will be legally binding and represents the parties' understanding of the key variations to CBA V for 2021 alone.

The various Rugby Bodies and RUPA will thereafter commence negotiations for a longer-term CBA VI due to commence on 1 January 2022.

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

### SUPER RUGBY PARTICIPATION DEED 2021-2023

At the date of this report, the QRU and various other Australian Rugby Bodies are in advanced negotiations with Rugby Australia finalising the Super Rugby Participation Deed (2021 – 2023). An agreement is anticipated by all parties prior to the commencement of the 2021 playing season.

### OTHER MATTERS

There are no other matters or circumstances which have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company in subsequent financial years.

### DIVIDENDS

The Company is a Company limited by guarantee and is prohibited under its Constitution to declare dividends.

### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The Corporate Governance Statement of the Company is now available on the Company's website and as such is not included in the Annual Report as has been the case in previous years.

A copy of the Statement can be found at [redsrugby.com.au](http://redsrugby.com.au)

### OFFICERS AND AUDITORS INDEMNIFICATION

The Company has not, during or since the end of the financial year, in respect of any person who is, or has been, an officer or auditor of the Company or of a related body corporate:

- indemnified or made any relevant agreement for indemnifying against a liability incurred as an

officer or auditor, including costs and expenses in successfully defending legal proceedings; or

- paid or agreed to pay a premium in respect of a contract insuring against a liability incurred as an officer or auditor for the costs or expenses to defend legal proceedings; with the exception of the following:
- During or since the financial year the Company has paid premiums to insure each of the Directors and the Company secretary against liabilities for costs and expenses incurred by them in defending any legal proceedings arising out of their conduct while acting in the capacity of director or Company secretary of the Company, other than conduct involving a wilful breach of duty in relation to the Company. Further details are prohibited by a confidentiality clause.

### PROCEEDINGS ON BEHALF OF THE COMPANY

No person has applied for leave of court to bring proceedings on behalf of the Company or intervene in any proceedings to which the Company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Company for all or any part of these proceedings.

The Company was not a party to any such proceedings during the financial year.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors made pursuant to Section 298(2) of the Corporations Act 2001 on behalf of the Directors.



**J. MILLER**  
Chairman



**D. HANHAM**  
Chief Executive Officer

Dated in Brisbane this 28th day of January 2021



# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION



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Australia

### DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE BY D P WRIGHT TO THE DIRECTORS OF QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION LIMITED

As lead auditor of Queensland Rugby Union Limited for the year ended 31 October 2020, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

1. No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
2. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D P Wright', is positioned above the printed name.

**D P Wright**  
Director

**BDO Audit Pty Ltd**

Brisbane, 28 January 2021

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

	NOTE	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Sponsorship		4,344,513	6,398,000
Corporate Hospitality		281,889	644,349
Match Day		2,682,162	3,372,109
Grants		4,923,868	7,855,520
Affiliate Fee Revenue		1,132,293	1,588,404
Interest Received		88	66
COVID-19 Government Stimulus		1,950,921	-
Other		1,140,839	553,005
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		<b>16,456,573</b>	<b>20,411,453</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Match Day Operational Expenses		1,274,109	1,830,231
Commercial		725,367	1,000,685
Marketing and Memberships		1,048,420	2,716,666
Game Development and Operations		1,681,683	2,956,164
Reds Team Expenses		6,480,573	8,049,908
Communications and Media		319,870	221,857
Corporate		1,464,415	1,875,059
Ballymore		716,382	860,678
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>13,710,819</b>	<b>19,511,248</b>
Profit / (Loss) before Depreciation and Interest Expense		2,745,754	900,205
Depreciation	2	448,969	537,282
Interest Expense		183,682	330,921
Profit / (Loss) After Depreciation and Interest Expense		2,113,103	32,002
Income Tax Expense	1(e)	-	-
<b>PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR THE YEAR ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE MEMBERS</b>		<b>2,113,103</b>	<b>32,002</b>
Other comprehensive income for the year (net of tax)		-	-
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>2,113,103</b>	<b>32,002</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2020

	NOTE	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	1,612,727	10,208
Trade and other receivables	4	966,202	1,666,251
Consumables	5	-	30,167
Other current assets	6	-	98,451
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>2,578,929</b>	<b>1,805,077</b>
<b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property Plant & Equipment	7	16,840,471	17,038,345
Other non current assets	6	442,616	556,172
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>17,283,087</b>	<b>17,594,517</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>19,862,016</b>	<b>19,399,594</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	8	2,167,351	2,752,482
Borrowings	9	1,645,671	2,659,646
Provisions	10	69,763	145,235
Deferred revenue	11	1,858,787	2,807,309
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>5,741,572</b>	<b>8,364,672</b>
<b>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	8	809,859	-
Borrowings	9	250,893	11,289
Provisions	10	27,437	55,076
Deferred revenue	11	49,402	98,807
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>1,137,591</b>	<b>165,172</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>6,879,163</b>	<b>8,529,844</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>12,982,853</b>	<b>10,869,750</b>
<b>MEMBERS EQUITY</b>			
Retained Earnings		10,282,853	8,169,750
Revaluation Surplus		2,700,000	2,700,000
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' EQUITY</b>		<b>12,982,853</b>	<b>10,869,750</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

	RETAINED EARNINGS	REVALUATION SURPLUS	TOTAL EQUITY
	\$	\$	\$
<b>BALANCE AS AT 1.11.18</b>	<b>8,137,748</b>	<b>2,700,000</b>	<b>10,837,748</b>
<b>Net loss attributable to Members</b>	32,002	-	32,002
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	32,002	-	32,002
<b>Balance at 31.10.19</b>	<b>8,169,750</b>	<b>2,700,000</b>	<b>10,869,750</b>
<b>Balance as at 1.11.19</b>	<b>8,169,750</b>	<b>2,700,000</b>	<b>10,869,750</b>
<b>NET PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO MEMBERS</b>	2,113,103	-	2,113,103
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	2,113,103	-	2,113,103
<b>Balance at 31.10.20</b>	<b>10,282,853</b>	<b>2,700,000</b>	<b>12,982,853</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

	NOTE	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts from patrons, sponsors etc		15,329,246	22,787,926
Interest received		88	66
Payments to suppliers, wages etc		(14,017,668)	(21,516,352)
Interest paid & other financial costs		(183,682)	(330,921)
<b>Net cash inflow / (outflow) from operating activities</b>	<b>(B)</b>	<b>1,127,984</b>	<b>940,719</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Payments for property, plant & equipment		(404,635)	(52,811)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant & equipment		153,541	-
<b>Net cash (outflow) from investing activities</b>		<b>(251,094)</b>	<b>(52,811)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from QRIDA borrowings		250,000	-
Proceeds from Ballymore Redevelopment Grants		1,500,000	-
Repayment of St George borrowings		(298,551)	(440,832)
Payment of Finance Lease Liabilities		(74,968)	(44,088)
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from financing activities</b>		<b>1,376,481</b>	<b>(484,920)</b>
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		2,253,370	402,988
Cash at beginning of the financial year		(970,055)	(1,373,043)
<b>Cash at end of the financial year</b>	<b>(A)</b>	<b>(1,283,315)</b>	<b>(970,055)</b>

### NOTE (A)

For the purposes of Statement of Cash Flows

Cash Comprises:

- Cash and Cash Equivalents	3	1,612,727	10,208
- Bank Overdraft	9	(329,412)	(980,263)
		<b>1,283,315</b>	<b>(970,055)</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

	NOTE	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>NOTE (B)</b>			
Reconciliation of Cash Flow provided by			
Operating Activities to Profit / Loss from ordinary activities			
Net Cash (used)/provided by operating activities		1,127,984	940,719
Non cash flows in Profit / Loss from ordinary activities			
- Depreciation		(448,969)	(537,282)
Changes in assets and liabilities			
- Increase/(Decrease) in receivables		(269,257)	(472,981)
- Increase/(Decrease) in other assets		(711,693)	13,693
- Increase/(Decrease) in consumables		(30,167)	(132,880)
- (Increase)/Decrease in provisions		48,154	308,338
- (Increase)/Decrease in deferred revenue		2,566,821	(135,879)
- (Increase)/Decrease in payables		(169,770)	48,274
<b>Profit / (Loss) from ordinary activities for the year</b>		<b>2,113,103</b>	<b>32,002</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial report is a general-purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Act 2001.

The directors have determined that Queensland Rugby Union Limited is permitted to apply the Tier 2 reporting requirements (Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements) as set out in AASB 1053 *Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards* because it is a not-for-profit private sector entity that does not have public accountability.

The financial report covers the entity, Queensland Rugby Union Ltd as an individual entity. Queensland Rugby Union Ltd is a Company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the Company in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

#### (A) GOING CONCERN AND COVID-19 IMPACTS

At 31 October 2020, the statement of financial position shows there is a deficiency of net current assets of \$3,162,643 (2019: \$6,559,595). This deficiency includes deferred revenue of \$1,858,787, as well as bank borrowings of \$1,621,305, for which the term is expected to be extended by the financier, St George Bank.

The World Health Organisation declared COVID-19 a global health emergency on 30 January 2020. The uncertainty of the on-going evolution of the COVID-19 outbreak and the responses of the Queensland and Australian Governments, including significant restrictions on travel, stadium capacities, and sports participation, could adversely affect revenue expectations for the next 12 months.

Therefore, there is a material uncertainty that may cast doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern in a COVID-19 impacted operating environment and therefore it may be unable to realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business.

In the Directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable due to the following factors:

- The Company reported a profit before interest and depreciation of \$2,745,754 (2019: \$900,205) and an operating profit for the year of \$2,113,103 (2019: \$32,002), in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- The QRU also generated cash inflows from operating activities of \$1,127,984 in the year ended 31 October 2020 (2019: \$940,720), in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- In 2020, the Company has demonstrated an ability to reduce operating costs in response to an unbudgeted decline in cash inflows caused by the COVID-19 pandemic;
- The peak governing body, Rugby Australia, continues to provide funding on a monthly basis to the QRU to support its participation in the Super Rugby program planned for 2021 along with other support programs.
- The QRU have continued to reduce operating costs through further restructures and redundancies;
- The company's financier, St George Bank, has advised that, with the decrease in their commercial exposure during the financial year, it cannot see an impediment to approving an extension to the existing facility agreement, which is to be negotiated in February 2021; and,
- The Directors have approved profit and loss and cash flow forecasts including related assumptions, which indicate the QRU has the ability to pay its debts as and when they fall due;

The Directors believe that the interventions and restructuring undertaken support the forecast profitability in 2021, and with the continuance of financial support from its financier, St George Bank, and the existing QRU Trade Creditors, together with committed support from Rugby Australia, the QRU will be able to generate positive operating cash flows and will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *continued*

#### **B) PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation.

##### **LAND**

Land was initially measured at deemed cost based on the fair value of the land granted to the Company by the Queensland Government, being the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction. The land was first recognised in the financial statements in 2001 at \$10,000,000 on the basis of an independent valuation. The valuation took into account the specialised nature and restrictions placed on the Land.

A subsequent valuation was undertaken at 31 December 2013 which indicated a value of \$12,700,000. This is taken up in the Financial Statements. Details relating this recent valuation are included in Note 6.

It is important to note the QRU has an interest in the land at Ballymore through a Deed of Grant in Trust (DOGIT) issued by the State Government. There are associated restrictions over the transfer and commercial use of the property.

##### **BUILDINGS**

Buildings are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.

The carrying amount of buildings is reviewed annually by Directors to ensure that it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from the buildings. The recoverable amount of the buildings is the higher of the buildings fair value less costs to sell or value in use. In relation to the Ballymore Buildings and Stadium, value in use is determined by reference to depreciated replacement cost. This value has been determined by reference to an independent assessment of the deemed replacement cost of land and buildings at Ballymore.

A valuation was undertaken for the year ended 31 December 2011 of Ballymore and its improvements for purposes of assessing impairment to the value of the assets. No impairment of the asset has been identified and hence the asset continues to be recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation.

##### **PLANT & EQUIPMENT**

Plant, equipment and work in progress is measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.

The carrying amount of plant, equipment and work in progress is reviewed annually by Directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to their present value in determining recoverable amounts. Work in progresses is transferred to appropriate asset classes once the asset is constructed and in use, depreciation per its asset allocation will commence upon transfer.

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#### **C) DEPRECIATION**

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including buildings and capitalised lease assets, but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over their useful lives to the Company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets in the current and previous financial years are:

Class of Fixed Asset Depreciation Rate

Buildings and Improvements 2.5 - 10%

Plant and Equipment 10 – 33.3%

Depreciation rates in relation to the above classes of fixed assets are regularly reviewed by Directors

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES continued

#### D) CONSUMABLES

Consumables are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value and are utilised in the business in the following financial year.

#### E) INCOME TAX

The Company is exempt from income tax pursuant to the Income Tax Assessment Act.

#### F) CONTRA SPONSORSHIPS

The Company is in receipt of sponsorships in the form of contras for travel, playing gear, advertising, car leasing etc.

These contras have been recognised in the financial statements as both income and expenditure unless the contra has not been fully realised or expended.

#### G) EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PROVISIONS

##### WAGES AND SALARIES, ANNUAL LEAVE AND SICK LEAVE

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulating sick leave expected to be settled within 12 months of the end of the reporting year are recognised in other payables in respect of employees' services rendered up to the end of the reporting year and are measured at amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. Liabilities for non-accumulating sick leave are recognised when leave is taken and measured at the actual rates paid or payable.

##### LONG SERVICE LEAVE

Liabilities for long service leave are recognised as part of the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees to the end of the reporting year using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future salaries and wages levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using national government bond rates at the end of the reporting year with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Regardless of when settlement is expected to occur, liabilities for long service leave and annual leave are presented as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the financial year.

##### RETIREMENT BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

Contributions are made by the entity to employee superannuation funds and are charged as expenses when incurred.



# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *continued*

#### H) REVENUE

Revenue from services, being memberships, corporate hospitality, sponsorship and match day revenue are recognised in the income statement when the service is provided, and associated performance obligations held within agreements are met.

Interest revenue is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method.

Specific purpose funding arrangements from Rugby Australia and government departments require funds to be used for specific objectives, outcomes, outputs and performance benchmarks or milestones related to the delivery of specific projects and improvements in service delivery or reform. Where these arrangements are determined to be enforceable through legal or equivalent means and contain sufficiently specific obligations relating to the delivery of goods and services, revenue would be recognised in accordance with AASB 15. If such funding does not meet the 'sufficiently specific' and 'enforceability' criteria of AASB 15, income is recognised under AASB 1058 when the recipient entity controls the cash.

Deferred income represents grants received in advance for next financial year or unexpended grants recognised under AASB 15, which under the terms of agreement with the grantors, are refundable or have performance conditions which are not yet satisfied.

Affiliation fees are recognised across the term of the relevant competition.

General revenue assistance arrangements (Job Keeper, cash boost and Covid-19 emergency relief) allow funds to be used for the broad objectives of the entity. Such funding is unlikely to meet the 'sufficiently specific' criteria in AASB 15. Accordingly, these arrangements will generally be recognised as income under AASB 1058 when the entity obtains control of the cash.

#### I) GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense. Receivables and payables in the Statement of Financial Position are shown inclusive of GST.

#### J) INTEREST BEARING LIABILITIES

All loans and borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transactions costs) and the redemption amount is recognised in the statement of profit and loss over the period of the loans and borrowings using the effective interest method.

#### K) TRADE RECEIVABLES

Trade receivables are recognised at original invoice amounts less an allowance for uncollectible amounts and have repayment terms between 30 and 90 days. Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any allowance for expected credit losses. The Club has applied the simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses, which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on days overdue.

#### L) TRADE PAYABLES

Trade and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the QRU prior to the year end and which are unpaid. These amounts are unsecured and have 30-60 day payment terms.

#### M) IMPAIRMENT OF ASSETS

At the end of each reporting year the QRU assesses whether there is any indication that individual assets are impaired. Where impairment indicators exist, recoverable amount is determined, and impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss where the asset's carrying value exceeds its recoverable amount. Recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purpose of assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset.

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES continued

#### **N) CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS**

The Directors evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information.

#### **KEY ESTIMATES**

Impairment – details of the accounting policy relating to the impairment of assets are disclosed in Note 1(o).

Specific notes relating to the impairment assessment of the land at Ballymore are disclosed in Note 1(b).

#### **KEY JUDGMENTS**

Provision for doubtful debts – details of the policy relating to the provision for doubtful debts are disclosed in Note 1(L).

Unused contracted contra benefits – the key judgement made is that the company will be able to utilise the contracted contra benefits that remain unused at year-end. This judgement is made based on contractual rights and strategies to be implemented to focus on the management and utilisation of these benefits.

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# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *continued*

#### O) CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES, NEW AND AMENDED STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS

The Company has adopted all of the new, revised or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period, including those discussed below:

Directors evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information.

#### AASB 15: REVENUE FOR CONTRACTS WITH CUSTOMERS

The standard contains a single model that applies to contracts with customers and two approaches to recognising revenue: at a point in time or over time. The model features a contract-based five-step analysis of transactions to determine whether, how much and when revenue is recognised. AASB 15 provides the following five-step process:

1. Identify the contract(s) with a customer;
2. Identify the performance obligations in the contract(s);
3. Determine the transaction price;
4. Allocate the transaction price to the performance obligation in the contracts;
5. Recognise revenue when (or as) the performance obligations are satisfied.

There is no material impact as a result of adoption of AASB 15 to the financial statements.

#### AASB 1058: INCOME OF NOT-FOR-PROFIT ENTITIES

AASB 1058 establishes principles and guidance when accounting for:

6. Transactions where the consideration to acquire an asset is significantly less than the fair value, principally to enable a NFP to further its objectives;
7. The receipt of volunteer services;
8. Grant agreements which are not eligible to be recognised over time.

There is no material impact as a result of adoption of AASB 1058 to the financial statements.

#### AASB 16: LEASES

This standard and its consequential amendments were applied from 1 November 2019, replacing the accounting requirements applicable to leases in AASB 117 Leases and related interpretations. AASB 16 introduces a single lessee accounting model that eliminates the requirement for leases to be classified as operating or finance leases. This means that for most leases, a right-of-use asset and a lease liability will be recognised, with the right-of-use asset being depreciated and the lease liability being unwound in principal and interest components over the life of the lease.

The entity transitioned to AASB 16 using the modified retrospective approach, where the right-of-use asset is recognised at the date of initial application at an amount equal to the lease liability adjusted by the amount of any prepaid or accrued lease payments relating to that lease recognised in the Balance Sheet immediately before the date of initial application, using the entity's incremental borrowing rate at the date of initial application. For leases previously classified as finance leases the entity recognised the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset and the lease liability at the date of initial application. The measurement principles of AASB 16 are only applied after that date. There was no re-measurement adjustments for these leases immediately after the date of initial application.

There was no material impact as a result of AASB 16.

There are no other standards that are not yet effective and that would be expected to have a material impact on the entity in the current or future reporting periods and on foreseeable future transactions.



# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 2 – PROFIT / LOSS FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Profit / Loss from ordinary activities before income tax has been determined after:		
<b>(A) EXPENSES:</b>		
Depreciation of non-current assets:		
Buildings & improvements	307,055	369,990
Plant & equipment	131,295	130,869
Leased Plant & equipment	10,618	36,423
	<b>448,968</b>	<b>537,282</b>
Remuneration of the auditors for the audit of financial statements		
- Current year audit	50,000	48,000
	<b>50,000</b>	<b>48,000</b>

### NOTE 3 – CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	1,612,727	10,208
	<b>1,612,727</b>	<b>10,208</b>

The cash and cash equivalents amount disclosed above and in the statement of cash flows include \$1,500,000 of restricted cash (2019: \$0). This amount is reserved, and its use restricted for specific Ballymore Redevelopment Activities described in Note 1 to these accounts.

### NOTE 4 – TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Trade Receivables	367,446	1,794,791
Less Provision for Doubtful Debts	(76,913)	(1,235,000)
	<b>290,533</b>	<b>559,791</b>
Other Receivables	675,669	1,106,460
	<b>966,202</b>	<b>1,666,251</b>
<b>ANALYSIS OF PROVISION FOR DOUBTFUL DEBTS</b>		
Opening Balance	1,235,000	1,268,970
Reversal of amounts provided / receivables written off during year	(1,158,087)	(33,970)
Closing Balance	<b>76,913</b>	<b>1,235,000</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 5 – CONSUMABLES

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Food & Beverage	-	25,168
Merchandise	-	4,999
	-	<b>30,167</b>

### NOTE 6 – OTHER ASSETS

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Prepayments	-	98,451
	-	<b>98,451</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT</b>		
Unused Contracted Contra Benefits	442,616	556,172
	<b>442,616</b>	<b>556,172</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 7 - PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Land at independent valuation	12,700,000	12,700,000
	<b>12,700,000</b>	<b>12,700,000</b>
Buildings Stadium Infrastructure - at cost	26,662,251	26,784,805
Accumulated Depreciation	(15,442,353)	(15,227,620)
Recoverable Amount Write Down	(7,851,929)	(7,851,929)
	<b>3,367,969</b>	<b>3,705,256</b>
Capitalised Ballymore Redevelopment Costs	375,658	-
Accumulated Depreciation	-	-
	<b>375,658</b>	-
Plant & Equipment - at cost	1,941,945	2,111,788
Accumulated Depreciation	(1,669,993)	(1,614,209)
	<b>271,952</b>	<b>497,579</b>
Leased Plant & Equipment - at cost	291,387	291,387
Accumulated Depreciation	(166,945)	(155,877)
	<b>124,892</b>	<b>135,510</b>
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	<b>16,840,471</b>	<b>17,038,345</b>

An independent valuation of Land was undertaken as at 31 December 2013 by Mr Paul Robbins, AAPI certified, Registered Valuer No. 2094, of FPD Savills. The revaluation was undertaken to enable Directors to assess whether there was any impairment to the asset values at 31 December 2013. This valuation indicated a value of the Land as \$12,700,000. The Valuation approach adopted is a Direct Comparison Approach and takes into account both the specialised nature of the Land, and the restrictions placed on the use of the Land by the State Government.



# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 7 – PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT *continued*

#### MOVEMENTS IN CARRYING AMOUNTS

Movement in carrying amounts for each class of Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangibles between the beginning and the end of the financial year are set out below.

	FREEHOLD LAND	BUILDINGS & IMPROVEMENTS	CAPITALISED BALLYMORE REDEVELOPMENT COSTS	PLANT & EQUIPMENT	LEASED PLANT & EQUIPMENT	TOTAL
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Carrying amount at 1 November 2019</b>	<b>12,700,000</b>	<b>3,705,256</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>497,579</b>	<b>135,510</b>	<b>17,038,345</b>
Additions	-	-	375,658	28,977	-	404,635
Disposals	-	(30,232)	-	(123,309)	-	(153,541)
Depreciation Charge for the financial year	-	(307,055)	-	(131,295)	(10,618)	(448,968)
<b>Carrying amount at 31 October 2020</b>	<b>12,700,000</b>	<b>3,367,969</b>	<b>375,658</b>	<b>271,952</b>	<b>124,892</b>	<b>16,840,471</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 8 – TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<b>CURRENT</b>		
- Trade and Other payables	1,673,209	2,158,627
- GST Liability	193,269	347,939
- Annual leave entitlements	300,873	245,916
	<b>2,167,351</b>	<b>2,752,482</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT</b>		
- Trade and Other payables	809,859	-
	<b>809,859</b>	-

### NOTE 9 – BORROWINGS

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<b>CURRENT</b>		
- St George Overdraft	329,412	980,263
- St George Loan	1,291,893	1,590,444
- Lease Liability	24,366	88,939
	<b>1,645,671</b>	<b>2,659,646</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT</b>		
- Lease Liability	893	11,289
- QLD Rural & Industry Development Authority Loan	250,000	-
	<b>250,893</b>	<b>11,289</b>

The facility with St George Bank consists of a fully drawn loan of \$1,291,893. These facilities are secured as a ranking first priority situated at 231 Butterfield Street, Herston including the land. Interest on both facilities is paid on a monthly basis. The overdraft had a balance of \$329,412 at 31 October 2020. The QLD Rural & Industrial Development Authority Loan is repayable over 10 years, with interest payable monthly after the first twelve months.

The carrying amounts of assets pledged as security for current and non-current borrowings are as follows:

<b>CURRENT</b>		
- Cash & cash equivalents	1,612,727	10,208
- Receivables	966,202	1,666,251
- Total current assets pledged	<b>2,578,929</b>	<b>1,676,459</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT</b>		
- Freehold Land	12,700,000	12,700,000
- Buildings	3,367,969	3,705,256
Total non-current assets pledged	<b>16,067,969</b>	<b>16,405,256</b>
Total assets pledged as security	<b>18,646,898</b>	<b>18,081,715</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 10 – PROVISIONS

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Long service leave	69,763	82,735
Onerous Contracts	-	62,500
	<b>69,763</b>	<b>145,235</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT</b>		
Long service leave	27,437	55,076
	<b>27,437</b>	<b>55,076</b>
<b>Number of employees at the end of the year</b>		
- Administrative and Coaching Staff	40	51
- Players Super Rugby	33	37
	<b>73</b>	<b>88</b>

### LONG SERVICE LEAVE

Long term employee benefits comprise amounts payable for long service leave which are not vested at balance date and the amount and timing of payments to be made when leave is taken is uncertain. Refer to accounting policy on Note 1 (i) for more details.

### NOTE 11 – DEFERRED REVENUE

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Sponsorship	86,399	731,651
Memberships	-	1,078,269
Red Pass - 30 years (a)	49,405	49,406
Other including Government Grants	1,722,983	947,983
	<b>1,858,787</b>	<b>2,807,309</b>
<b>NON CURRENT</b>		
- 2-5 years		
Red Pass- 30 years (a)	49,402	98,807
	<b>49,402</b>	<b>98,807</b>
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED REVENUE</b>	<b>1,908,189</b>	<b>2,906,116</b>

(a)

Red Pass – 30 years

Red Pass Subscribers to seats in the Eastern Stand at Ballymore purchased these seats for a period of 30 years. The Red Pass deferred revenue disclosed as a current liability represents income which will accrue to the Company in the period ended 31 October 2019.

Red Pass deferred revenue disclosed as non-current liability represents the income value that will accrue to the Company after 31 October 2019.

The accounting treatment for deferred revenue has been disclosed in Note 1(j).



# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 12 - LEASE COMMITMENTS

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
(a) Lease commitments – finance		
Committed at the reporting date and recognised as liabilities, payable:		
Within one year	23,815	90,632
One to five years	1,915	11,663
<b>Total commitment</b>	<b>25,780</b>	<b>102,295</b>
Less: Future finance charges	521	2,067
<b>Net commitment recognised as liabilities</b>	<b>25,259</b>	<b>100,228</b>
Representing:		
Lease liability – current (note 8)	24,366	88,939
Lease liability – non-current (note 8)	893	11,289
	<b>25,259</b>	<b>100,228</b>

### NOTE 13 - CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
As at 31 October 2020, the Company had entered into contractual obligations with certain players and support staff for the balance of the 2020 and subsequent seasons. This will result in payments as follows:		
- Not later than one year	4,547,968	4,450,278
- Later than one year but not later than five years	5,212,842	8,500,184
	<b>9,760,810</b>	<b>12,950,462</b>

### NOTE 14 – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

The following assets and liabilities are recognised and measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Land and buildings

#### Recognised fair value measurements

The following table sets out the QRU's assets and liabilities that are measured and recognised at fair value in the financial statements:

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<b>Recurring fair value measurements</b>		
Non-financial assets		
- Land	12,700,000	12,700,000
	<b>12,700,000</b>	<b>12,700,000</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 15 – MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The Company is a Company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. If the Company is wound-up the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$100 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the Company. At 31 October 2020 the number of members was 25 (31 October 2019 - 25).

### NOTE 16 - KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL COMPENSATION

Total Income paid or payable, or otherwise made available, to the most senior executives of the Company.

	TOTAL BENEFITS \$
2020 Total Compensation	923,384
2019 Total Compensation	1,026,639

### NOTE 17 - CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There are no contingent liabilities to be reported as at balance date.

### NOTE 18 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

#### (A) DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR THE FOLLOWING DIRECTORS HELD OFFICE:

Mr J Miller – Chairman	Mr P Howard (appointed July 2019)
Mr J Beirne	Ms J Schmitt
Mr M Stanton	Dr M Carroll
Mr B Curran	Mr B Clark (appointed December 2019)
Mr S Button	

#### (B) Director Related Entities

There have been no payments to any directors or any related party entities.

During the 2020 financial year, Messrs J. Miller, J Beirne and D. Hanham were Queensland Rugby Union Ltd delegates to the Australian Rugby Union Limited. The Australian Rugby Union Limited distributes grants to the Company.

#### (C) Associated and Other Entities

Rugby Australia Limited provided the Queensland Rugby Union Ltd with grants totalling \$4,131,763 (2019: \$6,926,975).

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### NOTE 19 - ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

Income to support the contractual obligations of players and support staff for the 2021 season comes from the participation in the Super Rugby Competition. Participation in this competition is governed by a Participation Agreement with Rugby Australia with this agreement setting out rights and responsibilities for the Company.

### NOTE 20 - COMPANY DETAILS

The Company's registered office and principal place of business is located at:

231 Butterfield Street

Herston QLD 4006

### NOTE 21 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

There are no material events after the reporting date.

# 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## DIRECTOR'S DECLARATION FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2020

### THE DIRECTORS OF THE COMPANY DECLARE THAT:

1. the financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 82 to 101, are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001:
  - a) comply with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
  - b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 31 October 2020 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Company;
2. in the Directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



**J. MILLER**  
Chairman



**D. HANHAM**  
Chief Executive Officer

Dated in Brisbane this 28th day of January 2021



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of Queensland Rugby Union Limited

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Queensland Rugby Union Limited (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 October 2020, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial report, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion the accompanying financial report of Queensland Rugby Union Limited, is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- (i) Giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 October 2020 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Material uncertainty related to going concern

We draw attention to Note 1(A) in the financial report which describes the events and/or conditions which give rise to the existence of a material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern and therefore the entity may be unable to realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

## Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is information included in the Directors' report, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

## Responsibilities of the directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

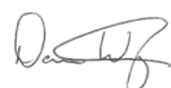
A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website (<http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>) at:

[http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf](http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf)

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## BDO Audit Pty Ltd

BDO



**D P Wright**  
Director

Brisbane, 28 January 2021

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Aidan Toua and Digby Ioane were two of a number of former Reds to feature in Premier Rugby during 2020

# OFFICE BEARERS

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## PATRON

His Excellency Mr Paul de Jersey AC QC  
*Governor of Queensland*

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## VICE PATRONS

Honourable Anastacia Palaszcuk MP  
*Premier of Queensland*

The Right Honourable CR Adrian Schrinner  
*Lord Mayor of Brisbane*

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## PRESIDENT

Roger Gould

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## VICE PRESIDENT

Garrick Morgan

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr J Miller – *Chairman*  
Mr J Beirne  
Mr M Stanton  
Mr B Curran  
Ms J Schmitt  
Dr M Carroll  
Mr S Button  
Mr P Howard  
Mr B Clark

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## DELEGATES TO THE AUSTRALIAN RUGBY UNION

Jeff Miller  
James Beirne  
David Hanham

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## JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Paul Tully – *Chairman*  
Tim Conroy  
Russel Davies  
Geoff Gardiner  
Len Watt

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## JUDICIAL APPEALS COMMITTEE

John Mullins – *Chairman*  
Chris Newton  
Noel Rafter



# QRU LIFE MEMBERS

F.C Lea\*  
 E.J. Beard\*  
 T.H Welsby\*  
 T.S. Pratten\*  
 A.S.I Gralton\*  
 F.E. Baynes\*  
 J. Coulter\*  
 W.T. Evans\*  
 J.J. Walsh\*  
 D.S. Carter\*  
 J. Benham\*  
 J.P. Flynn\*  
 J.E. Ross M.B.E\*  
 E.T. Bonis\*  
 W.J. Renwick\*  
 K.C. Procter\*  
 A.W. Venamore\*  
 J.J. Kane-Maguire\*  
 T.D. Watson\*  
 R. Haywood\*  
 T.B. McCormack C.B.E\*  
 K. Percy\*  
 J.P French A.M\*

P.Barnes\*  
 K.J. Hodda\*  
 R.A. Wood\*  
 B.P. Abotomey\*  
 J.F. Isley\*  
 H.F. Edwards\*  
 H.A. Courtney B.E.M\*  
 B.M. Ffrench\*  
 K.C. Hardy\*  
 E.A.N. Byrne A.M\*  
 T.P. Mooney O.A.M\*  
 R.I. Templeton M.B.E\*  
 J.R. Gibson O.B.E\*  
 J.H. Lucey O.A.M  
 J.G. Ryan  
 L.A. Crowley  
 D.W. Jowett O.A.M\*  
 C.A. Lacaze O.A.M\*  
 A.J. Muir O.A.M  
 R.R. Harrison  
 J.J Breen\*  
 R.J. Park\*  
 Dr F.R Wilson\*

A.G. Purcell\*  
 R.J.O. Herring\*  
 K.J. Crowe O.A.M  
 L.G. Williams A.O\*  
 A.R. Taylor O.A.M  
 R.B McGruther O.B.E  
 G.J. Gore\*  
 R.D. Sinclair\*  
 R.J.P. Marks  
 D.J. Bedgood  
 T.P.A. Doyle\*  
 R.A.C. Evans  
 P.J. Daley  
 A.A. Shaw  
 S.J. Pilecki O.A.M\*  
 D.C. Crombie A.M  
 P.E. McLean M.B.E  
 D. Clark  
 A.Slack

*\*Deceased*

# HONOUR BOARD

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## 2020 WALLABIES REPRESENTATIVES

James O'Connor  
Lukhan Salakai-Loto  
Taniela Tupou  
Liam Wright \*  
Jordan Petaia  
Brandon Paenga-Amosa  
Hunter Paisami (debut)  
Harry Wilson (debut)  
Filipo Daugunu (debut)  
Tate McDermott (debut)  
Fraser McReight (debut)

*\* Liam Wright's Wallabies debut was omitted from the 2019 Annual Report*

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## 2020 QUEENSLAND SUPER RUGBY DEBUTANTS

Henry Speight #1344  
Harry Wilson #1345  
Dane Zander #1346  
Hunter Paisami #1347  
Seru Uru #1348  
Josh Nasser #1349  
Ed Craig #1350  
Tuaina Taii Tualima #1351  
Josh Flook #1352  
Jack Straker #1353  
Zane Nonggorr #1354  
Jethro Felemi #1355  
Sean Farrell #1356

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## 2020 QUEENSLAND SUPER W DEBUTANTS

Courtney Hodder  
Okeroa Manihiera  
Natassja Purontakanen  
Lesa Mataafa  
Maraea Tupai  
Melanie Wilks  
Hilisha Samoa  
Aleena Greenhalgh  
Gabrielle Senft  
Destiny Brill  
Kauna Lopa  
Hagiga Mosby

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## AUSTRALIAN SEVENS (MENS)

Nick Malouf  
Josh Coward  
Joe Pincus  
Jeral Skelton  
Trae Williams  
Rod Davies  
Sean McMahon  
Luke Morahan

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## AUSTRALIAN SEVENS (WOMENS)

Charlotte Caslick  
Evania Pelite  
Lauren Brown  
Shannon Parry  
Demi Hayes  
Georgia Hannaway  
Emilee Cherry  
Dominique du Toit  
Emma Sykes



Queensland Reds Taniela Tupou and Harry Wilson embrace after a Test match win over the All Blacks

## WES BURROWS

AUGUST 2020

A premiership winning player with Souths Rugby Union Club, Wes Burrows made his mark on Rugby across the state of Queensland.

Burrows was born in Biloela in 1969, before commencing his schooling as a boarder at Anglican Church Grammar School.

He represented Queensland Country as a junior, while also played for his state at the U15 level.

After finishing school in 1986, Wes studied a Bachelor of Applied Science (Physics) at CQ University and played for the CQ University Rugby Club in Rockhampton.

Wes established himself as one of the region's premier players over the next decade with the club, winning multiple Grand Finals and earning selection for Queensland Country at both the U19 and Open level.

His time with the Country side saw him play against international teams including Scotland, Italy and America in the early 1990's.

Wes then made the move to Brisbane in 1996, playing for Norths Rugby club before moving across town to Souths.

Wes and the Magpies contested Grand Finals in 1997 and 1998, losing in their first outing before beating Wests the following season, with Wes' efforts seeing him selected for Queensland B in both years.

After a battle with Motor Neurone Disease (MND) Wes passed in August 2020. He is survived by his partner Jane and sons Finn and Oliver.

## JACK BUCHANAN

QRU NO. 622 | SEPTEMBER 2020

Jack Buchanan, a stalwart of Brothers Rugby Club, played two games for Queensland in 1951 and was the oldest living Queensland representative at the time of his death.

A talented forward, Jack was born in Gympie in August of 1925 and was educated at Rugby

nursery Downlands College in Toowoomba, before moving to Brisbane to study at the University of Queensland.

Jack graduated with a degree in civil engineering in 1947, and after previously representing UQ, began his Rugby career with Brothers in 1949 and would go on to play 77 First Grade games between 1949 to 1953 and 1957.

Playing under renowned coach Joe French, Jack was a consistent performer for the club during the early 1950's and was a part of the club's premiership winning sides in 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1953.

Jack also made an immense contribution to the club off the field.

Brothers originally acquired Albion's Crosby Park in 1949 and by 1951 the improvements to Crosby Park had begun.

The building of the famous Green Shed was led by Joe French, Peter and Tom Sweeney, Frank Kenny, Peter O'Shea and Jack, who used his instruments so a field could be properly pegged out.

The boundaries which Jack marked out 69-years ago are still where Jack Ross Oval sits to this day.

Jack was elected as a Brothers Rugby Club Life Member in 1959, while he is now known around the club as 'the Father of Crosby Park'.

His two games for Queensland came in 1951 against New South Wales and New Zealand respectively, with the front rower scoring a try in his debut.

Upon finishing his Rugby career, Jack worked with Pioneer Concrete across Australia and abroad, before eventually settling in Sydney.

## DR HENRY FLANAGAN

QRU NO.794 | NOVEMBER 2020

Born in 1923 in Brisbane, Dr Henry Flanagan was educated at St. Joseph's Gregory Terrace, before beginning his tertiary studies at the University of Queensland and making his A-Grade debut for



the club in 1942.

Dr Flanagan debuted for Queensland in 1945 against New South Wales, scoring two tries and helping the side to a 19-14 win in what was his sole appearance for his state.

A prop, Dr Flanagan studied Dentistry and Medicine and played Rugby at UQ and was awarded a Half Blue in 1945 to recognise his contribution to sport at the university.

## **DR MICK BARRY**

### **QRU NO.1919 | NOVEMBER 2020**

Dr Mick Barry made his Queensland debut against New South Wales at Normanby Oval in 1966 at the age of 23.

The nuggety scrumhalf would go on to play 30 games for his state, scoring six tries and taking on international sides including the British and Irish Lions, France, Ireland, New Zealand, Scotland and South Africa.

Dr Barry debuted for the Wallabies in 1971, with his sole match in the green and gold coming against South Africa in Sydney.

Upon finishing his playing career, Dr Barry worked as an ear, nose and throat specialist and was a prominent member of the Currumbin community on the Gold Coast.

## **DOUG ANTHONY**

### **QRU NO. 579 | DECEMBER 2020**

Born in Murwillumbah in northern NSW, Doug was educated at the King's School in Sydney before completing his studies at the Gatton School on the Darling Downs.

The backrower made his debut for Queensland at the age of 18 in 1948 and would go on to play two games in the maroon that year.

Upon finishing his Rugby career, Doug followed in the footsteps of his late father Larry and transitioned into the world of politics, where he made an immense impact on the National Party.

Doug was elected as the member for the Division of Richmond in 1957, before being

installed as the Minister for the Interior in 1964.

He then served as the Minister for Primary Industry in the early 1970's and was named Deputy Prime Minister under John Gorton and William McMahon from 1971 to 1972.

Doug was reappointed as Deputy Prime Minister in 1975 to 1983 as the National Party returned to power, becoming Australia's longest serving deputy leader under Malcom Fraser.

Upon retiring from politics in 1984, Doug returned to his dairy farm in Murwillumbah.

## **RICHARD COOPER**

### **JANUARY 2021**

The Queensland Rugby Union community is in mourning following the passing of former Queensland and Souths flyhalf and fullback, Richard 'Ray' Cooper, aged 87.

Born in Sydney in 1933, Ray's family moved through regional NSW and eventually settled in Brisbane. Ray attended Brisbane Grammar School, where he was school captain and captain of the First XV in his senior year – 1951.

Not long after graduating from Grammar, Ray's family moved to the Sunshine Coast where his father had purchased a cane farm at Yandina Creek, where both Ray and his brother worked.

During the 1950s, Ray would make the trek from Nambour down to Annerley to play for Souths, alongside fellow former Queensland great Alec Evans. One season he was the competition's highest point scorer, notching a total of 200 plus points.

Ray's form for Souths saw him selected for Queensland and he was then part of the first ever Wallabies squad to tour Fiji in 1954.

After his playing days, Ray's family sold the farm at Yandina Creek and he continued to work in agriculture, working on properties near Goondiwindi and Chinchilla, before retiring to Tin Can Bay.

Having met his wife Shirley whilst still at school at Brisbane Grammar, the couple recently celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary in

December. Ray is survived by Shirley, as well as their three children Chris, Peter and Jilly.

## **GEOFF BARTON**

### **JANUARY 2021**

Geoff Barton, 72, was been a lifelong volunteer within the Central Queensland and wider Queensland Country Rugby Union community, who was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in 2018 for his contributions to Country Rugby in Queensland.

Geoff, as a well-respected manager of the Central Queensland Brahmans, was part of their country championship title winning campaign in 2000. He also assisted with the Queensland Country Heelers program as a selector for 12 years and was instrumental in the restructuring of Rugby Union in Rockhampton during the 1990s.

Geoff was an advocate for providing opportunities for young Country players to experience Rugby abroad, and acted as tour manager for several Outback Barbarians tours, which saw talented players from across Queensland play on the international stage.

The Barbarians have an outstanding record, losing only four games from over 60 matches across North America since 2008.

When awarded his Order of Australia Medal, Geoff was quoted saying: "What really inspires me is seeing young blokes coming from the bush and lifting their playing skills to a whole new level.

"Every town or city we go to, everyone involved in Rugby instantly has at least 15 new friends. That is the nature of Rugby."

Geoff was also a part of the wider Reds family, with his son Scott playing for the Queensland Reds between 1999 and 2004.

A product of Easts Rugby Union Club, Arthur played two games for his state in 1971, with his debut coming against South Africa at the Exhibition Ground.

The winger scored four tries in the maroon, including a hatrick against the Australian Combined Services at Ballymore.

## **ARTHUR GALBRAITH**

### **QRU #854 | FEBRUARY 2021**

The Queensland Rugby community is mourning the loss of Queensland Representative #854, Arthur Galbraith.



Queensland Reds Angus Scott-Young and Moses Sorovi pictured after a west-side derby clash between UQ and Wests





# 2020 ST.GEORGE QUEENSLAND REDS SQUAD

**BACK ROW:** Gina Nelson (Head Physiotherapist), Damian Marsh (Head Strength and Conditioning Coach), Jethro Felemi, Sam Wallis, Sean Farrell, Lawson Creighton, Seru Uru, Lukhan Salakaia-Loto, Angus Blyth, Ryan Smith, Fraser McReight, Jock Campbell, Zane Nonggor, Harry Vella, Daniel Kolbe (Sports Science Assistant), Thomas Barker (Team Manager)

**SECOND ROW:** Daelyn Cullen (Team Doctor), Dave Alred (Kicking Coach), Tom Mitchell (Media Manager), Feao Fotuailaka, Jack Straker, Harry Hoopert, Jordan Petaia, Angus Scott-Young, Harry Wilson, Tuaina Taii Tualima, Josh Nasser, Dane Zander, Brandon Paenge-Amosa, JP Smith, Sam Cordingley (General Manager - Professional Rugby), Georgia Black (Sports Science Coordinator), Jake Nicholls (Team Analyst),

Matt Ireton (Assistant Athletic Performance Coach)

**FRONT ROW:** Jim McKay (Assistant Coach – Attack), Tate McDermott, Scott Malolua, Alex Mafi, Filipo Daugunu, Taniela Tupou, James O'Connor, Brad Thorn (Head Coach), Liam Wright, Bryce Hegarty, Hunter Paisami, Jack Hardy, Chris Feauai-Sautia, Hamish Stewart, Moses Sorovi, Michael Todd (Assistant Coach – Defence)



