



# DOWNS RUGBY ROUND-UP AUGUST 2011

Welcome Downs Rugby Enthusiasts to the latest installment of our regular newsletter. The talk this month has mostly been about the Risdon Cup Finals series which has produced some cracking games of rugby. The results so far have showcased some of the best rugby in the competition. Judging by the lead up games we are in for some great rugby this weekend. Do yourself a favour and do not miss these games:-

## **RISDON CUP FINALS SERIES**

**Saturday, 3 September at USQ's home ground Baker Street, University of Southern Queensland.**

10.00am C Grade Grand Final – Highfields vs Goondiwindi  
11.20am Under 19 Grand Final – USQ vs Rangers  
1.00pm B Grade Grand Final – Bears vs Goondiwindi  
3.00pm A Grade Grand Final – USQ vs Rangers

## **PRELIMINARY FINALS Roma 27 August, 2011**

C Grade - Goondiwindi (36) def Chinchilla (19)  
Under 19 – Rangers (23) def Dalby (10)  
B Grade – Goondiwindi (17) def Rangers (15)  
A Grade – Rangers (27) def Roma (24)

## **SECOND SUPER SATURDAY USQ 20 August, 2011**

C Grade - Chinchilla (8) def Bears (5)  
C Grade - Highfields (10) def Goondiwindi 7  
Under 19 – Dalby (41) def Goondiwindi (22)  
Under 19 - USQ (49) def Rangers (17)  
B Grade - Goondiwindi (39) def Roma (19)  
B Grade – Bears (25) def Rangers (5)  
A Grade – Rangers (30) def Bears (25)  
A Grade - USQ (18) def Roma (10)



*Volunteering opportunities exist for the State Championships. Some key positions still need to be filled. Please contact Kerri – by phone: 0459 171 750 or email [kerri.trost@downsrugby.com.au](mailto:kerri.trost@downsrugby.com.au)*

# Downs Rugby Round-up

---

## **FIRST SUPER SATURDAY**

**Roma 13 August, 2011**

C Grade - Highfields (5) def Chinchilla (0)  
Under 19 - Goondiwindi v UQ/Highfields - fft  
Under 19 - USQ (60) def Dalby (7)  
B Grade - Roma (21) def Highfields (19)  
B Grade - Rangers (20) def Goondiwindi (8)  
A Grade - Bears (34) def Goondiwindi (12)  
A Grade – Roma (25) def Rangers (7)



---

## **DARLING DOWNS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

### **U15 Schoolboy State Championships**

On the 10<sup>th</sup> August the Darling Downs Schoolboy Squad travelled to Rockhampton to contest in the Q.R.F.S.U 15 Years State Championships. The Darling Downs were one of ten regions represented in the Championships with teams coming from Peninsula all the way down to the South Coast.

The Darling Downs teams were placed in a tough pool with South Coast, Peninsula and two Brisbane metropolitan teams. The squad was also unlucky to have the late withdrawal of Matt Burke and Liam Jurd due to serious injury.

Putting the mishaps aside the Darling Downs Squad went out to prove a point in their opening match, dominating Peninsula in a strong showing to win 26 – 0.

The squad was boosted by their first match win but found a difficult opponent in the South Coast for their second. The Darling Downs put up a strong fight by were overrun by a well-drilled side going down 31-14. The Downs side then lost a nail biter to Met West 7-0 and then to Met North 29-5.

The squad then faced Northern in a cross pool play-off and prevailed 28-13 placing them in the play-off for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> against their previous pool opponents, the South Coast. The boys new what to expect and went with a game plan but unfortunately fell short of the South Coast Squad 29-5.

Thank you to John Matthews and Jonathan Farrell who coached and managed the squad for the tournament and congratulations to all the boys who participated.

### **Ballymore Cup**

On the 24<sup>th</sup> August the Downs Regional Ballymore Cup winners Our Lady of the Southern Cross in the 15's and Downlands College in the opens travelled to Brisbane to contest the State Quarter Finals. Both squads were to play Pacific Pines State High from the Gold Coast to earn the right to progress to the Semi's. OLSC were first to play and came out a little quiet in the first half going into the break 12-0 down. After a stern speech from their coach OLSC shocked the Gold Coast team with two quick fire tries to make it 12-10. Momentum was with OLSC as they pushed for a third try but Pacific Pines were not going to give up without a fight and from an OLSC mistake pressured the defence of the Dalby School until they found an opening and crossed to make it 19-10. From there the Pacific Pines found there confidence and scored two more tries to run out 33-10 winners.

## Downs Rugby Round-up

---

Downlands College looked ominous from the first whistle and it didn't take them long to cross the try line after a smooth backline play. Downlands College came to battle and apart from a few attacking scares had the measure of their Gold Coast opponents for the full match, running out victors 43-3.

Downlands College will now play Wavell State High School in Friday nights Ballymore Cup Semi Final. I would like to wish David O'Sullivan and his team all the best ahead of the clash.

Yours in Rugby  
Tom Bower

---

### **QJRU State Championships prove a boon to TRC region**

(as provided by Toowoomba Regional Council Media Dept)

*Look past the jerseys, the muddy sprigs and the smell of liniment and you'll find rugby union is the quintessential family sport.*

*A sport that consistently offers a place for mums and dads, sons and daughters and one that unites people from all walks of life.*

*This philosophy was emphasised at the official launch of the Queensland Junior Rugby Union State Championships which was held at City Hall, Toowoomba Friday – 12 August.*

*The gathering saw representatives of the code highlight the many economical and social benefits the State Championships (September 20 to 23) will bring to the region, as well as examine the personal opportunities that will be presented to more than 1200 junior competitors.*

*Toowoomba Regional Council mayor Peter Taylor said the championships were an occasion to showcase the region to visiting families and introduce them to the first-class schools and quality lifestyle that Toowoomba is renowned for.*

*"We know how good the area is because we live here, but it's major events like this that allow visitors to see first hand the sporting facilities, cultural amenities and sheer beauty of the city. We have had many, many families relocate here on the strength of a chance visit during a sporting event," he said.*

*"And let's not forget the financial aspects of a carnival of this size. There will be somewhere in the vicinity of \$500,000 spent in the region – a huge boost to local business and it reinforces just how important these types of events are."*

*Queensland Junior Rugby Union president Ken Greedy said the championships gave junior players a chance to not just test their skills, but to experience the satisfaction that comes from competing at representative level.*

*"This is where they develop their love for the game. There are no guarantees they'll continue through the ranks of representative football, but this offers a wonderful starting point to see how far rugby can take them," he said.*



## Downs Rugby Round-up

---

*“Another thing unique to our sport is it doesn’t matter what size you are as a player, there’s a position for you in the side. It lends itself to all types – short, tall, large or small.*

*“With the rugby sevens being included in the 2016 Olympics, this age group.....the very players coming to these championships.....will be at the age where they could be representing their country.”*

Director of Downs Rugby Ltd Brendan Ryan agreed, saying junior rugby “had a place for everyone”.



*“We’ve got mums who aren’t just in the canteens or watching on the sidelines. They’re taking on the roles of coaches and managers. And we’ve also got a number of female referees who are highly qualified and respected and are being recognised for their skills after they finish playing junior football,” he said.*

*“And of course we’ve got dads who no longer play the game, but want to be involved at the grass roots level. They appreciate that it’s a heap of fun and they’re all playing a part in bringing through the players of tomorrow.”*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The state championships, which will be held from September 19 to 22, will see more than 920 junior footballers attending (made up of 23 teams from across regional Queensland, as well as 17 Brisbane-based sides).

Players from U13 to U17 will compete at the event which is seen as an important talent identification opportunity for future selection of Queensland representative teams and squads including the Country/City and State U15 and U17 teams.

Now in the 31st year, the event has seen several Wallabies and Reds come through the state championship pathway, including Peter Hynes, Ben Lucas, Will Genia and Quade Cooper.

---

### **Bledisloe Cup Dinner – 25 August, 2011**

A great night was had by all at the Spotted Cow for the Pre Bledisloe Cup Dinner. The night was held in aid of Junior, Teenage and Senior Rugby Development for the downs.

92 guests attended this event and received a great insight into the game of rugby provided by the great John Connolly.

Some much needed funds were raised on the night and we would like to thank Dominic Ryan and Grahame Pitt for supporting Downs Rugby in our Auctions.



A BIG thank-you to all who attended on the night, and we would especially like to thank those of you who made the effort and travelled in from our surrounding regions. We hope to provide many more opportunities like these in the future, so please continue to show your support to Downs Rugby and we will continue to provide you with great events.

# Downs Rugby Round-up

---

## **DOWNNS RUGBY – OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEES**

**Board** – Pat Brown (Chairman), Mat Strahorn (Secretary), Brendan Ryan (Director of Finance), Mike Horan, Justin Garvie.

**Senior Committee** – Mat Edwards (Chair), Craig Coetzee, Pat Hillier, Doug McDougall, Paul Weidman.

**Teenage Committee** – Graham Strong (Chair), Lyndal Symonds, Mike Dillon, Peter Blades, Rod Spalding.

**Junior Committee** – Owen Kleidon (Chair), Grant Gleeson, Anton Kowalenko, Anthony Ahern, Gavin Pontin.

**High Performance Rugby Committee** – Martin Leggat, Russell Jackson, Evan Willis, Hamish Procter, Tom Bower.

**Judicial Committee** – Dave Power, Rob Brealey, Grant Gleeson, Peter Buchanan.

**LIFE MEMBERS** – Don Trennery; Bill Flamstead; Geoff Makim; David Thompson.

---

**We are proudly Sponsored by:-**



**FK GARDNER & SONS  
GROUP**

SOLUTIONS. VISION.



### OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS:-

Unit 5, Anzac Central, 189 Anzac Avenue, Toowoomba Q 4350

Phone/Fax – 4633 7733

Website: [www.downsrugby.com.au](http://www.downsrugby.com.au)

### POSTAL ADDRESS:-

PO Box 1070, Toowoomba, QLD, 4350

### DOWNS RUGBY STAFF:-

Cameron Donaldson -- General Manager

Ph: 0488 677 760

Email: [cameron.donaldson@downsrugby.com.au](mailto:cameron.donaldson@downsrugby.com.au)



Kerri Trost – Rugby Administrator

Ph: 0459 171 750

Email: [kerri.trost@downsrugby.com.au](mailto:kerri.trost@downsrugby.com.au)



Tom Bower -- Development Officer

Ph: 0409 902 116

Email: [tom.bower@qru.com.au](mailto:tom.bower@qru.com.au)



Dimity Sullivan -- Club Development Officer  
(Eastern Clubs)

Ph: 0409 258 966

Email: [dimity.sullivan@downsrugby.com.au](mailto:dimity.sullivan@downsrugby.com.au)



Lisa Goodman -- Club Development Officer  
(Western Clubs)

Ph: 0409 328 783

Email: [lisa.goodman@downsrugby.com.au](mailto:lisa.goodman@downsrugby.com.au)



*Please contact us  
to nominate for a  
volunteering role  
at the State  
Championships.*

*We need:*

- *Field Marshalls*
- *Ball Boys*
- *Player Welfare  
Officers*
- *General  
helpers*

*If you can spare  
some time –we  
can find a role to  
suit.*