

2017

The University Rugby Club had a successful season in 2017, on and off the field. Just losing the Final against Vikings in the last minute of play denied us the opportunity of playing in a fourth Grand Final in a row and defending our 2016 Premiership.

The club continues to grow with seven Juniors teams, a Women's team and three Men's teams representing the Rugby Club and the University of Wollongong with distinction.

Our ability to maintain our high standing can be attributed to a lot of hard work by many people.

THE BOARD:

Once again, we were blessed with a hard-working Board that ensured that the club built on the sound foundation laid in previous years. President Bob Wheway, aka Big-Hearted Bob, was influential in the organisation.

The Board comprised of – Treasurer - Andrew Newhouse, A/Secretary - Glenda Heggen, Juniors organiser - Canio Fierravanti, Sponsorship and Fundraising - Glenn 'Sproggy' McGuinness, Club Captain - Rob Mardus, who was also the licensee, Parent Rep - David Shala and registrar - Iain Lamb – carried out their responsibilities with great professionalism especially with the Rugby Link system coming online.

Part of monthly business included the ongoing support of Edwin Edista and his family (Ed is a past player severely injured in 2001). The club continued to try to support Ed but unfortunately communication stopped, and we were unable to contact the family.

Bob Nowotny, who unfortunately due to work commitments was only available on Game Days, was a mainstay doing a myriad of tasks and becoming chief cook and bottle washer on the BBQ.

It needs to be said that there were a few issues that arose during the season that the club dealt with in a professional manner. The main thing to come out of this was the need to alter the board structure to represent the current makeup of the club more closely and giving the three groups– Men, Women and Juniors - equal representation on the Board. This will be completed in 2018.

SPONSORSHIP:

The club's financial situation was enhanced due to the support of our sponsors. Many of these companies have been supporting the club for many years and we able to attract a few new sponsors who had connections with our Junior teams.

Sponsors (* - denotes new sponsor)

MAJOR

* The Wisemans Park and Wollongong City Bowling Club came on board as the home for the Mallee Bulls in 2017.

PREMIUM SPONSORS

Physical Therapy Group – Dave Beconsell

Soilco – Charlie Emery

UOW Faculty of Engineering – Bob Wheway

HLB Judd – Andrew Newhouse

Ledacon – Paul Martin

SILVER SPONSORS

Crown West Cellars - Mark Hampton

Dave Petty Conveyancing – Dave Petty

Ryan's Dry Cleaning – Hugh Wingate

* Golden Wattle,

* East Coast Limousines,

* Harrisons Pharmacy,

* Christopher Adams Law Group

Snap Printing

Affective Services – Andrew Newhouse

Crown Medical Centre – Davis Shala

Pit Stop Café

Jumper Sponsors

Martin Plum, Glenda Heggen, Bob Nowotny, Matt Wolfe, Dion Miller, Mark O'Keefe, Ken Wright, Mark Placek, Rhys Jones and Alex Zelinsky and also came on board as Jumper sponsors.

FUND RAISING:

The major fund-raising activities were:

- The fourth year of the Campus Colleges Challenge Rugby Tag for the Vice Chancellor's trophies. (*Bob Wheway /Glenn McGuinness*)
- Two BBQs at the Wollongong Bunnings store. (*Glenda and Max Heggen*)
- The bus trip to the Bledisloe Cup Rugby Test at the ANZ Stadium. (*Glenn McGuinness/Larry Daniella*)
- the Sporting clubs at the University were able to attract some funding from the Student Funding. This enabled the club to purchase new equipment such as balls, tackle shields and 2 new scrum shields.

SOCIAL:

Social Events – organised by the social committee (Dan Ward, Rob Mardus, Will Wood, Pat Perillo, Justin Stanbrook & Tom Baker)

Protégé Auction Night. Players participating in their first FULL season with UOW Rugby (protégés) were auctioned off to returning players of the club (mentors). Protégés are welcomed to the club, in a night that is held in good spirit and aims to enhance the bond between players from all grades.

The Annual Season Launch was held for the first time at WPWC Bowling Club, and the barefoot bowls was a very popular activity on the day.

Old Bulls Muster – Fi-Ta donated a set of playing jumpers which were auctioned and raised \$2000. It was Back to College day and a host of former players made it a day to remember.

After the usual post-match function in the Sports Lounge the players headed to the Wiso's to continue reminiscing past deeds and renewing friendships.

Ladies Day

A large crowd of women supporters gathered under the marquees on the western side of Uni oval to cheer on the players and drink the odd glass of champagne. A donation to Beyond Blue was made from funds raised on the day.

Rugby Ball and Presentation Night

JUNIORS

The juniors registered about 100 players and fielded teams in the 7, 8, 10, 11, First XV and Second XV age groups, with varying degrees of success. In the younger age teams, the numbers were tight and wins not all that regular, but the boys and girls enjoyed the chance to play rugby in a friendly, well organised environment

Match Day Organisation:

Canio Fierravanti continued to organise the Juniors with his usual calm demeanour. Organising games, often with last minute changes, keeping parents informed and arranging referees for games was a thankless task.

Chris Jerez and Evan Paota Smith were on deck to assist Canio with the Match Day Control (MDC) duties on most Sundays and the days ran smoothly thanks to their efforts. We didn't organise a junior canteen this year and one of our Sponsors the Pit Stop Café, based in the URAC building, kept our supporters 'fed and watered.'

Duncan Allin took on the registrar's role while the managers tasks were completed by many willing helpers who stepped up when required

Dave Beconsell was the physio on duty from his business, Physical Therapy, and his professionalism was noted by parents when he treated injuries on game day.

Teams:

Evan Paota-Smith worked tirelessly in establishing our First XV (*u16 / u17 age groups*) and Second XV (*U14 / u 15 age groups*) in their respective competitions. Evan also took on the role as coaching director for the older age groups and did a commendable job under trying circumstances as playing numbers throughout the District were disappointing.

Unfortunately, the First XV competition was reduced to just two teams, Uni and Kiama, and as a result we played in the Sydney u/16 competition which was a step up in class and a worthwhile experience for our players.

The squad had 29 players and played 11 games, winning 7, which was an excellent result considering the amount of travelling that was required to play in Sydney

The Second XV was coached by the duo of Sam Laurie and Jake Monk, two senior players happy to give back something to the juniors. The team's numbers increased to 24 with some quality players on deck. The team improved steadily through the season and finished in second spot.

The Major semi, which was against Kiama, was a close-run thing with a twenty all draw the final result. This meant that Kiama progressed to the Grand Final.

The Final against Shoalhaven also ended in a tight finish – 5 all. University being higher on the points table then progressed into the Grand Final.

Unfortunately, Kiama were too good on the day winning 36 to 20 but the boys lost no respect with their performance, not only on the day but also throughout the season.

2017 saw the introduction of a 7 a side women's for u16/17's competition which was played on a Friday night. Uni's team was outstanding going through the season undefeated. The girls also were winners of the Southern Highlands 7s u/18 knock out competition.

The driving force behind this great initiative was Lusii Tanevesi who recruited players, managed the team on Game night and coached it as well.

Ruari Von Prott was acknowledged as the Illawarra Best and Fairest while Aroha Spillane was presented with the most improved Player award.

University u/17's Undefeated Premiers



The initiative to train all the younger age teams at the same time on Oval 1 was well received by the parents. The club spirit that this created was exciting while the excellent facilities also created a good impression on many new families.

The ten and eleven age groups trained together under the guidance of Glenn McGuinness, Ben North and Paul Martin. Both groups worked hard and developed into quite competitive teams by the end of the season. A positive step forward came about with a number of girls being members of the teams and more than holding their own in the physical aspects of rugby.

The u10's fielded 15 players in the eight-team competition and found the standard of the opposition quite daunting. The fact that they didn't win a game and were on the ends of some big defeats didn't reflect the efforts of the players.

After not winning many games in the previous seasons the u11's displayed their steady development by winning four out of 10 games in the 11-team competition. The squad of 17 players consisted of four players who were granted permission to play down an age group and this certainly helped the team's progress

The most pleasing aspect of the season was the fact that no matter what the result was on game day most, if not all, players turned up on Wednesday night for training with a positive attitude and a desire to improve as individuals and on a team level.

The coaching responsibilities for the seven- and eight-years age teams were taken on by Lusii Tanevesi Paulie Tuala, Isaac Bajrami and Duncan Allin.

The concept for these ages groups was fun through participation and while some sessions were 'like herding cats' the players all had a great time and enjoyed being part of the training night experience.

Junior Representative Rugby:

Women:

Australian Rep 2017 Youth Olympic Games Rugby 7's:

Abby Holmes

NSW u/17 Girls Rugby 7's:

Abby Holmes, Tessa Good, Ruari Von Prott, Maddison Weatherall

NSW Country Girls:

Abby Holmes, Tessa Good, Ruari Von Prott, Maddison Weatherall, Stephanie Ball, Viena Tinao, Molly Good, Chantelle Leatigaga, Keeley Kopara

Junior Illawarra:

Abby Holmes, Tessa Good, Ruari Von Prott, Maddison Weatherall, Stephanie Ball, Viena Tinao, Molly Good, Chantelle Leatigaga, Keeley Kopara, Molly Parks, Faith Tufugaand and Aroha Spillane.

Men:

NSW II (u/16's):

Seamus King

NSW Combined Catholic Colleges (u/16):

Seamus King

NSW Combined High Schools (u/16's):

Tolson Kennerley

NSW Combined High Schools (u/16's) Squad:

Tumoana Poata, Te Atawhai Mason, Nathaniel Malaki

NSW Country:

u/16:

Seamus King

u/15:

Tumoana Poata

Illawarra:

u/17:

Opeti Taufahema

u/16:

Seamus King, Tolson Kennerley, Te Atawhai Mason, Nathaniel Malaki, Liam Surgeoner, Jonah Wall, Michael Ford, Jackson Kemp.

u/15:

Tumoana Poata, Darnell Walker, Rory Green, Sebastian Di Noro.

u/14:

Oukei Taufahema, Samuel Milross-Rose.

SENIOR WOMEN'S

2017 saw the continued growth and development of a Women's team at Uni. Due to the fact that there was no local competition the Women played in the strong Sydney Competition, the Jack Scott Cup, which is the highest level of rugby competition in the state, if not Australia.

A great deal of the off-field organisation was done by Lusii Tanevesi, Lusi Johnson, June Norton and Maree and Kaari McDonald who left no stone unturned as they looked to develop rugby for Women in the club.

Women's team 2017



Back Row:	Lucy Darragh	Chantelle Leatigaga	Caitlin Hemi	Koniseti Tinao	Marie MacDonald
	Ruari Von Pratt	Jodi Trist			
Middle Row:	Lusii Tanevesi	Malama Leatigaga	Viena Tinao	Kaari MacDonald	Sophie Hancock
Front Row:	Bess Platt	Stephanie Ball	Ashleigh Walter	Georgia Laker	Telia Fenwick
	Amy Dyason				
Missing:	Teleri Jaimeson	Kiarra Smalle	Haydie James	Maddison Weatherall	

The Board of the club actively supported the Women's team and encouraged their participation in all club activities. President Bob Wheway is a major supporter of the women and was the jersey sponsor through the Faculty of Engineering and Information Science promoting Stem Education. The women were big fans of his 'BHB' (Big Hearted Bob) Ham and Prawn BBQ's after training on a Thursday night.

A major acquisition was a new coach in Tony Leeder-Smith, who possesses a wealth of knowledge and experience. After a successful recruitment program in the off season there was a healthy number of players to start the year and the girls were excited and enthusiastic. Having more players with experience this time round, who assisted new players to understand the game and learn the actual rules, made a huge amount of difference to the team's performances.

The preseason saw the Women progress to the Country Final of the Kiama 7's, which is a prestigious event. However, the real highlight came in the Fisher Ghost 7's when the girls won their very first match ever. What made it even sweeter was that it was against their great local rival in Campbelltown. What a day!!

Being able to play at home together with the men on some Saturdays, as well as being a part of Ladies Day, Back to Uni Day and frequenting our major sponsor - Wisemans Bowling Club - were some of the highlights of the season. Dan Ward's Social committee ensured that the women were included in all club social activities. The acknowledgment and standing ovation given to the team at Presentation was a special moment for all.

The team developed a strong bond and always came off the field loud and proud. Indeed, every point scored was celebrated as if the team had won the World Cup.

A positive that came out of the successful junior program was that a few of our Junior girls joined the senior team. This allowed our Juniors to realise that there was a representative pathway with an opportunity to not only be eligible for NSW Country but also Sydney City and NSW representative squads.

The leadership of the group was always looking to the future with an emphasis of getting more players involved.

SENIOR MEN:

One hundred and twenty-two senior men played at least one game for the club in 2017.

COACHES

Shaun McCreedy was appointed as Club Coach again and he was to be a busy man as he was also the Assistant Country Coach, Coach of the Illawarra Seniors and Colts sides as well as overseeing the junior Illawarriors rep programs.

Another factor that came into play was that Shaun had to travel overseas for a friend's wedding late in the season.

It was fortunate that Shaun was able to call on the assistance of Evan Paota-Smith and Donny Nepia to take the reins while he was away, and these three guys worked well together.

In Seconds Dave Reed started the season in charge but family and work commitments meant that he was always under the pump time wise and in the end, it became too much, and Dave stepped down after the Rd 6 clash with Vikings. Into the breach stepped Leon 'Leech' Mason and Evan Paota-Smith who did a commendable job under difficult circumstances.

It also wasn't smooth sailing with the third-grade position since 'Killer' Grennell was unexpectedly called away on business and went on a pre-arranged holiday for the first half of the season. This was far from ideal as we were embarrassed by an overabundance of players. After a lot of soul searching and arm twisting two stalwarts in Lee Tanks and Shaun Dutailis reluctantly stepped up and held the fort until 'Killer' was back on the scene.

Tony Leeder-Smith joined the coaching staff in his role as coach of the Women's team. This was a monumental task as he had to often start from scratch with new players with no rugby experience joining the squad. and you realize just how committed Tony was to the team's cause.

MANAGEMENT

The myriad of tasks required to get the teams on the field including distributing and collecting the jumpers, filling in all the necessary paperwork and looking after injured players etc was taken on by Glenda Heggen (Seconds and Thirds) and Iain Lamb who was responsible for the First Graders. Iain also was the Registrar for the club and did a great job in a professional manner. Glenda's 'boys'

never lacked for anything, including lollies at halftime, and her concern for their welfare was truly genuine.

MATCH DAY ORGANISATION:

Unfortunately, John Pemberton was not on deck to assist with the Match Day Controller's (MDC) duties this year due to an ongoing health issue. He was able to do bits and pieces, but he left a huge hole to fill. Fortunately match day continued to be mainly a stress-free experience thanks to the efforts of the Match Day Group, headed by Glenn, Bob Nowotny, Max Heggen and Dave Dobinson. Combined with the work of the grade managers, who were very professional in their duties, Match Days ran smoothly.

The canteen facilities on Oval 1 were modernised using SAF funding and a lot of hard work by Larry Daniela and as a result the canteen was able to function much more efficiently. The Daniela Family were responsible for running the senior canteen and the food and service were again of a high standard.

We continued the post-match dinner tradition – a gold coin cost to home players and free to visitors. The food was delicious, and Uni Rugby are the envy of all clubs for their match day foods. Some of the meals were also held at Wisemans Park and were very well attended by opposition teams.

REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS:

NSW Country Representatives:

Seniors:

Paul Tuala, Andy Rae, Andy Papworth and Wayne Ngatai

Coaching Staff:

Shaun McCreedy – Assistant coach of Country Firsts.

Illawarra Representatives:

Seniors:

Paul Tuala, Tom Baker, Andy Papworth, Wayne Ngatai, Takunda Chimwaza, Rueben Thompson, Casey Rameka, Simon Douch, Ben Cheetham, and Andy Rae.

Coaching Staff:

Shaun McCreedy – Head Coach and Colts Coach

Richard Thompson – Assistant coach

Donny Nepia- Assistant Coach

Dion Miller – on field Manager

Evan Paota-Smith - Manager

Colts (u/20's):

Daniel Taufahema, Opeti Taufahema, Bailey Lamb, Sam Laurie, Jake Monk, Alphonso Pyne, Michael Shambira and Wangchuk Tshoko.

Women

Bess Platt, June Norton

Personal Milestones

200 games – Brad Milner, Dave Shepherd

150 – Lee Tanks, Bailey Lamb – *(38 Senior + 119 Junior)*

100 games – Matthias Wann

50 Games – Harry Cummins, Michael McKenzie, Luke Symons, Jason Hughes, Justin Stanbrook

Todd Wilson *(23 senior + 34 Junior)*, Will Lamb *(20 senior + 59 Junior)*

Daniel Taufahema *(12 Senior + 48 Junior)*

THE COMPETITION SETUP.

The first and second grade titles were again contested by ten clubs with no changes from 2016. The Wollongong based clubs in Avondale, Vikings, Shamrocks, University and Tech Waratahs were joined by Camden, Campbelltown, Kiama, Shoalhaven and Bowral.

It was in the third-grade competition that some changes occurred with the reintroduction of Wollondilly and the emergence of a new club, the Southern Crushers, based in the Albion Park area. They were joined by the other one team club, Vincentia. These 3 clubs were aligned with Bowral, Tech Waratahs and Kiama who were not able to field a third-grade team. These were not marriages made in heaven and there were lots of discussions about home grounds etc. before the season began but it did work out for the best as there were no byes in the competition.

Once again, the colt's competition failed to eventuate, much to Uni's disappointment, as we were able to recruit a significant number of players but then couldn't give them a game.

Club Championship 2017

Club	Firsts	Seconds	Thirds	Total
Avondale	440	180	70	690
Vikings	395	204	58	657
Bowral	325	156	0	481
University	290	138	26	454
Shamrocks	250	153	45	448
Shoalhaven	200	111	70	381
Camden	100	207	25	332
Campbelltown	130	90	34	254
Tech Waratahs	100	69	0	169
Kiama	135	24	0	159
Vincentia	0	0	60	60
Southern Crushers	0	0	21	21

FIRST GRADE.

Players

A total of 38 players represented the University club in First grade this season and the squad contained a mix of youth and experience. The quality of the players is demonstrated by the fact that Andy Rae, Paul Tuala, Andy Papworth and Wayne Ngatai gained selection on the NSW Country Squad. These guys were joined by Ben Cheetham, Tom Baker, Sam Latu, Simon Douch, Casey Rameka, Takunda Chimwaza and Reuben Thompson being selected to represent Illawarra at the Country Championships.

When you add in some of the developing players who were selected in the Illawarra Colts squad in Daniel Taufahema, Sam Laurie, Bailey Lamb, Wangchuk Tshoko, Opeti Taufahema and Alphonso Pyne made their debuts in first grade it is obvious that we were a strong candidate to repeat our victory in 2016.

One negative of having so many representative players was that the players involved missed games due to rep commitments and injuries incurred playing at the higher intensity.

We were blessed that a majority of the squad from 2016 was back on deck but there were a few key absentees - Charlie Freeman – working in Africa, Nik Ranguira – playing in England, Nick Mastro – having a year off, Tyler Atkin – playing for Shamrocks and Hemi Wickliffe, Jason Hughes and Karl Smith - hanging up the boots after long, distinguished careers.

In the front row our depth was certainly tested as we had lost a number of quality props from the previous season. Casey Rameka and hooker Wayne Ngatai were the rocks around which the coaches built our scrum. These two were joined in the front row by Dan Reed who played the majority of the season. Andy Papworth was available early in the year until work cut short his season. A newcomer in junior Daniel Taufahema, who had just turned 19 years of age, forced his way into the pack for the semis and he certainly didn't let the team down. Sam Laurie was often on the bench and covered at both hooker and prop when needed and always put in a 100 % effort.

The second row was an area of concern as the club did not have a great deal of depth in this position. Will Wood and Andy Rae were the two major contributors, but Andy missed a few games through injury. It was then up to players such as Mitch Bell, and Jonah Potgiester-Denton to fill the void, which they did admirably. A big loss occurred when Mitch was injured just when he was getting back to full fitness. The other guy who demonstrated his adaptability was Ben Cheetham who played well above his weight when he packed down as a second rower in a few games. When you consider that Ben also played in the centres at times you realise just how important to the team he had become.

The departure of Charlie Freeman left a huge hole in the loose forwards area, but this was more than capably filled by Damien Mei who had a wonderful season, even though he was hampered by an Achilles tendon injury for long periods. Damien was ably supported by young tyros in Ben Cheetham and Takunda Chimwaza whose growth as players was impressive, but they were both injured towards the Finals. We were in the fortunate position to have Ryan Witherdin back in good health and he played well in the end of season games. Bailey Lamb progressed from the juniors and enjoyed the challenge of playing in the top grade where he was equally at home as a hooker or a loose forward. Phil Johnson and Rob Leane were handy replacements when called up into the top grade.

Paul Tuala 's standing as a player and a leader also was vital in the development of our pack into one of the better ones in the competition. Paulie did miss some games as rep commitments and injuries took their toll, but he was dynamic, leading by example on and off the field.

In the halves the team was well served by Kiwi acquisition Marama Penetito, who was a relative of Donny Nepia' s, and had a fine rugby pedigree. It did take Ma a few games to settle back into playing rugby, but he formed a formidable combination with Tom Baker who took on a lot of responsibility as he was appointed captain and was also the goal kicker.

Charlie Curry and Ben Crowley came into the halves when required and fitted in commendably as they were first grade quality players in their own right. A big loss was Donny Nepia who only played one game before injury took its toll.

The back five group was a stable bunch as far as personnel went but there were a lot of positional changes throughout the season.

The centre pairing started with Sam Latu and Dan Ward but after a few games two students in George Rixon and Jonathon Lally excelled in the lower grades and forced their way into the top grade after a few rounds and were together for the Finals.

On the wings Rueben Thompson played nearly every game, while Lachlan Conyers and Simon Douch were also solid performers on the other wing. Towards the semi-finals Sam Latu moving onto the wing was a master stroke as his hard running was difficult for opposition teams to combat.

The fullback position was a bit of a merry go round as a number of players were given the chance to nail down a place in the team. Justin Stanbrook, Lachlan Conyers, and Jonathon Lally played games in the fullback role but as the season progressed Simon Douch came into his own and dominated from the back as his size and pace caused teams all sorts of problems.

First Grade Finalists 2017



Back Row:	Ian Lamb (manager)	Luca Fierravanti (asst manager)	Paul Tuala	Casey Rameka		
	Dan Reed	Andy Rae	Will Wood	Rueben Thompson	Simon Douch	Ryan Witherdin
	Jonathon Lally	Damien Mei	Donny Nepia (coach)	Shaun McCreedy (coach)		
Middle Row:	Ben Cheetham	Takunda Chimwaza	Daniel Taufahema	Marmara Penetito		
	Wayne Ngatai	Tom Baker	Bailey Lamb	George Rixon	Charlie Curry	
Front Row:	TeAhurei McCreedy	Rocky Tuala (Ball Boys)				

THE SEASON

The pre- season was horrendous due to the extremely wet weather we encountered. Many training sessions were confined to indoors and we were unable to even contest any trial games. This meant that we were struggling to develop combinations and even identify new players who were capable of playing in the top grade.

We started the competition with a couple of reasonable victories over Camden (26-6) and Tech Waratahs (64-5) but neither of these teams were going to get to the semis.

A problem that did emerge in these two wins, and one that was to be a factor in many games, was that we found it difficult to score points in the first half. We defended strongly but couldn't put teams under a lot of scoreboard pressure. Our fitness allowed us to dominate most games in the second half, but the starts were a worry for the coaches.

The opportunity to develop our teamwork was hindered by the Easter break and then unfortunately, the weather Gods rained on our parade, and we were obliged to defer our Rd 3 game against Campbelltown.

What followed this three-week lull was a match up against the best team in the comp in Avondale. The "Mallee Bulls" were down by 7-0 at the break and in an entertaining 40 minutes, Avondale proved too good winning convincingly 33-19.

Representative rugby then forced a week's break as 18 Uni players were involved in Illawarra's Senior and u/20 Country Championship squads. Four of our forwards, Paul Tuala, Andy Rae, Andy Papworth and Wayne Ngatai, were all selected in the Country Team and therefore missed three games in the middle of the season, along with coach McCreedy, which was not ideal.

Injuries which were incurred when on rep duties also cut significantly into Paulie's, Andy Rae's and Simon Douch's seasons while the other big loss was Andy Papworth who had work curtail his season to only four games.

What followed the week off were games against three of the leading teams. The game against Shamrocks at their home ground was expected to be a bit fiery after last season but in the end, we were simply well beaten 25-6 by a better side.

Our situation worsened when we suffered consecutive defeats to the two big improvers in the competition in Bowral (15-27) and Vikings (21-26).

Things were becoming a tad desperate, especially with the holidays upon us, as we were in a battle for fourth spot with Shoalhaven, Kiama and Shamrocks. It was at this time that our experience and ability came out and we picked up good wins over Shoalhaven (25-12) and Kiama (28-21).

We also started to get troops back on deck from injuries and rep duties and we played some good rugby in recording a hard-fought victory over Tech Waratahs (34-13) -after being behind 8-3 at the break and wins over Campbelltown (31-12) in the deferred game on a Wednesday night and then (42-0) on the following Saturday.

We then hit a bit of a bump with a heavy loss to the undefeated Avondale (14-53) but then extracted revenge at home on Shamrocks (27-6), which was very sweet.

Unfortunately, we lost our next game to Vikings (10-31) and so still found ourselves in a dog fight with Shoalhaven and Shamrocks for the fourth spot.

We became a bit complacent as we then bumbled our way to an eight all draw against a very poor Camden outfit that had everyone concerned that the wheels had fallen off.

The turning point came when we travelled to Bowral and overcame having two players in the bin and Paulie sent off and still defeated the Blacks (31-22). This win provided the momentum for us to complete the round games with solid performances against Shoalhaven (36-24) and Kiama (45-25).

The final washup saw us finish in 4th spot behind two improving teams in Vikings and Bowral. However, the undisputed Minor Premiers was Avondale who went through the rounds undefeated and were raging favourites to win the comp.

First Grade Points Table 2017

Pos	Team	Played	Won	Lost	Draw	-/+	BP4T	BP-7P	Points	Total
1	Avondale	18	18	0	0	471	16	0	72	88
2	Vikings	18	15	2	1	266	15	2	62	79
3	Bowral	18	13	5	0	216	12	1	52	65
4	University	18	11	6	1	131	11	1	46	58
5	Shamrocks	18	9	9	0	6	10	4	36	50
6	Shoalhaven	18	7	11	0	-25	11	1	28	40
7	Kiama	18	5	13	0	-181	6	1	20	27
8	Campbelltown	18	4	13	1	-305	5	3	18	26
9	Camden	18	3	14	1	-260	4	2	14	20
10	Tech Waratahs	18	3	15	0	-319	4	4	12	20

SECOND GRADE

This was always going to be a tough year with lots of personnel and coaching changes from 2016 and things were not helped by the disjointed start to the year, especially when you consider that we had 42 new players join the club this year.

Players

The playing group was a mix of the old and the new and the fact that so many young players were given exposure to grade rugby for the first time was encouraging for the coming seasons. The core of the forward pack was built around some experienced players but even many of these guys were only in their early 20's. Unfortunately, two big factors on the team's performance were the large number of injuries that ruled players out for a number of games and the fact that a significant number of students were unavailable during the six-week holiday/Exam period...

One of the significant changes from 2016 was a lack of experienced front rowers due to the retirement of number of quality props. Seconds were able to call on Sam Laurie who played well above his weight and he was joined by Patty Byrnes in the front row. Daniel Thompson was also on the scene when work allowed, and his size was a bonus in tight. Up and coming Junior rep player Daniel Taufahema was a welcome addition until he was elevated into the top grade near the semis. The hooking duties were taken on by our American exchange student, Charles 'Chuck' Hamilton, until he had to return home towards the end of the season and was a big loss. Bailey Lamb also gained some experience as a hooker and did a commendable job in this new role.

In the second row we used a number of youngsters making their way into grade from our Colts teams from previous years. Todd Wilson started the season but was injured early on and his place was then shared by Lachlan Fowke and Lachlan Northey. Another young gun who played in the tight five was Jonah Potgieter-Denton who fluctuated between first and second grade. One player who was returning from a serious ankle injury was Nathan Illy who worked his way up from thirds to pack down in the second row.

As far as loose forwards went, we were able to play three outstanding leaders in Phil Johnson, Rob Leane and newcomer Eoin Power, whose experience was vital. Eoin also packed down in the second row at times. The young guns in Bailey Lamb, Wangchuk Tshoko and Opeti Taufahema, all of whom were u/20, really developed during the season and showed that they possessed the ability and toughness to match it with more experienced opponents. A mid-season inclusion was Ryan Witherdin who was making a return to the field after a serious injury. Ryan's ability soon saw him move up to first grade.

Second Grade 2017



Back Row:	Matthias Wann	Chris Duxfield	Lachlan Fowkes	Michael McKenzie	Harry Cummins
	Dave Grimson	Eoin Power	Jonathon Cudaj	Opeti Taufahema	Evan Paota-Smith (coach)
Middle Row:	Justin Stanbrook	Lachlan Conyers	Andrew Johnson	Phil Johnson	Zac Gorman
	Rowan Wilson				
Front Row:	Ben Crowley	Alphonso Pyne	Dan Ward	Pat Byrnes	

Rhys Handcock was a steady influence at the back of the scrum, and he always gave a lot of confidence to the players around him.

Other forwards who regularly stepped up from Thirds included Dave Grimson, Michael McKenzie and Jonathon Cudaj. These blokes frequently backed up from the bench and were welcome additions to the squad.

The backs were a bit more 'mature' with the inclusion of several first-grade quality players. The halves combination was a standout with Ben Crowley and Charlie Curry being the on-field generals but unfortunately Charlie was used extensively in first grade. Others to wear the number 10 jumper were Rowan Wilson, until injured, and Pat Perillo who was a bit of 'fixit guy' who also played games in the centres. It must be said that losing Patty to an overseas holiday did leave a big hole in the team.

The centres were primarily Matthias Wann, who played his 100th game for the club, and youngster Harry Cummins. Rookie Jake Monk was unfortunately injured just when he was finding his way in the early rounds and missed the rest of the season.

The shining light in the backs was Chris Duxfield who started the season on the wing but was dynamite in attack when he switched to fullback after an injury to Brad Reed ruled him out for the season. Chris' blistering pace saw him cross for 15 tries, many of them scored from long distances.

Nathen Maker was a handy acquisition on the wing while Lachlan Conyers also played games when not selected in the top grade. Others to show case their speed and ability were Michael Shambira and Alphonso Pyne who were a constant threat to the opposition.

Andrew Johnson, Jonathon Cudaj, Rob Mardus and Nathan Illy were among the third graders who regularly came up into the higher grade and proved that they were more than capable of handling the jump in class.

THE SEASON

It was a disrupted start to the season that was made worse by the change of coach that happened when Dave Reed was forced to stand down. Thankfully Leon Mason and Evan Paota-Smith came on board and helped steer the young guys in the right direction, but it was frustrating at times.

The fact that the guys finished 6th and missed the semis for the first time in a while can be attributed to them losing so many close games, often against leading teams. When you consider the performances against Minor Premiers Camden (0-10 and 17-23), Premiers Bowral (26-0 and 7-17) and semi-finalists Vikings (14-15, after leading with seconds to go, and 26-30) and Avondale (0-19) you can see that the lads weren't far off the pace.

The sticking point was a couple of poor performances against Shamrocks (12-31 and a 12 all draw that should have been a victory), while the most disappointing efforts came against Shoalhaven when we failed to show any real commitment and lost 24-33 and Avondale where we lost 53-14

Inconsistency also showed through even in some games. In the first clash with Campbelltown the guys shot out to a 19-point half time lead only to have to rely on a Charlie Curry Penalty to record the one-point win.

On the positive side of things, the results against Tech Waratahs (34-3 and 40-24), Kiama (63-0 and 72-12), Campbelltown (22-21 and 36-27) emphasised the ability in the team to play good attacking rugby. This was also on display when we downed Shoalhaven at home 36-24 in the second last round and I think showed to the lads that they were more than capable of playing in the end of season games.

The hard lessons learned along the way this year by the young brigade will serve them well in the coming seasons.

Second Grade Points Table 2017

Pos	Team	Played	Won	Lost	Draw	-/+	BP4T	BP-7P	Points	Total
1	Camden	18	14	3	1	225	11	0	58	69
2	Vikings	18	14	4	0	202	11	1	56	68
3	Avondale	17	12	4	1	249	9	3	50	62
4	Bowral	18	10	7	1	165	7	3	42	52
5	Shamrocks	18	9	7	2	156	6	5	40	51
6	University	18	8	9	1	128	9	3	34	46
7	Shoalhaven	18	7	10	1	-121	4	3	30	37
8	Campbelltown	18	5	12	1	-72	6	4	22	30
9	Tech Waratahs	18	5	13	0	-241	3	0	20	23
10	Kiama	17	1	16	0	-691	2	2	4	8

THIRD GRADE

The Players

As is the case every year third grade's playing numbers varied from feast to famine. The fact that there was not a colt's competition had a big impact on the entire club as we had over 25 players keen to have a run in the colt's side. When the comp failed to eventuate, it meant that there was an overabundance of players to give games to in third grade. The fact that training was disrupted by wet weather and a lack of trial games also meant that it was impossible to effectively judge players ability before the season started causing difficulties in team selections.

This frustrating situation was made worse when Coach Grennell was forced to travel to Newcastle for work and then had to travel overseas and was not on hand for a long period of time. This disruption required Shaun Dutailis and Lee Tanks to reluctantly step into the coaching role until Killer arrived back on the scene.

Playing numbers had a huge impact on the team's ability to function effectively. Statistics can paint a picture of how difficult the situation became. This year saw 87 guys play at least one game for the Thirsty Thirds. Many clubs would love to have this many guys in their entire club! What is interesting is that only 31 of these guys played more than 5 games in thirds during the entire season and only 15 managed to get on the field in over half of the games.

Third Grade 2017



Back Row:	Killian Grennell (coach)	Joel Wilson	Lee Tanks	Nathan Illy	Tom Doyle
	Michael McKenzie	Lachlan Northey	Jakob Walters	Tai Tuala	Beppe Fierravanti
Middle Row:	Rob Mardus	Alphonso Pyne	Dave Shepherd	Corey Fuller	Michael Shambira
	Craig Matereke	Dylan Peppernell	Andrew Johnson		
Front Row:	Robert Pomana	Jack Della	Ed McClymont	Michael Nguyen	Alex Law
	Alex Padayachee	Zac Gorman	James Bull	Will Harris	Shaun Dutailis

Of course, as happens every season, some of these players only managed one or two games as they were helping during the holidays, others moved up the grades, some suffered injuries while others lost interest as they were not getting enough time on the field.

The core group that held the team together consisted of the usual hardy souls who back up each year plus some new blood who developed during the season.

It was rewarding to witness two great club men in Brad Milner and Dave Shepherd share the limelight as they both played 200 games for the beloved Mallee Bulls. It must be said that there was a fair amount of anticipation in getting to this milestone, but it did happen eventually.

Also adding their vast experience to the side were Cristo Crous, Shaun Dutailis and 150 game player, Lee Tanks. These guys all helped keep the ship steady both on and off the field.

In the forward pack Zac Gorman, relishing his role as captain, always led from the front and he and Michael McKenzie, Jonathon Cudaj and Joel Wilson were significant contributors to the team's performances. It was also pleasing to see rep player, Nathan Illy, make it back onto the field after a serious ankle injury threatened his career.

A couple of former juniors in Beppe Fierravanti and Alex Padayachee joined the senior ranks this year and really developed as second rowers as the season progressed. These guys are following in the footsteps of their dads who both graced the field for Uni in the last century.

Other rookies who performed well in the pack were Michael Nguyen, who was outstanding as a loose forward, Chris Satukunlasan and Tom Doyle.

There was not a great deal of experience in the backline for most games and it was often up to Rob Mardus and James Bull to be the guiding lights. Oliver Farrugia and Jakob Walters were both injured early in the season and were big loses. Andrew Johnson was impressive in any position plus did kick a couple of goals while Max Thompson played well in the half back position when available.

The real scoring machine in the backs was speedy Craig Matereke who was the leading try scorer for the team and only injury prevented him from going up the grades. Chris Duxfield also helped in hard times and was always a danger in attack.

Others who made it on the field in several games included Jamie Mason, Rob Pomana, Jack Pople, Ed McClymont, Rowan Wiles, James Montgomery, Doug Doyle, Jack Dalla, Pat Davis, Pat Byrnes, Rob De Abel, Corey Fuller and Alex Law.

The Season

Having three, single team clubs in the competition made it hard especially with Vincentia always being such a high-quality side. Wollondilly and Southern Crushers were new on the scene but also had some more than handy players available when we played them. Add into the mix a Shoalhaven side made up basically of former top-grade players hell bent on getting some pride back in their club and winning was always going to be a big ask for our guys.

We started the season with a bang with good wins over Camden (15-7) and then Southern Crushers (25-7) and it must be said that the boys were looking confident of a good year.

However, Rugby does bring you back to reality and this was the case as we then lost two close games against Shamrocks (8-14) and Avondale by the same score. Both were good efforts, but we couldn't score enough points to get across the line.

We continued to develop and put on very worthy performances against Wollondilly (21-32) and possibly the best two games when we played Shoalhaven (22-26) and Vincentia (6-19). What followed then was possibly the two worst performances of the season when we were well beaten by the two teams that finished in the last two positions in Camden (19-24) and The Crushers (5-38). There were extenuating circumstances in these games as the dreaded exams were happening and many players were not available, but these losses had a significant impact on the team's progress up the points table.

The emergency calls then went out for help over the holidays and many familiar faces donned a jumper and as a result we were able to be competitive in all of the games. Unfortunately, we only secured one victory in this time, against Campbelltown (24-10). However, we were never disgraced, even in defeat, as we went down to Avondale (17-22), Shamrocks (7-17), Wollondilly (12-14), and eventual Premiers Shoalhaven (5-28).

Playing numbers dwindled towards the end of the season and it became difficult to get 15 players together.

The washed-out game against Campbelltown was abandoned as both teams agreed that as it had no bearing on semi-final positions playing mid-week was not an attractive proposition.

The last round saw us travel to Vincentia and we did manage to get a few second-grade guys on the field and as a result we came away with a comprehensive victory, 31-14. The reasoning behind this tactic was as Vincentia have many players capable of playing higher grades and as Kiama were so poor in seconds this was thought to be the best way to give everyone a chance to enjoy two competitive games of rugby. As it turned out the boys also flogged Kiama by seventy points in their game, so everyone came away happy.

It had been a tough year with only four wins but many losses by only a few points. In the wash up, we didn't score enough tries to win these close games.

Too many players, not enough experience, difficult training conditions, too many holidays, not enough players, wet weather disruptions etc. were all contributing factors to a frustrating year.

Third Grade Points Table 2017

Pos	Team	Played	Won	Lost	Draw	-/+	BP4T	BP-7P	Points	Total
1	Shoalhaven	18	14	3	1	204	11	1	58	70
2	Avondale	18	13	3	2	254	12	2	56	70
3	Vincentia	18	11	5	2	175	10	2	48	60
4	Vikings	18	12	5	1	99	8	0	50	58
5	Shamrocks	18	9	7	2	48	3	2	40	45
6	Wollondilly	18	6	10	2	-61	5	3	28	36
7	Campbelltown	17	5	10	2	-94	6	4	24	34
8	University	17	4	13	0	-112	4	6	16	26
9	Camden	18	5	13	0	-200	5	0	20	25
10	Southern Crushers	18	3	13	2	-313	3	2	16	21

RESULTS

Rd 1: Camden at Camden Rugby Park

Firsts Report by Ron Woods – The Rogues Rant

Reigning IDRU Premiers University started the defence of their 2016 Builders Club Premiership title with a hard earned but in the end decisive 26 – 6 win over Camden at Camden Rugby Park. A new look Rams outfit were very competitive but an outstanding defensive effort from the Bulls throughout the first half saw the Rams take a narrow 3 – 0 lead to the break. The Rams first half attack was relentless, but the home side lacked the finesse to finish off several strong scoring opportunities. Scoring four tries after the break the Bulls opened the season with a well-deserved twenty-point win.

After a frantic first ten minutes of the match Camden were reduced to 14 when veteran Lock Daniel Halse was binned by Referee Andrew Strode. Uni were advancing toward the Rams line with a well-constructed driving maul when Halse joined the Maul from quite an acute angle ending the Bulls scoring drive. Camden survived with their line intact during Halse absence and with fly-half Dane Kelly kicking a penalty goal, ended the period with a three-point lead. Camden threw their best at the Uni line but had to settle for just a three-point lead at the break with the Premiers defence outstanding.

The Rams lost blockbusting winger Sisa Bulekolo to the bin one minute from the break for a lifting tackle but maintained their edge on the scoreboard in his absence with another Kelly penalty goal to lead 6 – 0 after fifty-one minutes of the match. With the effects of their strong early effort beginning to show on the Rams, young Uni flanker Takunda Chimwaza started a movement which resulted in the first of the Bulls four tries. Chimwaza broke free forty out from the Rams line before making a long pass to centre Daniel Ward who ran wide turning Wingman Reuben Thompson inside for the try. With the try converted by Fly-half Tom Baker, the Bulls hit the lead 7 - 6 for the first time in the match, at the fifty-five-minute mark.

The tries kept coming when Ward swooped on a loose ball just in the Rams half and raced away to score beside the posts. Chimwaza was instrumental again in the next try when he made a strong run down the clubhouse side of the field before finding winger Simon Douch in support who raced away for a thirty metre try.

With Bulekolo getting his second Yellow card and an automatic Red, for a shoulder charge, the Rams finished the match a man down. In the dying moments of the match Thompson completing a slick Uni backline raid to get his second five pointer, and with Bakers third goal, the Bulls registered their first win of the new season.

Captain Paul Tuala led once again all day from the front for the Bulls with young Chimwaza close to best on ground. Tom Bakers kicking game at No.10 helped Uni out of trouble many times throughout the match with Wayne Ngatai putting in his usual strong performance in tight. Camden was best served by hooker Sa Patiole, Tight Head prop Mathew Morrison, and Halse up front with Kelly, centres Jonah Price and Sam Campbell and fullback Joseph Tildsley busy throughout.

First Grade			
Rd 1– 25/3/17	Camden Rugby Park	University 26	Camden 6
Tries:	Rueben Thompson (2) Dan Ward	Simon Douch	
Goals:	Tom Baker (3)	Pen Goals:	

Second Grade			
Rd 1 – 25/3/17	Camden Rugby Park	University 0	Camden 10
Tries:	n/a		
Goals:		Pen Goals:	

Third Grade			
Rd 1 – 25/3/17	Camden Rugby Park	University 15	Camden 7
Tries:	Nathan Illy Shaun Dutailis		
Goals:	Rowan Wilson (1)	Pen Goals:	Rowan Wilson (1)

Rd 2: Tech Waratahs at University Oval

First Grade					
Rd 2 – 1/4/17	University Oval			University 64	Tech Waratahs 5
Tries:	Ben Cheetham (3)	Casey Rameka	Damien Mei	Takunda Chimwaza	Paul Tuala
	Marama Penetito	Dan Ward	Lachlan Conyers		
Goals:	Tom Baker (6)	Charlie Curry (1)		Pen Goals:	

Second Grade					
Rd 2 – 1/4/17	University Oval			University 34	Tech Waratahs 3
Tries:	Pat Perillo (2)	Wangchuk Tshoko	Chris Duxfield	Ben Crowley	
Goals:	Charlie Curry (2)			Pen Goals:	

Third Grade				
Rd 2 – 1/4/17	University Oval		University 25	Southern Crushers 7
Tries:	Craig Matereke (2)	Sahil Kapoor	Max Barber	
Goals:	Brad Reed (1)		Pen Goals:	Brad Reed (1)

Rd 3: Campbelltown at Campbelltown Showground

WASHED OUT – played 20/6/17

Rd 4: Avondale at University Oval

Firsts Report by Ron Woods – The Rogues Rant

In an entertaining energetic Round 4 IDRU Builders Club Premiership match at University Oval, Avondale has claimed a clear competition lead with a 33 – 19 victory over the University Bulls. After a first half defensive effort described by rookie coach Murray MacDonald as “Awesome”, Avondale held a narrow 7 – 0 lead at the break. In contrast to a torrid first half, the second term produced seven tries with the Wombats outscoring the students four tries to three.

Avondale opened the scoring with a try to wingman Blake Spencer after ten minutes play in which both sides showed their intention to throw the ball around. Spencer scored in the left corner after the ball was spread across the Wombat backline from a scrum wide on the Uni 22 metre line. Fly Half Silipa Tuigamala converted the try for the only points of the first half.

Despite the lack of points the crowd was entertained with some open football from both sides as attack was the order of the day. Avondale struggled at times to clear their own line but produced an outstanding defensive effort to deny the Bulls any points. With both Wombat fullback Jacob Kara and Tuigamala having trouble finding touch from their clearing kicks, Uni confirmed their rating as the counterattack specialists of the competition, mounting wave after wave at the Wombat line. The Wombat defensive effort during this period proved to be the ultimate difference between the two sides at the end of the day.

Uni finished the first half with a run of penalties which produced a general warning for Avondale from Referee Richard McMullen. The penalties continued into the second term eventually resulting in Wombat winger William Taiti-Taanoa being sent to the bin for ten after forty-four minutes of the match. Three tries were scored during the sin bin period, two for Uni and one to Avondale.

The first came when Bull centre Sam Latu took full advantage of a quick penalty tap taken on the Wombat 22 to charge over carrying two defenders with him. With the try converted by Tom Baker the

scores were equal at 7 all. Within minutes the Avondale forwards carried play deep into the Uni quarter and after a series of pick and drives, Tight Head Prop Paula Tausala powered through a ruck of players to score wide on the left. A beautiful conversion from touch by Tuigamala put the Wombats back out to a seven-point lead.

Uni lost fly-half Baker to the blood bin shortly after and took the opportunity to make some personnel changes. Replacement prop Andrew Papworth got involved very quickly with a rampaging run down the left flank on the halfway. The run resulted in centre Daniel Ward finding space in support as he outsprinted the defence from forty metres out to score. With Baker off in the blood bin, replacement player Justin Stanbrook made an unsuccessful conversion attempt and Avondale led 14 – 12 at the sixty-fifth minute.

Winger Taiti-Taanoa returned for Avondale and was immediately involved in one of the tries of the match in combination with Fullback Kara. From a scrum on the halfway Kara joined the backline putting his winger away down the right. When cornered by the defence Taiti-Taanoa deftly kicked ahead with Kara winning the race to the perfectly bouncing ball to extend his sides lead. Tuigamala goaled again for a 21 – 12 lead with sixteen minutes left on the clock.

Kara was again heavily involved in the next try by his Captain Andre Itula. Kara ran off Itula on the halfway sprinting down the left touchline. He swerved in field trying to set up his winger and as he drew the Uni defenders found Itula wrapping around in support. The skipper crossed wide out untouched and with another conversion from Tuigamala, Avondale held a commanding 28 – 12 lead.

Evergreen Bulls captain Paul Tuala was heavily involved in much of what happened in this match as is the case more often than not from this champion player. With four minutes left on the clock a Wombat player was caught in front of the kicker at a 22 metre drop out. From the ensuing scrum Tuala took the ball from the back pushing off several attempted tackles from Wombat defenders before sprinting away to score a very special try under the posts to breathe some life back into the Students afternoon. Baker kicked the conversion to bring his side to within nine of the lead, but it was all too late for the defending Premiers.

Rubbing salt into the Bulls wounds, winger Blake Spencer crossed for his second try after collecting a miss directed pass by Uni half Marama Penetito in the closing seconds of the match. With Tuigamala missing his last shot at goal for the day the try brought up the final score of 33 – 19.

In a very enthusiastic performance from both sides, it is hard to single out players for special mention. Both packs of forwards worked tirelessly all day to create scoring opportunities and to defend their line. The two number eights Tuala for Uni and Steven Fuka for Avondale led their sides with gusto throughout with their respective packs working themselves to a standstill by match end.

For Uni flanker Damien Mei wasn't far behind his captain with Casey Rameka, Wayne Ngatai and youngster Takunda Chimwaza prominent. Tom Baker and centres Daniel Ward and Sam Latu were strong. The Avondale pack, led by Fuka was just as impressive with Anthony Amone, Paul Peterson, Kyle Moody and Kearin Jack worthy of mention. But it's the Avondale backs led by captain Itula that continue to express their confidence with the likes of Jacob Kara and centre Thomas Tupuoloa-Leato showing the way. The form of fly-half Silipa Tuigamala is proving to be instrumental in much of what the Wombats do.

Def University 19 (Sam Latu 1 try, Daniel Ward 1 try, Paul Tuala 1 try, Tom Baker 2 goals)

First Grade			
Rd 4 – 22/4/17	University Oval		Avondale 33
Tries:	Sam Latu	Dan Ward	Paul Tuala
Goals:	Tom Baker (2)		Pen Goals:

Second Grade			
Rd 4 – 22/4/17	University Oval		Avondale 19
Tries:	n/a		
Goals:	Pen Goals:		

Third Grade			
Rd 4 – 22/4/17	University Oval	University 8	Avondale 14
Tries:	Max Thompson		
Goals:	George Rixon	Pen Goals:	

Rd 5: Shamrocks at Ocean Park

First Grade			
Rd 5– 6/5/17	Ocean Park	University 5	Shamrocks 26
Tries:	Ben Cheetham		
Goals:	Pen Goals:		

Second Grade			
Rd 5– 6/5/17	Ocean Park	University 12	Shamrocks 31
Tries:	Jon Lally (2)		
Goals:	Charlie Curry (1)	Pen Goals:	

Third Grade			
Rd 5– 6/5/17	Ocean Park	University 8	Shamrocks 14
Tries:	Jakob Walters		
Goals:	Andrew Johnson (1)	Pen Goals:	

Rd 6: Vikings at University Oval

Firsts Report by Ron Woods – The Rogues Rant

In a pulsating entertaining match at University Oval, Vikings have boosted their premiership credentials with a thrilling 26 – 21 victory over the University Bulls. In the round six IDRU Builders Club Premiership match a large crowd enjoyed a closely contested eighty minutes in which the lead changed seven times before the Blueys lifted late to pinch the result from the defending premiers. Coming off a disappointing effort against Shamrocks last week, the students started the match with high intensity out enthralling the Blueys at the breakdown throughout the first half. In a sign that there was not much between the sides in the opening half each side scored two tries before the Bulls went to the break with a one-point lead. Vikings crossed for two second half tries to secure the bonus point win, confirming second spot on the table and leaving Uni seventh after six rounds.

The Bulls welcomed back skipper Paul Tuala and veteran Donovan Nepia who were instrumental in the early stages of the match. With Nepia showing his outstanding kicking game getting Uni out of early trouble, it was a Uni trademark rolling maul that produced the first points after four minutes. Hard working flanker Damien Mei got the five pointer for Uni to take an early lead of 7 – 0 after Nepia's conversion.

Both sides contributed to what was a very high paced game, keeping the large Ladies Day crowd enthralled. On the back of four phases of play close to the Uni line, diminutive Vikings No.8 Simon Watts stole a try for his side sneaking down the side of a maul from close range. Illawarrior halfback Tommy Sawden converted for the scores to be equal after twenty minutes.

Nepia stole the lead back within two minutes when he strolled through some feeble Vikings defence to score from thirty out. But the ever-busy Watts returned serve shortly after for Vikings to take back the lead. Vikings were attacking the Uni line with a penalty pending when most players were backing off the pressure as Watts showed all his experience to toe through a loose ball and win the race for the try. With Sawden converting the Blueys took back the lead 14 -12. Nepia put over a penalty goal in the dying seconds of the half for Uni to snatch back the lead at the break 15 – 14.

Six minutes into the second term with Uni continuing to have the better of the breakdown, the students bombed what proved to be their only try scoring opportunity of the half knocking on over the line. Vikings defensive effort was the deciding factor of the match as the game continued at an exceptional pace. With a succession of penalties allowing Uni to attack for a considerable period,

Nepia finally decided to put over another penalty goal as the Uni attack was continually frustrated by the Blueys strong defensive effort. After fifteen minutes of the half Uni now clung to 18 – 14 lead.

With the Bulls showing tiring signs from their effort, Vikings hit back in the sixty-fifth minute with a barging try to captain Joel Diggins, taking back the lead 19 – 18. The sixth lead change came when Nepia put over another penalty goal for the Bulls to lead again at 21 – 19 with ten to go.

The pace of the match started to take its toll on both sides as the respective coaches made changes in search of some much-needed energy. With the Vikings bench proving to be more productive, it was Vikings who managed to lift in the closing stages as replacement players Mathew Jones, and Jason Reid inspired a second effort from the visitors.

The Blueys had the better of the play in the dying stages with the winning try coming to one of their best Michael Ashby. Ashby running at an angle off halfback Sawden finished off a period of Viking dominance to seal the match with Sawden's third conversion attempt going over to bring up the final score.

Uni were once again well served by forwards Paul Tuala, Wayne Ngatai and Damien Mei with Nepia producing his usual quality performance in the centres. With Country Cockatoo training camps and matches coming up over the next few rounds meaning that the champs will be missing key personnel, the student's defence of their 2016 title could now be in some trouble.

Young Vikings Lock Cody Roman was outstanding for the winners today with fly-half Andrew Turbayne and Michael Ashby continuing to produce strong performances for the club. With Joel Diggins, Jack Hobbs and Tom Sawden once again strong for the Blueys, there are sure to be more wins for the club as their 60th Anniversary year rolls on.

First Grade			
Rd 6– 13/5/17	University Oval	University 21	Vikings 26
Tries:	Damien Mei Donny Nepia		
Goals:	Donny Nepia (1)	Pen Goals:	Donny Nepia (3)

Second Grade			
Rd 6– 13/5/17	University Oval	University 14	Vikings 15
Tries:	Jonathon Lally Rhys Handcock		
Goals:	Rowan Wilson (2)	Pen Goals:	

Third Grade			
Rd 6– 13/5/17	University Oval	University 10	Vikings 21
Tries:	Alasdair Kirkby Michael Martin		
Goals:		Pen Goals:	

Rd 7: Bowral at University Oval

First Grade			
Rd 7– 20/5/17	University Oval	University 15	Bowral 27
Tries:	Damien Mei Jonathon Lally		
Goals:	Tom Baker (1)	Pen Goals:	Tom Baker (1)

Second Grade			
Rd 7– 20/5/17	University Oval	University 26	Bowral 0
Tries:	Chris Duxfield (2) Phil Johnson Rob Leane		
Goals:	Charles Curry (3)	Pen Goals:	

Third Grade			
Rd 7– 20/5/17	University Oval	University	Wollondilly
Tries:			
Goals:		Pen Goals:	

Rd 8: Shoalhaven at Shoalhaven Rugby Park

First Grade					
Rd 8– 27/5/17	Shoalhaven Rugby Park			University 25	Shoalhaven 12
Tries:	Will Wood	Ben Cheetham	Dan Ward	Simon Douch	
Goals:	Tom Baker (1)			Pen Goals:	Tom Baker (1)

Second Grade					
Rd 8– 27/5/17	Shoalhaven Rugby Park			University 24	Shoalhaven 33
Tries:	Alphonso Pyne (2)	Brad Reed	Chris Duxfield		
Goals:	Justin Stanbrook (1)	Brad Reed (1)	Pen Goals:		

Third Grade					
Rd 8– 27/5/17	Shoalhaven Rugby Park			University 22	Shoalhaven 26
Tries:	Sam Nicholls	Craig Materেকে	Rowan Wiles	Shaun Dutailis	
Goals:	Max Thompson (1)			Pen Goals:	

Rd 9: Kiama at University Oval

First Grade					
Rd 9– 3/6/17	University Oval			University 28	Kiama 21
Tries:	Ben Cheetham	Tom Baker	Bailey Lamb	Pen Try	
Goals:				Pen Goals:	Tom Baker (2)

Second Grade					
Rd 9– 3/6/17	University Oval			University 63	Kiama 0
Tries:	Michael Shambira (2)	Jake Monk (2)	Harry Cummins	Pat Perillo	
	Matthias Wann (2)	Lachlan Conyers	Chris Duxfield	Jonah Potgeiter-Denton	
Goals:	Jake Monk (3)	Pat Perillo (1)	Pen Goals:		

Third Grade					
Rd 9– 3/6/17	University Oval			University 6	Vincentia 19
Tries:					
Goals:				Pen Goals:	Andrew Johnson (2)

Rd 10: Camden at University Oval WASHED OUT – played 22/7/17

Rd 11: Tech Waratahs played at Albion Park High School

First Grade					
Rd 11– 17/6/17	Albion Park HS			University 34	Tech Waratahs 13
Tries:	Rob Leane	Damien Mei	George Rixon	Jon Lally	Rueben Thompson
Goals:	Tom Baker (3)			Pen Goals:	Tom Baker (1)

Second Grade					
Rd 11– 17/6/17	Albion Park HS			University 40	Tech Waratahs 24
Tries:	Chris Duxfield (3)	Phil Johnson	Matthias Wann	Ethan Maker	
Goals:	Charlie Curry (5)			Pen Goals:	

Third Grade			
Rd 11– 17/6/17	Albion Park HS	University 5	A.P. Southern Crushers 38
Tries:	Craig Matereke		
Goals:	Pen Goals:		

Rd 3: Deferred game – Campbelltown at Campbelltown Showground

First Grade			
Rd 3– 20/6/17	Campbelltown S'Ground	University 31	Campbelltown 12
Tries:	Rob Leane (2)	Tom Baker	George Rixon
Goals:	Tom Baker (3)	Pen Goals:	

Second Grade			
Rd 3– 20/6/17	Campbelltown S'Ground	University 22	Campbelltown 21
Tries:	Phil Johnson	Matthias Wann	Ethan Maker
Goals:	Charlie Curry (2)	Pen Goals: Charlie Curry (1)	

Rd 12: Campbelltown at University Oval

First Grade					
Rd 12– 24/6/17	University Oval			University 42	Campbelltown 0
Tries:	Jon Lally (2)	Rueben Thompson (2)	Sam Laurie	Damien Mei	Lachlan Conyers
Goals:	Tom Baker (2)	Pen Goals: Tom Baker (1)			

Second Grade					
Rd 12– 24/6/17	University Oval			University 36	Campbelltown 27
Tries:	Ryan Witherdin (2)	Alphonso Pyne	Pat Perillo	Chris Duxfield	
Goals:	Charlie Curry (3)	Pen Goals:			

Third Grade					
Rd 12– 24/6/17	University Oval			University 24	Campbelltown 10
Tries:	Zac Gorman	Jack Della	Lee Tanks	Pat Perillo	
Goals:	Andrew Johnson (2)	Pen Goals:			

Rd 13: Avondale at Gerry Cappetta Oval

Firsts Report by Ron Woods – The Rogues Rant

The Avondale Wombats have made their most emphatic statement of the year handing out a 53 – 14 thrashing to IDRU defending Premiers University. In a completely dominate first half performance in which the Wombats crossed for six tries; the Bulls had no answer to the power game of the competition leaders. With big forwards Anthony Amone, Steven Fuka and Shane Makea charging forward University were totally outmuscled as Avondale set up a match winning 34 – 0 half time lead. To their credit the Bulls came out after the break and put plenty of pressure on the Wombat defensive line but were unable to break through until the last ten minutes of the match. Avondale had added three more tries to establish a fifty-three-point lead before going into cruise mode over the dying stages of the match allowing the Bulls to put on two late tries.

With the Wombat forwards owning the middle of the field and having a completely dominate scrum throughout the match the Avondale attacking machine was in full swing with try doubles to Winger Blake Spencer and prop Anthony Amone. Andre Itula was outstanding out wide running at will scoring once himself and having a hand in five of the other eight Wombat tries. The performance was even more meritorious as the Wombats played most of the match without outstanding fly half Silipa Tuigamala who was once again left out of the starting side after he missed training through the week. As a second half replacement, Tuigamala scored a try himself and combined brilliantly with his captain Itula to set up Blake Spencer's second try.

With Amone taking the side forward from the start the first try to Spencer was scored after one minute with the winger taking full advantage of the space made available to him by Itula. Minutes later after a tight head scrum win close to the Uni line, flanker Kearin Jack carried two defenders over the line after a stepping run from ten metres out. The third try came from Amone when he found himself in an attacking position out in the backline and after running more like a centre he scored the sides third try after twenty minutes play.

Itula scored next with a scything run from forty out, scoring without a defensive player laying a hand on him. The next try came from the restart when Uni failed to kick the ball ten metres and a scrum was ordered on the halfway. Itula broke free down the left and produced a beautiful flick pass infield to a well-positioned Blake Spencer, who resembled a pin ball as he bounced off defenders before finding fly half Antonio Ale on the burst who scored the sides fifth try. Amone finished off the scoring for the first half with a strong bullocking run from close range. With only two of the tries converted the Wombats had established a commanding 34 – 0 half time advantage.

The Bulls started the second term at pace and with some outstanding work from Flankers Damien Mei and Takunda Chimwaza along with Lock William Wood the Bulls put plenty of pressure on the Wombat line but were unable to break through the strong Avondale defensive pattern. In the best period of the match for the Bulls it was fifteen minutes before more Wombat tries came. Replacement forward William Taiti-Taanoa scored from close range after a series of mauls before Blake Spencer got his second in what was the try of the match. Tuigamala started the play with a strong run from just in his own half before he put Itula into space and the big centre drew the defence for Spencer to race away and score. With the try converted by Tuigamala the Wombats were now out to 46 – 0 after sixty minutes. With ten minutes left Tuigamala backed up another strong run from Itula to bump off several would-be tacklers in a thirty-metre run to score and convert the final Wombat try.

Sam Latu scored the first of Uni’s late tries when he ran at a clever angle to break through the Wombat line. Replacement forward Bailey Lamb scored from close range in the dying moments of the match and with Tom Baker converting both tries the final score was complete.

In a beaten side University No.8 Damien Mei was outstanding, with young Flanker Chimwaza not far behind. Lock William Wood worked hard throughout earning points in the IDRU Player of the Year award. Missing players today away at the Cockatoos match in Newcastle, the Bulls will be happy to see the rep season behind them. Despite the loss today they retain fourth spot on the table but now need to build on their recent performances if they are to be any chance of repeating last year’s premiership winning late season run.

Avondale Coach Murray MacDonald rated the performance as the best from his side all season. “I couldn’t be happier with how we went today; it was definitely our most complete display of the year. Our structures are improving, and I know we can play to a high standard on a consistent basis. I’m not getting carried away though, the way the competition is you only need to have an off day and you will get beaten”.

The best for the Wombats today were Anthony Amone and Steve Fuka up front and along with great performances from Itula, Spencer and Tuigamala in the backs, centre Nua Alone took maximum points in the Player of the Year for his high impact defensive game and strong supportive attacking game.

Avondale 53 (Blake Spencer 2 tries, Anthony Amone 2 tries, Kearin Jack 1 try, Antonio Ale 1 try, William Taiti-Taanoa 1 try, Andre Itula 1 try, 1 goal, Silipa Tuigamala 1 try, 2 goals, Jacob Kara 1 goal)

First Grade			
Rd 13 – 1/7/17	Gerry Cappetta Oval	University 14	Avondale 53
Tries:	Sam Latu	Bailey Lamb	
Goals:	Tom Baker (2)	Pen Goals:	

Second Grade			
Rd 13 – 1/7/17	Gerry Cappetta Oval	University 21	Avondale 33
Tries:	Ryan Witherdin	Rhys Handcock	Harry Cummins
Goals:	Charlie Curry (3)	Pen Goals:	

Third Grade			
Rd 13 – 1/7/17	Gerry Cappetta Oval	University 17	Avondale 22
Tries:	Chris Duxfield (3)		
Goals:	Pat Perillo (1)	Pen Goals:	

Rd 14: Shamrocks at University Oval

Grade			
Rd 14 – 8/7/17	University Oval	University 27	Shamrocks 6
Tries:	Andy Rae	Will Wood	Ryan Witherdin
			George Rixon
Goals:	Tom Baker (2)	Pen Goals:	Tom Baker (1)

Grade			
Rd 14 – 8/7/17	University Oval	University 12	Shamrocks 12
Tries:	Sam Laurie	Chris Duxfield	
Goals:	Charles Curry (1)	Pen Goals:	

Grade			
Rd 14 – 8/7/17	University Oval	University 7	Shamrocks 17
Tries:	Matt Lee		
Goals:	James Bull (1)	Pen Goals:	

Rd 15: Vikings at Vikings Oval

Firsts Report by Ron Woods – The Rogues Rant

A revving up from coach Sean Barrett during the week has sparked Vikings to reenforce their second spot on the IDRUG table with a four try 31 – 10 victory over defending premiers University. In contrast to an out of sorts performance last week Vikings took control of the match at Vikings Oval and never allowed the Bulls any opportunity to challenge for the points.

A well-structured powerful performance from their forwards and an outstanding contribution from veteran backs Michael Ashby and Andrew Barrett saw the Blueys cement second spot on the ladder remaining nine points clear of third placed Bowral. Bowral will have a chance to close the gap when they play Shoalhaven on Tuesday night in their deferred round one match.

“We needed to lift our intensity compared to last weeks speed bump performance and today it was right up there where it needs to be” said coach Barrett at the end of the game. “Our captain Joel Diggins led from the front as he has done all year and Andrew Barrett and Jack Hobbs really had a strong impact today”.

With halfback Tommy Sawden scoring a try and kicking a conversion and a penalty goal in the first half Vikings held a 10 – 0 lead at the break. The Bulls competed throughout the first half but a lack of intensity and some poor option taking gave the small crowd a sense of the inevitable about the result. The Blueys went right on with the job in the second term scoring two tries within seven minutes of the restart.

The match started at pace with both sides showing a willingness to play open football, but it was the Blueys who settled into their structured game to dominate for much of the half. Sawden scored the first try after twelve minutes with winger Daniel Bunten making a strong run from inside his own half down the right flank. Sawden positioned himself perfectly to take the inside pass from his wingman and scoot the final thirty metres to score.

Uni were unlucky not to score in the twenty fifth minute when one of their best Country rep Lock Andrew Rae burst over the line only to see Referee Andrew Strode rule the final pass forward. A try at that point may have spurred the Bulls onto a better performance but inept play and poor handling became more the order of the day for the Bulls as the match progressed.

After the break Vikings settled into the structured play that has taken them to second spot on the table as they took a strangle hold on the match with two tries in quick succession. Jack Hobbs got the first on the back of some power football from his forward mates as he took a couple of defenders over the line with him from ten out.

Andrew Barrett showed all his power and speed as he put on a classic try from forty metres out with an angled run leaving defenders clutching at air. With Sawden adding the extras for both tries the Blueys had control of the match at 24 – 0 after forty-seven minutes.

Simon Douch playing at Fullback for the Bulls responded shortly after by backing up a break down the left by Rueben Thompson to score the Bulls first try. The try raised the hopes of the student's supporters but with some inept and clumsy periods of play dogging their effort the Bulls just couldn't mount a concerted challenge for the lead.

Sawden and Barrett combined to create and score the Blueys forth try catching the Uni defence napping in the clubhouse corner. Sawden made one of his characteristic darting runs down the narrow side and when cornered put in a grubber kick into the Uni in goal. With three Uni defenders milling around the ball and no one committing to the ball, Barrett snuck in and grounded the ball for the bonus point try with fifteen left on the clock. Sawden converted from the touch line with his fifth goal for the day from as many attempts for a 31 – 5 score line.

With Vikings coach Sean Barrett emptying his bench over the closing ten minutes of the match. Uni were able to pull one back when prop forward Casey Rameka scored a well-deserved try as full time arrived. Uni will be disappointed with today's effort but maintain fourth spot on the ladder although now by only two points from Shamrocks who had a close win over Tech Waratahs.

For University Rameka was strong throughout with Hooker Wayne Ngatai, Lock Andrew Rae and young Flanker Bailey Lamb also prominent. George Rixon and Simon Douch in the backs also contributed well for the Bulls.

First Grade			
Rd 15 – 17/7/17	Vikings Oval		Vikings 31
Tries:	Casey Rameka	Simon Douch	University 10
Goals:			Pen Goals:

Second Grade			
Rd 15 – 17/7/17	Vikings Oval		Vikings 26
Tries:	Jon Cudaj	Lachlan Conyers	Chris Duxfield Matthias Wann
Goals:	Matthias Wann (3)		Pen Goals:

Third Grade			
Rd 15 – 17/7/17	Vikings Oval		Vikings 42
Tries:	n/a		University 0
Goals:			Pen Goals:

Rd 10: Deferred Game - Camden at University Oval

First Grade			
Rd 10 – 22/7/17	University Oval		Camden 8
Tries:	Damien Mei		University 8
Goals:			Pen Goals: Charlie Curry (1)

Second Grade			
Rd 10 – 22/7/17	University Oval		Camden 23
Tries:	Michael Shambira (2)	Lachlan Northey	University 17
Goals:	Matthias Wann (1)		Pen Goals:

Third Grade			
Rd 10 – 22/7/17	University Oval		Camden 24
Tries:	Will Lamb (2)	Corey Fuller	University 19
Goals:	Lee Tanks (2)		Pen Goals:

Rd 16: Bowral at Eridge Park

Firsts Report by Ron Woods – The Rogues Rant

In an incredible game of Rugby played at Eridge Park, University have escaped with an unlikely 31 – 22 victory over Bowral all but securing the vital fourth spot on the IDRU Builders Club Premiership table. The Bulls led the match at half-time by 17 – 7 but it was all Bowral in the second term as the Blacks fought back to take the lead 22 – 17 going into the final ten minutes of the match. Playing the last twenty-five minutes with fourteen players after skipper Paul Tuala was sent off, the Bulls put on two converted tries in the last five minutes to deny the Blacks the four competition points.

In the first forty minutes Bowral lacked intensity and were guilty of too many handling indiscretions as the Bulls ran in three tries to one and looked to be cruising to victory. With Blacks coach Gene Fairbanks giving his side a real rev up during the break Bowral came out for the second half and showed all the intensity that was lacking in the first half running in three unanswered tries to take the lead. The Bowral forward pack completely destroyed the Uni scrum and with big Lock Andy Rae missing from the Bulls side, the Blacks experienced Mitchell Hardy was dominant at the Lineout as Bowral camped deep in the Uni half. An inspired defensive effort from the students proved the difference in the end as Bowral failed to capitalize on the wealth of possession that came their way in the second term.

University also had to contend with the fact that they had Number Eight Damien Mei, and winger Rueben Thompson both spend ten in the Bin prior to losing Tuala for a dangerous tackle, meaning that the Bulls played for forty-five minutes of the match one player down. With a huge crowd attending the Back to Bowral day the Bowral supporters were left stunned as the Bulls pulled off the most remarkable of victories to reignite the defence of their 2016 IDRU Premiership title.

Both sides flew out of the blocks as it was clear that running rugby was the order of the day with play moving from end of the field to the other. It was the Bulls however who came up with the first try when they chose to keep on the attack despite several penalties in the Bowral quarter. After one such penalty wingman Sam Latu changed the angle of the attack taking the ball into the Bowral in goal for the first try.

The second Bulls try came from deep in the own half. Halfback Marama Penetito made a clean break from with his own 22 metre line and in an exchange of several passes with Tuala the Bulls were quickly on the attack in the Blacks quarter. As the Uni forwards put on several phases at the Blacks line it was Flanker Takunda Chimwaza who crossed for their second try after twenty minutes of play. With Fly half Charles Curry converting the Chimwaza try, the Bulls led 12 – 0.

Minutes later Bulls No.8 Damien Mei was the first to be Yellow Carded for a no arms tackle leaving the Bulls shorthanded. Mei's time off the field was extended by a further eight minutes due to an injury delay when giant Bowral winger Thomas Mooney dislocated his knee in a strong try saving tackle from Tuala when the winger was in full flight heading for the Uni line.

As Mei's time in the Bin was concluding Bowral hooker Manu Feilo'ivao running with the backs crossed for the Blacks opening try and with the conversion by Donovan Du Randt, the Uni lead was reduced to five at 12 – 7. Within minutes in an inconsequential play the Blacks defence was caught napping when Uni centre Jonathon Lally made a half break on the halfway line and kicked ahead. Lally easily outpaced the Bowral defenders regaining the ball close to the line to score the first of his two tries for the match. University went to the break with a 17 – 7 lead.

Bowral came out after the half time rest with captain Tim Small driving his charges hard from halfback and getting plenty of response as the Blacks knuckled down to the task. Uni lost Thompson to the Bin after two minutes of the half following repeated infringements from the winger. With several more penalties going to the Blacks, they chose to keep the pressure on the Uni defence and the inevitable

try came. Small took a quick tap taking play to the left where he found centre Justin Madden who set up replacement winger Charlie Lawson for a run to the line for Bowral's second try and a 12 – 17 score-line after forty-seven minutes.

Bowral continued to dominate play but an outstanding defensive effort from the Bulls held their opponents out. In a major turning point of the match Tuala got his marching orders in the fifty fifth minute and despite continuing stout defence from the Bulls, Bowral took full advantage of the extra player to put on two tries in the following fifteen minutes. The first was a push over try to No. 8 Lachlan Hennessy with the second scored by hardworking prop Todd Pearce running wide off Justin Madden on the left. Even though Du Randt failed to convert all three tries the Blacks were now in the lead at 22 – 17 with ten left on the clock.

Bulls centre George Rixon set the play up for the first of the Bulls late match winning tries. Rixon broke through from just inside his own half and showed good speed to take play to the Bowral quarter where he found Jonathon Lally in support. Skilfully drawing the final defenders Rixon sent Lally away to score and with a conversion by Curry the Bulls were back in front 24 – 22. Rubbing salt into the wounds of the poorly finishing Bowral side Sam Latu produced a barnstorming run which resulted in a converted try being scored by replacement Jonah Potgieter-Denton in the dying moments of the match to bring up the final score-line.

The match will definitely go down as one that got away from Bowral who failed to compete for the full eighty minutes and paid the price. Front rower Todd Pearce had a massive game for the home side along with hooker Manu Feilo'ivao, Lock Michael Bach and centres Justin Madden and Feterika Sage. The defensive effort of the Bulls was the difference in the end with an inspirational Paul Tuala prominent until his dismissal. Young Flanker Takunda Chimwaza was everywhere in both attack and defence throughout and deservedly scored three points in the IDRU Player of the Year Award. Casey Rameka and Wayne Ngatai were strong up front with fly-half Charles Curry, centres Rixon and Lally and Fullback Simon Douch having strong games.

First Grade					
Rd 16 – 29/7/17	Eridge Park			University 31	Bowral 22
Tries:	Jon Lally (2)	Takunda Chimwaza	Sam Latu	Jonah Potgieter-Denton	
Goals:	Charlie Curry (3)			Pen Goals:	

Second Grade					
Rd 16 – 29/7/17	Eridge Park			University 7	Bowral 17
Tries:	Lachlan Conyers				
Goals:	Rowan Wilson			Pen Goals:	

Third Grade					
Rd 16 – 29/7/17	Eridge Park			University 12	Wollondilly 14
Tries:	Rob Leane	Max Thompson			
Goals:	Shaun Dutailis (1)			Pen Goals:	

Rd 17: Shoalhaven at University Oval

Firsts Report by Ron Woods – The Rogues Rant

University have completed the picture for the upcoming Semi-Finals with a 36 – 24 win over Shoalhaven to cement fourth spot on the IDRU Builders Club Premiership table. Shamrocks registered a 38 – 27 victory over Campbelltown but with one round remaining next week are now out of reach of this year's final series.

In a match in which both sides fed off the errors of each other the Bulls ran in six tries to Shoalhaven's four in an unconvincing performance to open up an eight-point margin back to Shamrocks in fifth position, with Shoalies five points further back in sixth. Despite Shamrocks registering a 38 – 27 victory

over Campbelltown, with one round remaining next week the Rocks and Shoalhaven are now out of reach of this year's final series.

After Uni established a handy 17-5 lead just before the break the pressure was lifted, and Shoalhaven ran in a couple of tries to be in front 19-17 after four minutes of the second half.

A second half sin binning cost the Shoalies dearly as the Bulls ran in two decisive tries in the ten-minute period to end Shoalhaven's finals hopes.

The Bulls went into the match without key forwards Paul Tuala and Damien Mei but welcomed back Lock Andrew Rae from injury and produced another very sound defensive effort to repel Shoalies for lengthy periods throughout the match.

First Grade					
Rd 17 – 5/8/17	University Oval			University 36	Shoalhaven 24
Tries:	Rueben Thompson (2)	Dan Ward	Will Wood	Andy Rae	Simon Douch
Goals:	Tom Baker (2)	Charlie Curry (1)	Pen Goals:		

Second Grade					
Rd 17 – 5/8/17	University Oval			University 36	Shoalhaven 24
Tries:	Alphonso Pyne (2)	Andrew Johnson	Matthias Wann	Ben Crowley	Chris Duxfield
Goals:	Matthias Wann (3)	Pen Goals:			

Third Grade					
Rd 17 – 5/8/17	University Oval			University 5	Shoalhaven 28
Tries:	Craig Matereke				
Goals:	Pen Goals:				

Rd 18: Kiama at Vincentia Sports Ground.

First Grade					
Rd 18 –12/8/17	Vincentia Sports Ground			University 45	Kiama 25
Tries:	Ryan Witherdin	Bailey Lamb	Dan Ward	George Rixon	Jon Lally
	Rueben Thompson				
Goals:	Tom Baker (5)	Pen Goals:			

Second Grade					
Rd 18 –12/8/17	Vincentia Sports Ground			University 72	Kiama 12
Tries:	Chris Duxfield (3)	Dave Shepherd	Andrew Johnson	Rob Leane	Beppe Fierravanti
	Craig Matereke (2)	Shaun Dutailis	Rowan Wiles	Lee Tanks	
Goals:	Andrew Johnson (5)	Chris Duxfield (1)	Pen Goals:		

Third Grade					
Rd 18 –12/8/17	Vincentia Sports Ground			University 31	Vincentia 14
Tries:	Phil Johnson (2)	Alphonso Pyne	Chris Duxfield	Michael McKenzie	
Goals:	Matthias Wann (3)	Pen Goals:			

END OF SEASON GAMES

Minor Semi – Report by Ron Woods – The Rogues Rant

We had to journey to Camden on the Sunday to take on Bowral in the elimination semi and started the game at pace dominating at the breakdown throughout the first half and employing a very efficient fast moving defensive line to nullify most of what Bowral were able to muster. Tom Baker was very busy early putting over two penalty goals for us to take the lead out to 6 – 0 after a frantic first thirteen minute. Shortly after his second goal Tom found himself in the Sin Bin after being Yellow Carded by Referee Ethan McIntosh for a lifting tackle.

Immediately following Tom's binning Bowral crossed for the first try of the match. After finding touch in our quarter from the penalty for Tom's tackle, the Blacks created a rolling maul resulting in a try wide out as the margin was reduced to one point.

The remainder of the half belonged to Uni as our defensive effort thwarted everything the Blacks could muster in attack. With Tom back into the action, we put on three tries in the space of fourteen minutes to take a match defining 25 – 5 lead at the break.

Fullback Simon Douch scored the first of his two tries on the back of some strong pick and drive play from the Uni pack. Within minutes Simon was in again when Tom put on a beautiful cut out pass for the fast-moving fullback to race away down the touchline and score his second. On the stroke of halftime, we once again produced a strong pick and drive sequence to take play to within fifteen of the Bowral line before prop forward Casey Rameka running wide of the ruck careered away to score under the posts. Tom converted two of the tries for a 25 – 5 halftime lead.

The second half took on a different look as the Bowral scrum was dominating the usually powerful Bulls pack and the Blacks were starting to make headway at the breakdown. The Blacks crossed for 3 tries in the first thirty minutes of the half but only managed to convert one of the tries as they now found themselves still three behind at 22 – 25 with just on ten remaining on the clock.

The restart from the try proved to be the turning point of the match. The Bowral winger was bundled into touch by his opposite number Rueben Thompson on the Blacks quarter with the lineout awarded to University. Tom was now at halfback for Uni after Ma left the field earlier with a shoulder injury. Tom worked a run around play with replacement fly-half Charlie Curry before running away to score under the posts without a hand laid on him by the Bowral defence. He converted the try for the Bulls to take a ten-point lead with eight minutes to go.

Bowral managed to cross for one more try off the back of a driving maul, but it all proved too late as the Bulls held on to qualify for the Final against Vikings.

The Bulls final experience of the last three years proved invaluable as our senior players managed to impose themselves on this fixture to get the better of the young Blacks. Led strongly again by Paul Tuala with the experienced Damien Mei and lock William Wood also prominent the Bulls play at the breakdown was significant to the result. Captain, Tom Baker earned Player of the Match status for his all-round performance and his seventeen-point haul while centre George Rixon and fullback Simon Douch also continued with their fine form of recent weeks.

FIRST GRADE SQUAD - Minor Semi

(1) Casey Rameka	(2) Wayne Ngatai	(3) Daniel Taufahema
(4) Will Wood		(5) Andy Rae
(6) Ryan Witherdin	(8) Damien Mei	(7) Paul Tuala
(9) Ma Penetito		(10) Tom Baker
(12) George Rixon		(13) Jonathon Lally
(11) Sam Latu	(15) Simon Douch	(14) Ruben Thompson
(16) Bailey Lamb	(17) Sam Laurie	(18) Dan Reed
(19) Jonah Potieter-Denton	(20) Ben Crowley	(21) Charlie Curry
(22) Dan Ward		(23) Phil Johnson

First Grade				
Minor Semi	20/8/17	Camden Rugby Park	University 32	Bowral 29
Tries:	Simon Douch (2)	Casey Rameka	Tom Baker	
Goals:	Tom Baker (3)		Pen Goals:	Tom Baker (2)

Final - Report by Ron Woods – The Rogues Rant

The match against Vikings was played at their home ground which was a disadvantage to us but out of our control. The Blues had beaten us in both clashes this season, but we were always confident that we would prevail.

The match was a typically hard-fought Final as expected with both sides getting into stride from the early moments of the match in front of a very healthy crowd. Rueben Thompson had an eventful afternoon, crossing for the first try of the match after eight minutes. A prodigious clearing kick from Tom Baker took play to within twenty meters of the Vikings line. From the lineout we won possession and with the ball being quickly moved across the Bulls backline Rueben opened the scoring in the north-east corner.

A succession of penalties allowed Vikings to set up camp in the Uni half for an extended period but in a repeat of the strong defensive effort of last week the Bulls were able to repel all that the Blueys could throw at them.

Vikings settled for a penalty goal after sixteen minutes to reduce the lead to two. From the restart Rueben was in the action again when he tackled a Vikings player in the air from the kick and was penalised. The penalty allowed the Blueys to take play deep into Uni territory where once again the defence held solid. Vikings added a second penalty goal to take the lead for the first time at 6 – 5.

From the restart Rueben again misjudged his tackle on the player taking the ball from the kick-off and was yellow carded for his troubles. Vikings soon made the Bulls pay when winger Cheyne Pike took full advantage of the extra space to finish off a standard backline raid to score Vikings first try. With Sawden converting, Vikings led 13 – 5 after twenty-five minutes.

Winger Sam Latu was then prominent in a series of plays which took the Bulls into a scoring position. Sam contributed with several runs during a series of strong phases of University attack. Fullback Simon Douch crossed for a try from a well-timed cut out pass from Tom to get Uni back within three of the lead. Rueben re-joined the match shortly after the restart but after chasing a kick into Vikings quarter he suffered a serious knee injury when changing direction and left the field, taking no further part in the match.

After enjoying a 13 – 10 lead at the break, Vikings extended the lead within minutes of the restart when Fly-half Jason Reid showed all his blistering pace to score, after the Vikings forwards dominated the early minutes of the half. Another conversion had Vikings leading by 20 – 10 after forty-five minutes.

As a run of penalties went the Bulls way, Uni began a twenty-minute period in which they showed all their Finals experience systematically taking control of the match. In form No.8 Damien Mei was held up over the Vikings line shortly before big second rower Will Wood scored a pick and drive try after three phases of well controlled play from the Bulls.

Fullback Simon Douch produced a spectacular effort to register the next try from fifty out. An ill-advised kick from Vikings, conceding possession to the Bulls fell to Simon just inside his own half. Simon decided to run the ball and put in a short kick over the first line of defence. He swiftly regained the ball on the Vikings quarter and sprinted away to score an outstanding try for the Bulls to go in front by 22 – 20.

The Bulls showed great composure putting the Vikings defence under extreme pressure for an extended period before prop Casey Rameka broke into the ‘Blueys’ in goal but couldn’t ground the ball. Another series of pick and drive plays eventually saw skipper Paul Tuala power over for the Bulls to extend the lead to 29 – 20 with Tom managing to convert two of the tries.

Just as Vikings supporters were fearing the worst Vikings raised another effort as all the players were starting to show signs of tiring, halfback Sawden breathed hope into the Vikings camp when he forced his way over from the edge of a ruck to get the ‘Blueys’ within four of the lead at 25 - 29.

With less than five minutes left on the clock and after Uni had conceded a sequence of penalties in the Vikings quarter, Referee Ethan McIntosh showed the Bulls Tom Baker a Yellow Card for repeated infringements. This led to another extra effort from Vikings leading to a rampaging Joel Diggins crossing in front of the clubhouse for the winning converted try in the dying moments of the match.

It was a gruelling hard-fought match with both sets of forwards working themselves to a stand-still with the injection of the Vikings bench proving to have a decisive influence on the match.

University were once again superbly led by Paul Tuala bringing all his experience and leadership to the match. Lock William Wood and No.8 Damien Mei produced strong performance for the second week running as the Uni forwards took the match right up to their opponents. In the backs Sam Latu, Tom Baker, George Rixon and Simon Douch contributed plenty in a whole-hearted effort from last year’s Premiers.

FIRST GRADE SQUAD - Final

(1) Casey Rameka	(2) Wayne Ngatai	(3) Daniel Taufahema
(4) Will Wood		(5) Andy Rae
(6) Ryan Witherdin	(8) Damien Mei	(7) Paul Tuala
(9) Ben Crowley		(10) Tom Baker
(12) George Rixon		(13) Jonathon Lally
(11) Sam Latu	(15) Simon Douch	(14) Ruben Thompson
(16) Bailey Lamb	(17) Dan Reed	(18) Sam Laurie
(19) Jonah Potgieter-Denton	(20) Phil Johnson	(21) Charlie Curry
(22) Dan Ward		(23) Justin Stanbrook

First Grade				
Final	26/8/17	Vikings Oval	University 29	Vikings 32
Tries:	Simon Douch (2)	Rueben Thompson	Will Wood	Paul Tuala
Goals:	Tom Baker (2)		Pen Goals:	

A disappointed group gathered to commiserate after the loss, shattered that we could not achieve our goal of winning back-to-back championships. In the end Avondale completed an undefeated season and were worthy champions but many of the bulls thought that we could have given the game a real shake if the rugby gods had been a bit kinder.

Senior Awards 2017

Awards:		Donated by:	Winner:
President's Award	Jack Huxley Shield	Glenn McGuinness	Daniel Ward
Award for Leadership	Sam Davey Shield	Paul Webb Canio Fierravanti	Will Wood Paul Tuala
Trainer of the Year		Paul Dunai	Lachlan Conyers
Coaches Award		Wayne Dobson	Damian Mei
Women's Coaches Award			Stephanie Ball
Women's Players Player Award			June Norton
Third Grade Best and Fairest	Nick Theodore Shield	Peter Keeble	Andrew Johnstone, Michael Nguyen
Third Grade 'Players Player'			Beppe Fierravanti
Second Grade Best and Fairest		Noel Yates	Chris Duxfield
Second Grade 'Players Player'			Charlie Curry
First Grade Best and Fairest		Dave Rae	Damien Mei
First Grade 'Players Player'			Damien Mei
Players 'Player of the Year'	Phillip "Doris" McInerney Shield	Dave Bateman Tom Wren Rob Pedersen	Damian Mei
Rookie of the Year		Duarte Do Rego	George Rixon
Player with the Most Potential	Dave Reading Shield	Dave Bateman Tom Wren Rob Pedersen	George Rixon Bailey Lamb
Leading Try Scorer			Chris Duxfield
Leading Points Scorer		Dave Bateman Tom Wren Rob Pedersen	Tom Baker
Club Person of the Year		Keith Hales	Evan Poata Smith
'Iron Man' Award Played in all rounds.			Zac Gorman, Reuben Thompson, Lachlan Conyers

Games Played 2017

Player	1sts	2nds	3rds	Total	Player	1sts	2nds	3rds	Total
APOLO, Reece	0	1	1	2	LAWSON, Matthew	0	3	0	3
BAKER, Tom	18	0	0	18	LEAHY, Jim	0	0	1	1
BARBER, Max	0	0	2	2	LEANE, Robert	6	7	3	16
BELL, Mitchell	6	1	0	7	LEE, Matthew	0	1	1	2
BLUD, Nat	0	0	1	1	LEEF, Hori	0	1	0	1
BULL, James	0	5	11	16	MAKER, Ethan	0	9	0	9
BYRNES, Patrick	0	15	6	21	MARDUS, Robert	0	6	12	18
CAMBOURNE, Ry	0	1	0	1	MARTIN, Michael	0	2	2	4
CHEETHAM, Benjamin	11	0	0	11	MARTIN, Troy	0	2	1	3
CHIMWAZA, Takunda	15	0	0	15	MASON, Jamie	0	2	5	7
CLARK, Isaac	0	0	3	3	MATEREKE, Craig	0	3	12	15
CONYERS, Lachlan	16	6	0	22	MCCLYMONT, Ed	0	0	7	7
CROUS, Christo	0	1	7	8	MCKENZIE, Michael	0	7	12	19
CROWLEY, Ben	9	15	1	25	MEI, Damien	18	0	0	18
CUDAJ, Jonathon	0	7	12	19	MILNER, Brad	0	0	11	11
CUMMINS, Harry	0	12	1	13	MONK, Jake	0	8	0	8
CURRY, Charles	11	9	0	20	MONTAGUE, Nicholas	0	0	2	2
DALLA, Jack	0	0	6	6	MONTGOMERY, James	0	0	5	5
DAVIS, Patrick	0	1	6	7	NEHEJA, Keto	0	1	1	2
DE ABEL, Bob	0	1	6	7	NEPIA, Donovan	1	0	0	1
DEVEREUX, Matthew	0	0	1	1	NGATAI, Wayne	18	0	0	18
DOUCH, Simon	12	0	0	12	NGUYEN, Michael	0	1	9	10
DOYLE, Douglas	0	0	4	4	NICHOLLS, Sam	0	0	3	3
DOYLE, Thomas	0	2	7	9	NORTHEY, Lachlan	0	7	1	8
DUTAILLIS, Shaun	0	1	9	10	O'LEARY, Zachary	0	0	2	2
DUXFIELD, Christopher	3	16	3	22	O'ROURKE, Brendan	0	0	2	2
EVANS, Jack	0	0	1	1	PADAYACHEE, Alexander	0	0	11	11
FARRUGIA, Oliver	0	0	1	1	PAPWORTH, Andrew	5	0	0	5
FIERRAVANTI, Beppe	0	2	14	16	PAYNE, Julian	0	0	4	4
FOWKE, Lachlan	1	14	0	15	PEARCE, Henry	0	0	3	3
FULLER, Corey	0	1	5	6	PENETITO, Marama	15	0	0	15
GORMAN, Zachary	0	4	16	20	PEPPERNEILL, Dylan	0	0	1	1
GRIMSON, David	1	9	1	11	PERILLO, Patrick	0	9	2	11
HAMILTON, Charles	0	9	1	10	POMANA, Robert	0	0	5	5
HANCOCK, Rhys	1	11	0	12	POPLE, Jack	0	0	5	5
HARDAKER, Travis	0	0	1	1	POTGIETER-DENTON, Jonah	9	9	0	18
HARRIS, William	0	1	1	2	POWER, Eoin	0	8	2	10
HUGHES, Jason	0	2	0	2	PYNE, Alphonso	2	9	2	13
HURLEY, William	0	1	0	1	RAE, Andrew	12	0	0	12
ILLY, Nathan	0	6	11	17	RAMEKA, Casey	19	0	0	19
JOHNSON, Andrew	0	8	11	19	REED, Bradley	0	4	1	5
JOHNSON, Phillip	4	14	3	21	REED, Daniel	18	2	0	20
JONES, John	0	0	1	1	RIWAI-COUCH, Jacob	2	0	0	2
KAPOOR, Sahil	0	0	2	2	RIXON, George	15	0	2	17
KIRKBY, Alasdair	0	0	3	3	ROSENBERG, Josh	0	0	3	3
LALLY, Jonathon	15	3	0	18	RYAN, Graham	0	0	1	1
LAMB, Bailey	12	10	0	22	SATUKUNLASAN, Chris	0	0	7	7
LAMB, William	0	1	2	3	SHAMBIRA, Michael	0	9	2	11
LATU, Sam	14	0	0	14	SHEPHERD, David	0	3	12	15
LAURIE, Sam	11	10	1	22	STANBROOK, Justin	8	2	1	11
LAW, Alex	0	0	7	7	SYMONS, Luke	0	0	1	1

Player	1sts	2nds	3rds	Total	Player	1sts	2nds	3rds	Total
TANKS, Lee	0	1	12	13	WALTERS, Jakob	0	2	2	4
TAUFAHEMA, Daniel	7	5	0	12	WANN, Matthias	6	13	2	21
TAUFAHEMA, Opeti	1	3	1	5	WARD, Daniel	13	1	0	14
THOMPSON, Daniel	0	5	0	5	WILES, Rohan	0	1	7	8
THOMPSON, Maxwell	0	0	8	8	WILSON, Joel	0	2	8	10
THOMPSON, Reuben	20	0	0	20	WILSON, Rowan	0	6	1	7
TSHOKO, Wangchuk	3	4	3	10	WILSON, Todd	0	6	0	6
TUALA, Paul	9	0	0	9	WITHERDIN, Ryan	8	4	4	16
TUALA, Tai	0	0	4	4	WOOD, William	18	0	0	18

Points Scored 2017

Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F	Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F
<i>First Grade</i>											
Baker, Tom S	116	3	37	9	4	Thompson, Reuben M	45	9	0	0	8
Douch, Simon L	40	8	0	0	5	Lally, Jonathon	35	7	0	0	1
Cheetham, Benjamin C	30	6	0	0	1	Mei, Damien	30	6	0	0	13
Ward, Daniel	25	5	0	0	0	Rixon, George	20	4	0	0	6
Wood, William N	20	4	0	0	12	Tuala, Paul	20	4	0	0	10
Nepia, Donovan	16	1	1	3	0	Leane, Robert S	15	3	0	0	6
Latu, Sam	15	3	0	0	6	Rameka, Casey	15	3	0	0	2
Curry, Charles A	13	0	5	1	0	Witherdin, Ryan	10	2	0	0	4
Rae, Andrew	10	2	0	0	3	Conyers, Lachlan J	10	2	0	0	0
Chimwaza, Takunda	10	2	0	0	12	Reed, Daniel	5	1	0	0	0
Laurie, Sam A	5	1	0	0	0	Pyne, Alphonso	5	1	0	0	0
Potgieter-Denton, Jonah	5	1	0	0	0	Penetito, Marama	5	1	0	0	9

Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F	Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F
<i>Second Grade</i>											
Duxfield, Christopher	77	15	1	0	14	Wann, Matthias D	44	6	7	0	1
Curry, Charles A	36	0	18	0	11	Pyne, Alphonso	25	5	0	0	4
Perillo, Patrick J	22	4	1	0	5	Monk, Jake	21	3	3	0	3
Johnson, Andrew R	20	2	5	0	0	Shambira, Michael T	20	4	0	0	0
Conyers, Lachlan J	15	3	0	0	3	Cummins, Harry W	15	3	0	0	4
Johnson, Phillip G	15	3	0	0	8	Witherdin, Ryan	15	3	0	0	2
Lally, Jonathon	15	3	0	0	3	Matereke, Craig	10	2	0	0	0
Hancock, Rhys	10	2	0	0	9	Maker, Ethan J	10	2	0	0	0
Leane, Robert S	10	2	0	0	0	Crowley, Ben J	10	2	0	0	6
Reed, Bradley	7	1	1	0	0	Martin, Michael	7	0	2	1	0
Wilson, Rowan H	6	0	3	0	6	Tanks, Lee	5	1	0	0	0
Potgieter-Denton, Jonah	5	1	0	0	1	Dutaillis, Shaun	5	1	0	0	0
Tshoko, Wangchuk	5	1	0	0	0	Northey, Lachlan T	5	1	0	0	0
Laurie, Sam A	5	1	0	0	7	Shepherd, David J	5	1	0	0	1
Fierravanti, Beppe C	5	1	0	0	0	Cudaj, Jonathon R	5	1	0	0	0
Wiles, Rohan	5	1	0	0	0	Stanbrook, Justin B	2	0	1	0	2
Taufahema, Opeti	0	0	0	0	3	Lamb, Bailey N	0	0	0	0	3

Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F	Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F
Third Grade											
Matereke, Craig	25	5	0	0	0	Duxfield, Christopher	20	4	0	0	1
Johnson, Andrew R	15	0	3	3	9	Thompson, Maxwell	12	2	1	0	3
Johnson, Phillip G	10	2	0	0	3	Lamb, William A	10	2	0	0	3
Tanks, Lee	9	1	2	0	1	Perillo, Patrick J	7	1	1	0	3
Montague, Nicholas	7	1	1	0	0	Witherdin, Ryan	7	1	1	0	4
Dutailis, Shaun	7	1	1	0	0	Wann, Matthias D	6	0	3	0	0
Fuller, Corey	5	1	0	0	1	Kirkby, Alasdair	5	1	0	0	0
Davis, Patrick	5	1	0	0	0	Wilson, Rowan H	5	0	1	1	0
Walters, Jakob	5	1	0	0	0	Leane, Robert S	5	1	0	0	2
Lee, Matthew K	5	1	0	0	0	Barber, Max	5	1	0	0	0
Dalla, Jack	5	1	0	0	4	Mason, Jamie	5	1	0	0	1
McKenzie, Michael T	5	1	0	0	4	Reed, Bradley	5	0	1	1	0
Nguyen, Michael	5	1	0	0	9	Martin, Michael	5	1	0	0	0
Pyne, Alphonso	5	1	0	0	2	Nicholls, Sam	5	1	0	0	0
Illy, Nathan	5	1	0	0	0	Kapoor, Sahil	5	1	0	0	0
Rixon, George	3	0	0	1	0	Bull, James M	2	0	1	0	5
Apollo, Reece	0	0	0	0	1	Taufahema, Opeti	0	0	0	0	2
Wiles, Rohan	0	0	0	0	2	Payne, Julian	0	0	0	0	1
Satukunlasan, Chris	0	0	0	0	3	Cudaj, Jonathon R	0	0	0	0	4
Cummins, Harry W	0	0	0	0	1	Padayachee, Alexander	0	0	0	0	1
McClymont, Ed	0	0	0	0	5	Mardus, Robert D	0	0	0	0	5
Rosenberg, Josh	0	0	0	0	2						

IDRU Best & Fairest Points in First Grade

Players	Pts	Players	Pts	Players	Pts
Mei, Damien	13	Leane, Robert S	6	Chimwaza, Takunda	6
Baker, Tom S	5	Rixon, George	4	Wood, William N	4
Tuala, Paul	4	Cheetham, Benjamin C	3	Thompson, Reuben M	3
Lamb, Bailey N	2	Douch, Simon L	1		