

## **2021 – NULL and VOID**

2021 promised so much as the world emerged from the grip of the Covid pandemic. People were adapting to life with the virus and things were returning to somewhere near normality.

The rugby fraternity were also looking forward to an exciting year where players could get back on the field and enjoy playing the sport they loved.

It was obvious from the beginning of the preseason that many things had changed. The significant one being that playing numbers were down across the board. There were a number of factors involved. The need to be vaccinated to do most things resulted in some people not being able to participate as they were reluctant to have the jab. Others were concerned about the prospect of injury affecting their employment in these difficult times. Some players had found other activities to keep them busy on weekends and no longer wanted to commit to training and playing.

In University's case another major factor was that many courses were still doing lectures online and most students were not on campus.

The season began with optimism and things started positively. All of the three team clubs were back in action although most only had two teams.

After the first round the top four was fairly established with Shoalhaven undefeated leaders and Shamrocks a close second. Avondale and Campbelltown made up the top four.

There was not a real lot of difference between the other clubs with most games being fairly close-run affairs.

Disaster struck on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July when the state government announced that the Greater Sydney area, Illawarra, Blue Mountains and Central Coast were to go into lockdown for 14 days commencing at 6pm.

This was a Saturday and games were being played so you can imagine the disarray as people rushed about trying to get things in place to deal with the lockdown.

The lockdown period was extended and the IDRUG like every other sport had to make some hard decisions. All agreed that to continue the competition was impossible. The competition was virtually declared null and void. Obviously Shoalhaven were dejected but there was no other decision possible.

### **BOARD**

The board of UOW Rugby had a familiar look to it with the Executive remaining unchanged. Our fearless leader, Dr 'Big Hearted Bob' Wheway, was tireless in his efforts to keep the club together as he spent a huge amount of time and energy getting to Junior and Senior club functions. His BBQ's still featured on a regular basis when we were allowed to mingle, and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to have a great feed and also catchup with old and new friends.

Andrew Newhouse kept the club solvent in difficult times and also was the main driving force behind the juniors. It was also a bonus to have Glenda Heggen continue to be a constant presence at meetings and Game Days.

The club is lucky to have Canio Fierravanti on board as he was a key link between the club and the University. His connections went a long way to solving some tricky situations that arose during the year and he even managed to be the touch judge at home games.

Glenn 'Sprogy' McGuinness played a vital part in the administration of the club and his efforts ensured that the club was in a position to continue to provide opportunities for Members to play the game we all love.

The Women's component of the club relied heavily on Grace Wright and Penny Fletcher taking an active role in training, playing and recruiting. Their efforts were largely responsible for the Women's team enjoying success in the 7's program played in Sydney where we entered two teams.

In the juniors Ben North, Dion Miller, Amy and Matt Duggan, Piki McCreedy, Duncan Alin and Lusii Tanevesi took on the running of day-to-day organisation and did a commendable job. Numbers were tricky as many families were unsure of just what to do as regards junior sport.

Holding meeting was difficult due to quarantine restrictions. All Zone meetings were conducted as Zoom meetings and our own meetings were limited so it became a matter of survival to just keep the club functioning

## **SPONSORS**

The covid pandemic had a huge effect on many businesses. Some flourished while others either had to close their doors or become very creative in order to survive.

Clubs such as Wisemans Park Bowling Club couldn't trade and obviously our sponsorship was effected.

We were very fortunate that Andrew Newhouse and Bob Nowotny maintained their commitment to the club which allowed us to keep our heads above water financially.

We were also disadvantaged that we had few home games which meant that our canteen didn't 't raise as the amount of funds we had expected.

## **PERSONAL MILESTONES**

### **LIFE MEMBERS**

#### **Iain Lamb (2006 –**

Iain came on board in 2006 when his sons, Will and Bailey became involved with the Junior club. Iain was not one to sit back and let others do the work so threw himself into the assistant coach's role in 2006 and 2007. Iain would be the first to admit that rugby knowledge was not his strongpoint but enthusiasm and attention to detail made up for any shortfall

Not content with just coaching Iain also became a Board member of the Juniors from 2008 – 11. Iain's administrative ability was put to good use when he became the registrar for the juniors from 2012 – 15. In this role Iain has been responsible for compiling an extensive data base for the club detailing players statistics.

On the coaching front Iain continued to coach University teams and also contributed at the District level by coaching representative teams from 2010 – 12.

Iain then moved into a managerial role with representative teams from 2014 until 2018

On the club front Iain followed his sons into the senior ranks in 2016 when Iain took on the managers role for the Under 20s and First XV sides who were very successful winning the competition.

Iain also was responsible for the whole club's data base and also was the registrar for the seniors and the juniors from 2017 and is still currently fulfilling this task, which has resulted in a data base which would be the envy of any organisation.

### **Steve Elson (2005 -**

#### **Statistics**

**279 Games** – (99 First Grade, 101 Second Grade, 64 Third Grade, 15 Colts)

**30 Points** – 6 Tries

Steve's efforts on the field have been outstanding over a period of 14 years. He has played in all grades as a hooker, front rower or in the second row.

He is a true club man as he is prepared to play in any grade, in any position and has done so with a true desire to always do his best.

Steve's commitment extends to the fact that he lives in Menai and has travelled to training and games for such a long period.

Steve also contributed off field as a member of the social committee and has always been prepared to help out on game day.

#### **History**

Played first game in 2005 in u/19's

Played in every round until May 2008, playing over 100 consecutive games.

Officially played 266 games for the club up until 2016. He has played more games since.

He has been awarded the following

Iron man (every game of the season) - 6 times

Player's Player - 4 times

Coaches Award - 3 times

Trainer of the Year - twice

President's Award - 2007

Club Captain - 2013

### **Mark Elson. (2005 -**

Mark's association with the club began in 2005 when he arrived as a spectator to watch son, Steve, play for the Mallee Bulls. Mark lives in Menai but never missed a game and was the manager of the Third-grade side in 2006. Mark proceeded to manager a team every year until 2018. On numerous occasions Mark even managed two teams in the one season.

In this role Mark became the right-hand man for Coach Shaun McCreedy and was instrumental in the first grade's outstanding performance in being in the first-grade semi-finals from 2006 – 2019, winning premierships in 2014 and 2016. Mark's professionalism is one of the hall marks of a great club man. He has contributed so much time and effort into ensuring the success of the many teams he has been a part of over a significant period.

Mark was on the club board from 2007 to 2017 and rarely missed a meeting. He was heavily involved in player recruitment often picking up players from the airport – having them stay with his family and organising official documentation. Mark became a family friend to many of these players. Mark also was heavily involved in organising many club events, such as the club ball. during his time as a committee member.

Mark was announced as Club Person of the year in 2006 and to be honest could have won this award numerous times.

Mark is a businessman who has to travel to China and South Africa but never let this interfere with his duties for his beloved Mallee Bulls. He will be back when the pandemic is no more as he is a true Mallee Bull.

### **Brad Milner – (2000 -01, 2003-08, 2011-)**

#### **Statistics**

**207 Games** – 4 First Grade, 48 Second Grade, 130 Third Grade, 25 Colts

**10 Points** – 2 Tries,

Brad played his first game for the club in 2000 as a member of the colts team in his first year at UOW and played every one of his 207 games in the front row. Brad was never going to be a regular first grader but always gave his best in every game.

Brad was often called upon to go onto the field in higher grades as a replacement and never complained. In one season Bard and mate Dave Shepherd were the only two props available for Seconds and Thirds and they regularly played two full games to ensure that we were not left having to play non contested scrums

Brad is a rarity in that I cannot recall him ever being sent from the field and he never even received a yellow card.

Brad suffered some serious injuries over the years including a very badly broken leg, but this never deterred him from returning to the field when he recovered.

Brad was a great teammate who would never let his mates down. He attended training and always willing to impart his rugby knowledge to the youngsters coming into the club.

Brad was also a willing helper around the club helping set up the ground and being a regular attendee at social functions.

He was also keen to help with some coaching in particular the Women's Team when he was available.

Brad also made some worthwhile contributions while a board member before work and family commitments made this too difficult.

Brad's young family are now playing for the Junior Bulls and Brad has helped with the coaching and managing of the youngsters. He is also always around to help with the many tasks needed to get things happening on game day.

### **Dave Shepherd – (2008- )**

#### **Statistics**

**241 Games** – 7 First Grade, 104 Second Grade, 127 Third Grade

**50 Points** – 10 Tries.

Dave 'Shep' Shepherd joined the Mallee Bulls in 2008 and has played every season since. Some years 'Shep' may have only got on the field for the occasional game, but he was always ready to pull on a jumper when he was available

Dave is a handy front rower in Seconds and Thirds and the occasional run on in first grade when required. He displays a turn of speed when in the open and although not a noted trainer "Shep" always played the game to the best of his ability and with a real desire to respect the game.

In his 241 games Dave never took a backward step and was always a great team mate to have around.

Shep's work and study commitments have sometimes interfered with his rugby, but he was always happy to play any grade, often backing up to play in higher grades when we were looking for a prop. Dave also was coerced into helping coach Thirds when we were in a difficult position, and he did his best to impart knowledge to the youngsters.

Dave wears his heart on his sleeve and is a club favourite with a unique outlook on life, but you could not find a better clubman, especially when things are tough.

### **10 Years' Service Awards**

#### **Paul Tuala**

2005/06, 2012 – 21

**99 Games** – 96 First Grade, 3 Second Grade

**330 Points** – 66 Tries

#### **Donny Nepia**

**2011 – 2021**

**164 Games** – 138 First Grade, 16 Second Grade, 10 Third Grade

**917 Points** – 31 Tries, 219 Conversions, 108 Penalty Goals

#### **Pat Perillo**

2009- 17, 2020-21

**161 Games** – 62 First Grade, 83 Second Grade, 16 Third Grade

**273 Points** – 50 Tries, 16 Conversions, 2 Penalty Goals, 1 Field Goal

#### **Charlie Curry**

2010 – 2019, 2021

**183 Games** – 105 First Grade, 59 Second Grade, 19 Third Grade

**738 Points** – 36 Tries, 228 Conversions, 33 Penalty Goals, 1 Field Goal

#### **Christo Crous**

2012 – 21

**100 Games** – 7 First Grade, 36 Second Grade, 57 Third Grade

**15 Points** – 3 Tries

**Coach** – 2012-13

**Manager** - 2021

#### **Wayne Dodson**

**Player** – 1978 -82

**Committee Member** – 2007- 08,

**Canteen** – 2009-10

**Media** – 2018-21

#### **Bob Nowotny**

**Player** – 1982-88, 1992-94

**Board Member**

#### **Ben North**

**Player** 1996- 2003

**Junior Coach** – 2014-21

**52 Games** – post 2000

**42 point** – post 2000

**7 Years' Service**

**Matthias Wann**

2010-12, 2015-19, 2021

**144 Games** – 22 First Grade, 80 Second Grade, 42 Third Grade

**239 Points** – 33 Tries, 28 Conversions, 6 Penalty Goals

**Lachlan Conyers**

2015-21

**127 Games** – 74 First Grade, 43 Second Grade, 3 Third Grade, 7 Colts

**224 Points** – 50 Tries, 17 Conversions

**Wayne Ngatai**

2014 -19. 2021

**118 Games** – 117 First Grade, 1 Second Grade

**140 Points** – 28 Tries

**Casey Rameka**

2014 -19, 2021

**123 Games** – 91 First Grade, 31 Second Grade, 1 Third Grade

**140 Points** – 28 Tries

**Mitch Bell**

2014 -20

**77 Games** – 29 First Grade, 23 Second Grade, 25 Third Grade

**60 Points** – 12 Tries

**Tom Baker**

2014 – 2019, 2021

**109 Games** – 92 First Grade, 16 Second Grade, 1 Third Grade

**298 Points** – 23 Tries, 75 Conversions, 11 Penalty Goals

**Bob Wheway**

2013-21

President – 2014 - 2021

Board Member – 2013

**Dion Miller**

2014-21

Coach – seniors and Juniors

Board Member

**Andrew Newhouse –**

**Player** – 1985-88

**Treasurer** - 2014 -21

**Junior Chairperson** -2019 -21

**Lusii Tanevesi – 1999-2000, 2016 -2021**

**Player**- 1999-2000, 2016 – 2019

**Juniors Board Member** - 2017-21

## WOMEN

### Women's Awards 2021

<b>Awards:</b>	<b>Winner:</b>
<b>Trainer of the Year</b>	<b>Grace Wright</b>
<b>Coaches Award</b>	<b>Penny Fletcher</b>
<b>Most Improved – First Grade</b>	<b>Grace Wright</b>
<b>Division 2 - Best and Fairest</b>	<b>Emily Adam</b>
<b>Division 2 - 'Players Player'</b>	<b>Scarlett Box</b>
<b>Division 1 - Best and Fairest</b>	<b>Penny Fletcher</b>
<b>Division 1 - 'Players Player'</b>	<b>Grace Napoleone</b>
<b>Rookie of the Year</b>	<b>Eleni Connell</b>
<b>Player with the Most Potential</b>	<b>Hannah Short</b>

## **MEN**

### **MATCH DAY**

Covid not only had an impact on playing numbers it also saw a drop in people able to help out on Match Days.

Christo Crous started as First Grade manager but needed some assistance towards the end of the season and we were able to get John Heath back to help out.

In Seconds the boys were looked after by Glenda Heggen who ensured that things ran smoothly. Glenda and Max did do some travelling during the year and Iain Lamb stepped into the breach. Iain was a busy chap as he was also the club registrar where he was responsible for compiling the players' Data Base which is a credit to his hard work and diligence.

Once again Tim Grey from UPhysio ensured that the players physical well-being was always looked after on Game days.

Bob Nowotny and Max Heggen were the first to arrive on home game days and did a fantastic job in making the canteen run like a well-oiled machine. They worked tirelessly in setting up and then stayed late cleaning up. On top of that they also ensured that the club coffers were replenished.

Bob also coerced his parents to come and assist on game days which they did with enthusiasm and a sense of humour.

The Match Day controller duties were the domain of Glenn McGuinness, and he ran a tight ship. Apart from a run in with one disgruntled opposition coach things ran smoothly most of the time, although the technology involved in scoring etc stretched 'Sproggy' s computer ability.

When 'Sproggy' was not available Iain Lamb came to the rescue and ensured that the data was entered correctly.

When the scoreboard was operating John Pemberton kept the crowd up to date with scores, but he found it difficult to do the job properly due to the fact that the scoreboard often didn't do what it is supposed to do.

### **THE COACHING STAFF**

When it was announced that Rugby would be back in 2021 The Board had to work feverishly to get things underway.

One of the first steps was to appoint the coaches. We were in the happy position to have Dion Miller and Scott Hatch willing to take on the role as First Grade coach. Both of these guys were experienced coaches and would work well together.

Unfortunately, Dion's work and family commitments, as well as his role on the Illawarra committee, forced him into stepping down.

Scott did a commendable job virtually starting from scratch to get a competitive first grade side on the field.

Numbers being down we could only enter a second-grade side and Rob Heritage and Greg Bourne from last season were keen to continue in the role.



## **REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS:**

### **NSW Country Representatives:**

#### **Seniors:**

Paul Tuala

#### **U/20's:**

Zini Makene, Cooper Hansen.

### **Illawarra Representatives:**

#### **Seniors:**

#### **Coaching Staff:**

Scott Hatch– Head Coach

#### **Players**

#### **Seniors**

Takunda Chimwaza, Brayden Grehan, Wayne Ngatai, Casey Rameka, Sam Hackett, Paul Tuala

#### **Colts**

Zini Makene, Cooper Hansen

## **THE COMPETITION.**

All involved were looking forward to getting back on the field after a frustrating time. Most clubs realised that it would be impossible to field three teams although Shamrocks, Campbelltown, Camden and Bowral did play some games in a third-grade competition.

The First grade and Second grade competitions comprised ten clubs – University, Bowral, Camden, Campbelltown, Vikings, Shamrocks, Shoalhaven, Tech Waratahs, Avondale and Kiama.

No one team clubs were able to participate this year as Covid had severely impacted on the numbers in the playing and volunteer ranks

We attempted to enter a Colts team into the Radford Cup, but our overall numbers made this impractical.

### **First Grade**

#### **Squad**

In an abridged season forty-six players pulled on a jumper in First Grade. This demonstrates just what a disrupted season it was for all concerned. No wonder the coaching staff were pulling their hair out trying to get a competitive team on the field each week.

It was great to welcome back some old heads in the prop forward position. It was a bit like old days with Casey Rameka and Andy Papworth returning to the fold as the club was able to help them find employment in the mines through the connection with life member Killian Grennell. Unfortunately, Andy suffered a torn hamstring that ruled him out for the season

Linking with them up front was another experienced player in Hemi Wickliffe. Joining this illustrious trio was Tolson Kennerley who is developing into a solid front rower, and he enjoyed learning from these old heads.

The hooking responsibilities were shared by Hemi, Sam Laurie and Wayne Ngatai, who showed his versatility by switching to Number 8 and breakaway.

The second rowers were fairly consistent with newcomer Sam Hackett pairing with Dexter Anderson and Nick Halliday to provide some excellent lineout ball.

The loose forward duties were hotly contested. Takunda Chimwaza was devastating early on and was clearly one of the best players in the competition. In a strange twist 'TK' became a TV star on reality show 'Love Island' and missed the last part of the season – A true story.

Another outstanding player Wangchuk Tshoko suffered a knee injury that ruled him out for the season and so we had to use Wayne Ngatai in the role. He was joined by Michael Nguyen who relished the opportunity to play in the higher grade. Another new comer in Taofiga Sa also played some games as a loose forward. 'Figa is an experienced player with a great rugby background and his no nonsense style of football put the fear of God into opposition players.

One of the exciting things about the season was the return to the field of Paulie Tuala. Paulie had undergone a major heart operation in 2020 to repair some damage and missed a couple of seasons. Not to be denied the opportunity to bring up a century of games for the Mallee Bulls Paulie put in a huge amount of time and energy to get back on the field.

In the Number 8 position Paulie was an inspiration to all around him but some issues with his knees saw him miss quite a few games. As a matter of fact, Paulie got to 99 games when the season was shut down, frustrating him and everyone at the club.

When Paulie missed games Mr Adaptable, Wayne Ngatai, took on the duties at the back of the scrum as did Casey Rameka and 'Figa' Sa.

Our backs struggled to put enough points on the board to apply pressure to opposition teams, but it wasn't through lack of effort.

The first few games saw Jackson Rice in the halfback role but two new additions to the club in Josh Dominello and Lachlan Morse applied heaps of pressure with outstanding performances in Second Grade.

Unfortunately, Jackson's reaction to this pressure was to pack his bags and head off to join Avondale. This left the two rookies to battle for the spot. Lachie Morse earned the nod from the coaches and then in a cruel twist of fate Josh suffered a severe knee injury that ended his season. Lachie established himself as one of the bright lights in the squad and was a key member of the team.

The team was able to call on Charlie Curry and Tom Baker to play five-eight. Charlie began the season as Tom was unavailable. Both these guys are great club men and always performed to the best of their abilities.

The centre pairing had some quality players available, but injuries meant that no one really took command of their position. 'Figa Sa and Brayden Grehan formed a solid combination, but injuries and changes of positions saw Nick Ranguira, Jono Lally, Donny Nepia and another new addition in David Serukai play a role in mid field in some games.

Out wide the team was blessed with some speedy wingers. Fijian Flyer Viliame Naura and Dan Ward were consistent performers while Lachlan Conyers played on the wing when he was not selected at full back and had a solid season.

Newcomers in Liam Choi and Zini Makene also impressed when given the opportunity in the top grade. A big plus for our backline was the return of Simon Douch to rugby after a long absence. It didn't take him long to adjust as he scored two tries in his first game.

Zini was still at school but his maturity and willingness to learn forced the coaches to pick him. His coolness under pressure was emphasised in the game against Tech where with time up he nonchalantly put the ball over from the sideline to give us a much-needed draw.

Lachlan Conyers performed well at the back, and he was always safe under pressure. Donny Nepia also spent time in the fullback role while Zini likewise had a few games and handled himself with confidence above his age.

There was also a group of players in Hamish Cole, Jett Hatton, Ethan Mosely, Luka O’Shea and Jack Thurtell who were always willing to standby after playing seconds to run on when needed and they never let anyone down with their efforts.

## SEASON RESULTS

### Rd 1: Tech Waratahs - Game postponed due to wet weather

Played 8/5/21

### Rd 2: Bowral

Rd 2– 27/3/21	Eridge Oval	
<b>First Grade:</b>	<b>University 15</b>	<b>Bowral 33</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Wayne Ngatai	Zini Makene
<b>Goals:</b>	Zini Makene (1)	<b>Penalty Goals:</b> Zini Makene (1)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Dexter Anderson, Paul Tuala	
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Paul Tuala	<b>(2)</b> Takunda Chimwaza <b>(1)</b> Tolson Kennerly Dexter Anderson

### Report by Ron Woods – ‘The Rogue’s Rant’

After a hiatus in 2020 brought about by Covid, Bowral have returned to Illawarra Rugby with a resounding 33 – 15 victory over a gallant University side at Eridge Park on Saturday. With many familiar faces on deck and with new Halfback Thomas Keft directing traffic, Bowral kicked off their season with all guns blazing showing their expansive game of old.

Speedster Henry Yuill crossed for three tries taking full advantage of his Halves wonderful backline service with former IDRU Player of the Year Lachlan Huntington once again igniting many of the Blacks attacking raids.

In contrast University had plenty of new faces but none the less took the match right up to Bowral before some poor handling and discipline by the students late in the match saw Bowral run out comfortable winners. Paul Tuala made an eye-catching return from illness figuring in both University tries and showing that he is still a force to be reckoned with. With several 1st Grade debutants making a good first up impression old stagers Wayne Ngatai and Charles Curry were prominent with Country Rep Takunda Chimwaza making a strong return from a long injury lay off.

The early stages of the match saw Bowral camped in the Uni half of the field but some resolute well-organized defence from the Bulls saw Bowral unable to rack up any line breaks. Huntington kicked the first of three Penalty Goals after three minutes but as the Blacks raided away in the Uni half for near on twenty minutes, the University defensive line remained unbroken.

At the twenty-minute mark Tuala ignited a Uni attack from inside his own half charging up field before putting wingman Zintori Makene away down the right flank. The scrambling Bowral defence closed the raid down within meters of the line but after several forward charges at the line veteran hooker Wayne Ngatai forced his way over for Uni to take the lead 5 – 3 after 21 minutes. Makene

kicked a Penalty Goal minutes later for the students to extend the lead to 8 – 5 with fifteen minutes left in the half.

Once again the Bulls defence repelled all that Bowral could throw at them as Huntington kicking two strong long range Penalty Goals for Bowral to take the lead 9 – 8. Two minutes from the break a glaring defensive error in the outside backs for Uni saw Henry Yuill in space and showing his customary speed the wingman touched down wide on the left. Huntington's most difficult kick of the day into the wind went wide but Bowral went to oranges with a deserved 14 – 8 lead.

Minutes into second half Yuill was over again but the try was denied by Referee Andrew Strode with a knock on detected in the lead up to the winger crossing the line. Two minutes later Yuill scored his second try without a hand being laid on him from a superbly executed scrum play from close range. Skilful Bowral No.8 Tim Lewis took the ball from an attacking scrum ten out running to the right showing the ball to the defence. Faking a pass to the outside backs Lewis found Yuill running off his right shoulder at pace with Yuill shooting through the defensive line to score. Huntington converted for Bowral to go out to a 21 – 8 lead.

The Students were not ready to go away just yet and had the better of the next twenty minutes, putting plenty of pressure on the Blacks who started to lose their way as Uni dominated field position but lacked precision in attack to take full advantage. Eventually it was Tuala who put on one of his trademark scrum-base charges to the right from forty out. Drawing several defenders out of the line Tuala delivered the ball for an overlap on the right with wingman Makene presented with a clear run to the line. Makene converted from wide out and it was game on at 21 – 15 to Bowral.

University were soon back attacking the Bowral line bringing the game right up to the home side. From the bench veteran Bowral front Rower Todd Pearce was thrown into the game with twenty left on the clock bringing a new resolve to the home side as some handling and disciplinary issues started creeping into the Uni effort. With Pearce re-organising the Bowral Forwards effort the Blacks took play right up field into an attacking position. After an extended period of goal line pressure Lock Andrew Angellella forced his way over to score a converted try for the Blacks to go out to a 28 – 15 lead with less than 10 to go.

Yuill completed the scoring with his third try just prior to fulltime after receiving a trademark long cut out pass from Huntington for the final 33 – 15 score line.

Whilst the match was a bit scrappy at times both sides showed enough to suggest that they will figure prominently in this year's competition. The performance of new Bowral Halfback Thomas Keft earned him the maximum points in the IDRU Player of the Year Award, with former Award winners Paul Tuala and Lachlan Huntington taking the minor points. With 2018 Premiership winning coach Gene Fairbanks back involved with the Blacks side the home side showed plenty of signs of the style of football we can expect from them going forward.

University were well in this match before some disciplinary lapses late in the match took their toll. Match fitness played a part in their effort here and will only improve the sides performance in the weeks ahead. With the experience of Paul Tuala, Charles Curry, Wayne Ngatai and an eye-catching performance from Takunda Chimwaza returning from a long injury lay off new coach Scott Hatch has plenty to work with.

### Rd 3: Shamrocks

Rd 3 – 10/4/21		Ocean Park	
<b>First Grade:</b>		<b>University 0</b>	<b>Shamrocks 22</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Takunda Chimwaza		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Takunda Chimwaza	<b>(2)</b> Charlie Curry	<b>(1)</b> Andy Papworth Sam Hackett

#### Report by Ron Woods – ‘The Rogue’s Rant’

Shamrocks retained the John Hayne Challenge Shield with a 22 – 0 whitewash of University at Ocean Park on Saturday. Inspired by a brilliant performance from former Australian sevens player, Jesse Parahi, the Rocks outplayed the Students in a match impacted by a gusty South Westerly wind.

University went into the match without their champion No.8 Paul Tuala who withdrew from the match after injuring his knee at training on Thursday night. In a major blow to the students a damaged Medial Ligament will keep Tuala out of football for somewhere between four and six weeks.

Shamrocks scored two tries in each half of the match to take maximum points out of the match to remain unbeaten at this stage of the year. The performance of Parahi inspired much of what Shamrocks were able to achieve in what was a disappointing performance from both sides. Parahi continually took the ball forward and was very productive throughout the match very rarely dying with the ball. Shamrocks defensive effort, once again lead by Parahi completely shut-down a very sluggish and faltering University attack.

The Rocks first half tries came from a clever charge down by Lock Manase Tufui and a strong fifty-meter touchline hugging run from wingman Maciu Gauna. In a scrappy second half the Rocks tries came through Fullback James Curgenvan and Fly half Ben Ridgeway.

As well as Parahi’s outstanding performance the Rocks were well served by Lock Manase Tufui and Fullback Gurgenvan whose kicking game was instrumental in Shamrocks ability to dominate field position throughout the match.

### Rd 4: Shoalhaven

Rd 4– 17/4/21		University Oval	
<b>First Grade:</b>		<b>University 5</b>	<b>Shoalhaven 50</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Charlie Curry		
<b>Players Player:</b>	Toafiga Sa		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Wangchuk Tshoko	<b>(2)</b> Toafiga Sa	<b>(1)</b> Takunda Chimwaza

On paper Uni fielded a very good side when we took on Shoalhaven, who were the form team of the competition. Up front we were boosted by Andy Papworth and Hemi Wickliffe while Takunda Chimwaza and Wayne Ngatai were rep players.

In the backs Tom Baker and Charlie Curry were the halves combination and Nick Ranguira and Dan Ward were members of the 2016 Grand Final winning team.

This all meant nothing as we were demolished by a very well drilled side who scored a half century against us while only conceding a single try. The one bright light was the performance of Toafiga Sa who was everywhere in attack and defence.

In the end it was a rugby lesson.

## Rd 5: Campbelltown

Rd 5 – 24/4/21		Campbelltown Showground			
<b>First Grade:</b>		<b>University</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>Campbelltown</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Takunda Chimwaza (2)	Toafiga Sa (1)			
<b>Goals:</b>	Zini Makene (3)	<b>Penalty Goals:</b>			
<b>Players Player:</b>	Toafiga Sa				
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Tom Baker	<b>(2)</b> Wangchuk Tshoko		<b>(1)</b> Toafiga Sa	Lachie Morse

Campbelltown were playing some enterprising rugby and were definitely an improving side. They started with all guns blazing and ran in three quick tries to lead 19-5. It was then that we became more committed and with Takunda leading the way with a couple of tries we got back into the game.

Unfortunately, the sheer physicality of the opposition saw our star players drop like flies. Donny Nepia, Takunda, Dan Ward and Wangchuk Tshoko suffered severe injuries that saw them leave the field in the first half.

Right on halftime Pat Perillo, the replacement for Donny, scored a great try to see us at 19 all but in the process, he also received a knock and had to be replaced.

All the changes saw us become disjointed which meant that we couldn't match the Campbelltown juggernaut and they ended up winning convincingly.

What was pleasing was the form of two promising youngsters in Lachie Morse and Zini Makene who were impressive in their first-grade debuts in the run-on side.

## Rd 6: Avondale

Rd 6 – 1/5/21		University Oval			
<b>First Grade:</b>		<b>University</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>Avondale</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Wayne Ngatai (1)	Lachie Morse (1)	Charlie Curry (1)	Zini Makene (1)	
<b>Goals:</b>	Zini Makene (3)	<b>Penalty Goals:</b>			
<b>Players Player:</b>	Charlie Curry				
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Zini Makene	<b>(2)</b> Wayne Ngatai		<b>(1)</b> Hemi Wickliffe	Michael Nguyen

Avondale's early pressure saw us again well and truly behind the eight ball in the first half as they dominated all aspects of the game. They ran in four tries, and it was only in the final minute that youngster Zini Makene crossed for a try that got us on the scoreboard.

Whatever was in the oranges at the break worked as we went on a three-try run to get to 26-29 with ten minutes remaining. Avondale managed a try near full time, but we certainly put a deal of pressure on them after such a poor start.

Two bonus points were reward for a gutsy comeback, but our poor starts were becoming a concern. Two youngsters in Lachie Morse and Zini showed a great deal of promise for the future.

## Rd 1: Tech Waratahs

Rd 1 – 8/5/21		Saunders Oval			
<b>First Grade:</b>		<b>University</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>Tech Waratahs</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Tolson Kennerley (1)	Nick Halliday (1)	Charlie Curry (1)	Toafiga Sa (1)	
<b>Goals:</b>	Charlie Curry (3)	<b>Penalty Goals:</b>	Charlie Curry (1)		
<b>Players Player:</b>	Charlie Curry				
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Toafiga Sa	<b>(2)</b> Tolson Kennerley		<b>(1)</b> Charlie Curry	

In the makeup game against Tech, we had to endure another wet week but fortunately Tech did an amazing job to get the field into good condition for the game.

Once more we were slow out of the blocks and were behind 12-0 after 15 minutes. Toafiga stepped up and crossed for a try which was followed by a Tolson Kennerly five pointer. At half time the score was 12-15.

What followed was a see-sawing affair where the lead changed four times in the last ten minutes. Our two tries were scored by Nick Halliday and Charlie Curry, and we were in front 26-25.

Tech converted a penalty to hit the front but then the rugby God smiled on us as Charlie Curry kicked a penalty goal to give us a one-point lead with only minutes remaining.

What happened in the last minutes broke our hearts. A Tech player had what only could be described as a shocker as he attempted a field goal that missed by a mile. Somehow there was a case of inertia as Uni players looked at the ball in the in-goal and a Tech player dived on it to give them an unexpected victory 29-35

To say that everyone was in shock would be an understatement as it was a game we had worked hard to win and should never had lost.

### Rd 7: Vikings

Rd 7 – 15/5/21		Vikings Oval	
<b>First Grade:</b>		<b>University 19</b>	<b>Vikings 38</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Sam Laurie (1)	Nick Halliday (1)	Jett Hatton (1)
<b>Goals:</b>	Zini Makene (3)	<b>Penalty Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Tommy Baker		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Wayne Ngatai	<b>(2)</b> Tolson Kennerley	<b>(1)</b> Paul Tuala Jett Hatton

Vikings at Vikings Oval is always a challenge, but we certainly made it hard for ourselves with a woeful effort in the first 40 minutes. In this period Vikings smashed us and recorded five tries, all of which were converted, while we looked lost and disjointed.

In the second half either Vikings eased off or we found another gear and we got back into the contest with Tommy Baker and Wayne Ngatai prominent. We managed three tries and limited the 'Blues' to a late penalty but in truth we were never going to win but at least we came out of the game with some respect.

### Rd 8: Camden

Rd 8 – 22/5/21		University Oval	
<b>First Grade:</b>		<b>University 22</b>	<b>Camden 17</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Takunda Chimwaza (1)	Lachlan Conyers (1)	Penalty Try
<b>Goals:</b>	Zini Makene (1)	<b>Penalty Goals:</b> Zini Makene (1)	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Takunda Chimwaza		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Takunda Chimwaza	<b>(2)</b> Paul Tuala	<b>(1)</b> David Serukai

The game against Camden was a battle to avoid the wooden spoon and we got away to a much more positive start with a penalty try and a try to 'Man of the Match' Takunda Chimwaza seeing us in front 14-0 at the break.

A huge penalty count against us kept Camden in the match but Paulie Tuala's presence steadied the ship, and we stayed in control and ended up winning 22-17. It was great to finally win a match.

### Rd 9: Kiama

Rd 9 – 28/5/21		University Oval			
<b>First Grade:</b>		<b>University</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Kiama</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Simon Douch (2)				
<b>Goals:</b>	Tom Baker (1)		<b>Penalty Goals:</b>		
<b>Players Player:</b>	Michael Nguyen				
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Simon Douch	<b>(2)</b> Toafiga Sa	<b>(1)</b> Michael Nguyen		

It was a bit of an ambush when we took on Kiama in a Friday night game at Uni. Kiama were very aggressive and we didn't match up to them although some of their players seemed to be new to their side.

It was great to welcome back Simon Douch who scored our two tries in a fine first up performance. The game was tight, but Kiama always seemed to be the likely winners mainly due to their dominance at the breakdown and their solid defence.

### Rd 10: Tech Waratahs

Rd 10 – 5/6/21		University Oval			
<b>First Grade:</b>		<b>University</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>Tech Waratahs</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Casey Rameka (1)	Hemi Wickliffe (1)	Toafiga Sa (1)	Zini Makene (1)	
<b>Goals:</b>	Zini Makene (3)		<b>Penalty Goals:</b> Zini Makene (1)		
<b>Players Player:</b>	Paul Tuala				
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Tom Baker	<b>(2)</b> Casey Rameka	<b>(1)</b> Paul Tuala		

The return clash against Tech was a point scoring bonanza as tackling seemed to go out the window for both sides. Tech supporters might lament the fact that their team scored six tries to five but in the end the result came down to goal kicking.

In Tech's case their kicker struggled only landing two conversions. Some of the missed kicks were what could be considered relatively easy.

As time ran out Tech were in front by seven points and looked likely winners until in the last-minute Uni crossed for a try, but it was scored out wide.

Up stepped youngster Zini Makene who calmly lined up the conversion and then guided the ball between the posts amid joyous scenes on and off the field from Uni players and supporters.

The result went some way to alleviating the pain felt after the first game.

### Rd 11: Bowral

Rd 11 – 19/6/21		University Oval			
<b>First Grade:</b>		<b>University</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>Bowral</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Lachlan Conyers (1) Donny Nepia (1)	Charlie Curry (1)	Brayden Grehan (1)	Simon Douch (1)	
<b>Goals:</b>	Tom Baker (2)		<b>Penalty Goals:</b> Tom Baker (1)		
<b>Players Player:</b>	Brayden Grehan				
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Casey Rameka	<b>(2)</b> Wayne Ngatai	<b>(1)</b> Tom Baker		

Bowral came to town missing a lot of key players while Uni was nearly at full strength and much buoyed by their effort against Tech on the previous Saturday.

The first half developed into an arm wrestle where no one was able to dominate in any area. The half time score of 5-5 reflected the effort of both teams.

The second half opened up as players fatigued and we got on top in the forwards which allowed the backs the time and room to score some excellent tries.

It was pleasing to record another win and move away from the wooden spoon.



## Rd 12: Shamrocks

Rd 12 – 26/6/21		University Oval	
<b>First Grade:</b>	<b>University 28</b>	<b>Shamrocks 45</b>	
<b>Tries:</b>	Charlie Curry (1)	Lachlan Conyers (1)	Nick Halliday (1) Casey Rameka (1)
<b>Goals:</b>	Zini Makene (3)	<b>Penalty Goals:</b>	

The game against Shamrock was played but the result was immaterial as Covid dominated everyone's thoughts. It was announced by the state government on the morning of the game that parts of the state were going into lockdown again due to the high numbers of Covid cases. This meant that from 6 pm all residents of Greater Sydney, Blue Mountains, Central Coast and the Illawarra had to stay at home for two weeks.

You can only imagine the scene as players, supporters and officials had to rush around madly trying to get things in place so that everyone was able to get home before the 6pm deadline.

Shamrocks were too good on the day and won convincingly but Rugby was the last thing on most people's minds.

## First Grade Points Table 2021

Pos	Team	Played	Won	Draw	Loss	-/+	Points	Bonus	Total
1	Shoalhaven	11	11	0	0	244	44	7	51
2	Shamrocks	12	10	0	2	199	40	9	49
3	Avondale	10	8	0	2	176	32	11	43
4	Campbelltown	10	7	0	3	69	28	8	36
5	Vikings	12	5	0	7	-64	20	9	29
6	Bowral	11	5	0	6	6	20	6	26
7	Tech Waratahs	11	2	1	8	-161	10	8	18
8	Kiama	10	2	0	8	-76	8	9	17
9	University	12	2	1	9	-146	10	7	17
10	Camden	11	2	0	9	-247	8	2	10

## First Grade Points Scored 2021

Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	Player	Total	Tries	G	PG
<i>First Grade</i>									
MAKENE, Zintori	58	3	17	3	CURRY, Charles	34	5	3	1
DOUCH, Simon	15	3	0	0	CONYERS, Lachlan	15	3	0	0
CHIMWAZA, Takunda	15	3	0	0	Sa, Taofiga	15	3	0	0
HALLIDAY, Nicholas	10	2	0	0	RAMEKA, Casey	10	2	0	0
NGATAI, Wayne	10	2	0	0	GREHAN, Brayden	5	1	0	0
BAKER, Tom	9	0	3	1	KENNERLEY, Tolson	5	1	0	0
HATTON, Jett	5	1	0	0	MORSE, Lachie	5	1	0	0
LAURIE, Sam	5	1	0	0	PERILLO, Patrick	5	1	0	0
NEPIA, Donovan	5	1	0	0	TUALA, Paul	5	1	0	0
RANGUIRA, Nicholas	5	1	0	0	WICKLIFFE, Hemana	5	1	0	0

## **SECOND GRADE**

### **Squad**

Seconds were a real mixed bag as we had Tom Fenualelei and Maciu Waqabaca, two forty-plus year-olds, plus Pat Perillo, Dave Shepherd Matthias Wann who had all played over a hundred games mentoring a number of teenagers and really enjoying the challenges presented.

The coaches struggled at times to get a settled combination on the field due to injuries and promotions to firsts and this made it a difficult year.

The front row created problems due to a lack of experienced players. We were able to call on the experienced Dave Shepherd and Maciu and he did a great job until injured. Nick Halliday and Sam Laurie also filled in when available.

After the early rounds Oliver Small was a lynchpin of the scrum and he was joined by Jack Scott who thrived on the challenge of changing from second row to prop.

Seb Di Noro was the hooker for most games but Rhys Bourne and Will Ditchfield also occupied the role at times.

In the second-row youngster Trent Bourne gained a lot of experience and never shirked doing the hard work. Harry O'Malley joined Trent and played consistently and earned a place in the first-grade side towards the end of the season. Jed Buchanan showed a great deal of versatility as he played in tight and also in the loose.

Tom Fenelelui and Hamish Cole sometimes found themselves in the second row when our stocks were low.

In the loose forwards Tom Fenelelui was an inspiring leader and he combined well with another Fijian old timer in Opeteia George. These blokes used their vast experience to guide the forwards around the field.

The leading light in winning possession at the breakdown was Ethan Mosely and his determination and work effort were outstanding. Others to play in the position included Hamish Cole, Hamish Ellicott, Rhys Bourne and Luka O'Shea who was a whole hearted player in any position.

The half back position was keenly contested by youngsters Lachlan Morse and Josh Dominello. Lachie moved to first grade and unfortunately Josh suffered a serious knee injury that finished his year. The team was fortunate that Jett Hatton returned to Wollongong about this time, and he did a commendable job being the link between the backs and forwards.

Early on the 5/8<sup>th</sup> jumper was worn by Pat Perillo who organised the backline efficiently. The coaches decided to give the responsibility to rookie Zini Makene who demonstrated his impressive talent to lead the attack. Zini then missed games as he was playing a great deal of representative rugby in school and junior teams as well as playing in first grade.

In the last few games newcomer Jak Colgate stepped into the role and was more than capable of handling the pressure.

In the centres Pat Perillo and Matthias Wann relived the old days as they combined to give the team a solid presence in attack and defence. They were joined by Jack Thurtell who ran hard and was a solid defender. David Serukai who had joined the club made some appearances but then was

unavailable. Two youngsters in James Sinclair and Zac Wansey played a number of games in the centres and showed a great deal of potential.

Liam Choi was another first-year player whose speed and skill on the wing saw him gain promotion to the top grade. Another to impress was Viliame Naura who also spent time in first grade after showing out in Second grade. It was good to see Dan Ward too back in the fold, but he played most of his games in First Grade.

Callam Rath was a very versatile player who played consistently on the wing and also at fullback. No one really occupied the full back position with any regularity with about seven players having a game or two in the position.

## SEASON RESULTS

### Rd 1: Tech Waratahs - Game postponed due to wet weather

Played 8/5/21

### Rd 2: Bowral

Rd 2 – 27/3/21		Eridge Oval	
<b>Second Grade:</b>	<b>University 10</b>	<b>Bowral 29</b>	
<b>Tries:</b>	Seb Di Noro (1)	Jack Thurtell (1)	
<b>Goals:</b>		<b>Penalty Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Josh Dominello		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Josh Dominello	<b>(2)</b> Jack Thurtell	<b>(1)</b> Hamish Cole

In a pleasing sign Seconds had enough players with even three players on the bench. The team was a mix of old and new with the grand old man of Uni rugby 'Fiji' Tom Fenualelei captaining the side. On the opposite end of the age scale we fielded young colts Jack Scott, Trent Bourne and Seb Di Noro who were still teenagers

The team lacked cohesion but not heart and stayed in the contest and were only behind 5-14 at the break.

The boys maintained their effort and although beaten 10-29 were far from disgraced with half back Josh Dominello starring in his club debut.

### Rd 3: Shamrocks

Rd 3 – 10/4/21		Ocean Park	
<b>Second Grade:</b>	<b>University 17</b>	<b>Shamrocks 39</b>	
<b>Tries:</b>	Sam Laurie (1)	Ethan Mosely (1)	Pat Perillo (1)
<b>Goals:</b>	Zini Makene (1)	<b>Penalty Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Ethan Mosely		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Ethan Mosely	<b>(2)</b> Zini Makene	<b>(1)</b> Tom Fenualelei

When we journeyed to Ocean Park to take on Shamrocks, we put on our best attacking display as we notched three tries. We were in the game only being down 17-22 with ten minutes remaining. Unfortunately, our defence left a bit to be desired and we conceded some late points, but the coaches were impressed with the improvement shown by our younger players.

#### Rd 4: Shoalhaven

Rd 4– 17/4/21		University Oval	
<b>Second Grade:</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Shoalhaven</b> <b>31</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Viliame Naura (1)		
<b>Players Player:</b>	Lachie Morse		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Lachie Morse	<b>(2)</b> Viliame Naura	<b>(1)</b> Seb Di Noro

In the match against Shoalhaven again we had a good number of players available. Shoals were a good side and were always in control, but the boys certainly stuck to the task with Zini Makene showing out in the pivot role.

#### Rd 5: Campbelltown

Rd 5– 24/4/21		Campbelltown Showground	
<b>Second Grade:</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Campbelltown</b> <b>24</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Pat Perillo (1)	Luca O'Shea (1)	
<b>Goals:</b>		<b>Penalty Goals:</b>	Pat Perillo (1)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Josh Dominello		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Josh Dominello	<b>(2)</b> Seb Di Noro	<b>(1)</b> Pat Perillo

Campbelltown was one of the form teams in the comp with a big set of forwards and speedy backs. We were not intimidated and started the game strongly led by halfback Dominello. The coaches were confident of an upset win when we only trailed 3-7 at half time. Things continued positively as two tries saw us hit the front 13-12 after 15 minutes. Unfortunately, we again lacked the ability to finish off games and Campbelltown scored two more tries to end up winners 13-24

#### Rd 6: Avondale

Rd 6 – 1/5/21		University Oval	
<b>Second Grade:</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Avondale</b> <b>36</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Jed Buchanan (1)		
<b>Players Player:</b>	Ed McClymont		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Harry O'Malley	<b>(2)</b> Ethan Mosely	<b>(1)</b> Viliame Naura

We fielded a very young and inexperienced side who were up against one of the leading teams. Luckily 'Fiji' Tom and Opeti George were on board to lend their maturity to the mix. The first half was a tight affair with Avondale scoring the only try. However, the second half was a different story as fatigue set in and saw the boys leaking points fairly regularly. Jed Buchanan scored a consolation try late in the piece while Ed McClymont was the star performer. A big loss was Josh Dominello who damaged his knee early in the game and he was out for the season.

#### RD 1: Tech Waratahs

Rd 1 – 8/5/21		Saunders Oval	
<b>Second Grade:</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Tech Waratahs</b> <b>22</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Zac Wansey (1)	Viliame Naura (1)	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Opetiaia George	Matthias Wann	
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Opetiaia George	<b>(2)</b> Zac Wansey	<b>(1)</b> Ethan Mosely

We were down on numbers for this clash with our neighbours with only one replacement on the bench, but we stuck to the task admirably. Opetiaia George and Ethan Mosely were consistently at

breakdowns putting pressure on Tech's attack. Once again the score was close after 35 minutes with both teams scoring a try.

In the second half Tech went further ahead by another three tries and it was only in the last minute of play that Liam Choi scooted across for a well-deserved five-pointer.

#### Rd 7: Vikings

Rd 7 – 15/5/21		Vikings Oval		
<b>Second Grade:</b>		<b>University 24</b>		<b>Vikings 27</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Callum Rath (2)	Jack Thurtell (1)	Liam Choi (1)	
<b>Goals:</b>	Jacob Ferguson (2)	<b>Penalty Goals:</b>		
<b>Players Player:</b>	Callum Rath			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Jacob Ferguson	<b>(2)</b> Callum Ferguson	<b>(1)</b> Jack Scott	

Our excellent first half performance continued when we took on Vikings at their home ground. We led early but the scores were locked up at 12 all until Vikings scored a try right on half time. The second half saw both teams cross for two tries each which showed how close the opponents were to each other. Unfortunately, we again failed to finish the game off although we did secure a couple of bonus points.

#### Rd 8: Camden

Rd 8 – 22/5/21		University Oval		
<b>Second Grade:</b>		<b>University 5</b>		<b>Camden 29</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Jack Scott (1)			
<b>Players Player:</b>	Harry O'Malley			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Harry O'Malley	<b>(2)</b> Jack Scott	<b>(1)</b> Luka O'Shea Jett Hutton Pat Perillo	

After another solid start against Camden, we were well and truly in the game only behind 12-5 at the break. Our only try was scored by novice front rower Jack Scott. This brought the crowd to their feet as it was Jack's first try for the senior club.

Once more we couldn't maintain the effort and Camden scored three more second half tries to win quite easily.

#### Rd 9: Kiama

Rd 9 – 1/5/21		University Oval		
<b>Second Grade:</b>		<b>University 36</b>		<b>Kiama 5</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Jett Hatton (2)	Tom Fenelelui (1)	Liam Choi (1)	Callum Rath (1)
<b>Goals:</b>	Pat Perillo (3)	<b>Penalty Goals:</b>		
<b>Players Player:</b>	Opetaia George			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Opetaia George	<b>(2)</b> Trent Bourne	<b>(1)</b> Liam Choi	

All good things come to those who wait and so it was as Seconds dominated Kiama in all areas in their Friday night clash.

The score line was again close at the break but this time we were in front.

The boys then ran amok in the next 35 minutes with four excellent tries being the result of some good rugby on our part. It must be said that Kiama were not that strong, but any win is a good win.

### Rd 10: Tech Waratahs

Rd 10 – 5/6/21		University Oval	
<b>Second Grade:</b>		<b>University 24</b>	<b>Tech Waratahs 28</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Jett Hatton (1)	Pat Perillo (1)	Callum Rath (1) Viliame Naura (1)
<b>Goals:</b>	Pat Perillo (1) Zach Wansey (1)	<b>Penalty Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Callum Rath		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Callum Rath	<b>(2)</b> Jack Scott	<b>(1)</b> Luka O'Shea

Uni looked to continue on their winning ways when we took on Tech at home. Tech held a narrow 14-12 lead at the break after each team score two tries.

The boys came out in the second half and took the lead and looked likely winners with time running out.

Unfortunately, luck deserted us and Tech scored to take out the game. In the final washup a penalty try that was awarded against us proved to be the difference

### Rd 11: Bowral

Rd 11 – 19/6/21		University Oval	
<b>Second Grade:</b>		<b>University 5</b>	<b>Bowral 31</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Liam Choi (1)		
<b>Players Player:</b>	Matthias Wann		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3)</b> Opetai George	<b>(2)</b> Jett Hatton	<b>(1)</b> Luka O'Shea

It was finally towards the end of the session break and numbers were down a tad as we took on Bowral. It was a tough day at the office for the boys against a well drilled side. The fact that Matthias Wann spent some time in the bin also made our task that much harder. Bowral gained the upper hand early in the match and maintained pressure for the full game. Luckily, we had Opetai George and Tom Fenelelui to help our youngsters stay in the game.

## Second Grade Points Table 2022

Pos	Team	Played	Won	Draw	Loss	-/+	Points	Bonus	Total
1	Shamrocks	12	9	0	3	189	36	10	46
2	Campbelltown	10	9	0	1	184	36	8	44
3	Bowral	11	9	0	2	150	36	8	44
4	Avondale	10	7	1	2	195	30	8	38
5	Shoalhaven	12	6	0	6	71	24	8	32
6	Camden	11	6	0	5	-1	24	5	29
7	Tech Waratahs	11	4	0	7	-142	16	7	23
8	Vikings	12	2	1	9	-245	10	3	13
9	University	12	1	0	11	-178	4	5	9
10	Kiama	11	2	0	9	-223	8	0	8

## Second Grade Points Scored 2021

Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	Player	Total	Tries	G	PG
<i>Second Grade</i>									
<b>PERILLO, Patrick</b>	26	3	4	1	<b>RATH, Callam</b>	25	5	0	0
<b>CHOI, Liam</b>	15	3	0	0	<b>HATTON, Jett</b>	15	3	0	0
<b>NAURA, Viliame</b>	15	3	0	0	<b>THURTELL, Jack</b>	10	2	0	0
<b>BUCHANAN, Jed</b>	5	1	0	0	<b>COLGATE, Jak</b>	5	1	0	0
<b>Di NORO, Sebastian</b>	5	1	0	0	<b>FENUALELEI, Thomas</b>	5	1	0	0
<b>LAURIE, Sam</b>	5	1	0	0	<b>MOSELY, Ethan</b>	5	1	0	0
<b>O'SHEA, Luka</b>	5	1	0	0	<b>SCOTT, Jack</b>	5	1	0	0
<b>FERGUSON, Jacob</b>	4	0	2	0	<b>MAKENE, Zintori</b>	2	0	1	0
<b>WANSEY, Zachary</b>	2	0	1	0					

## Games Played 2021.

Player	1sts	2nds	Total	Player	1sts	2nds	Total
ANDERSON, Dexter	9	0	9	MAKENE, Zintori	8	2	10
BAKER, Tom	9	0	9	McCLYMONT, Ed	2	5	7
BAYLEY, Simon	0	1	1	McDONALD, Hamish	1	1	2
BOURNE, Greg	0	1	1	MORSE, Lachie	12	2	14
BOURNE, Rhys	2	4	6	MOSELY, Ethan	8	11	19
BOURNE, Trent	0	10	10	NAURA, Viliame	6	8	14
BUCHANAN, Jed	0	8	8	NEPIA, Donovan	7	0	7
CHIMWAZA, Takunda	6	0	6	NGATAI, Wayne	11	0	11
CHOI, Liam	5	9	14	NGUYEN, Michael	7	1	8
COLE, Hamish	7	12	19	O'MALLEY, Harry	4	5	9
COLGATE, Jak	2	5	7	O'SHEA, Luka	5	12	17
CONYERS, Lachlan	12	0	12	PAPWORTH, Andrew	2	0	2
CREHAN, Jack	0	2	2	PERILLO, Patrick	5	8	13
CROUS, Christo	0	1	1	RAMEKA, Casey	9	0	9
CURRY, Charles	8	0	8	RANGUIRA, Nicholas	4	1	5
DITCHFIELD, William	0	3	3	RATH, Callam	1	11	12
Di NORO, Sebastian	1	6	7	RICE, Jackson	2	0	2
DOMINELLO, Joshua	1	3	4	SA, Taofiga	9	0	9
DOUCH, Simon	3	0	3	SCOTT, Jack	0	10	10
ELLCOTT, Hamish	0	10	10	SERUKAI, David	5	3	8
FENUALELEI, Thomas	0	10	10	SHEPHERD, David	0	7	7
FERGUSON, Jacob	0	2	2	SINCLAIR, James	0	7	7
GEORGE, Opetai	1	7	8	SMALL, Oliver	0	5	5
GREHAN, Brayden	7	0	7	THURTELL, Jack	7	7	14
HACKETT, Sam	11	0	11	TSHOKO, Wangchuk	4	0	4
HALLIDAY, Nicholas	5	2	7	TUALA, Paul	6	0	6
HATTON, Jett	7	7	14	WANN, Matthias	3	9	12
JONES, Oscar	0	4	4	WANSEY, Zachary	1	9	10
KELLY, Jack	0	1	1	WAQABACA, Maciu	2	6	8
KENNERLEY, Tolson	12	0	12	WARD, Daniel	5	1	6
LALLY, Jonathon	5	1	6	WICKLIFFE, Hemana	10	0	10
LAURIE, Sam	8	3	11	WORTH, Joshua	0	2	2



## Men's Awards 2021

Awards:		Donated by:	Winner:
President's Award	Jack Huxley Shield	Glenn McGuinness	Glenn McGuinness
Award for Leadership	Sam Davey Shield	Paul Webb Canio Fierravanti	Wayne Ngatai Paul Tuala
Trainer of the Year		Paul Dunai	Brayden Grehan
Coaches Award		Wayne Dobson	Paul Tuala
Most Improved – First Grade			Michael Nguyen
Most Improved – Second Grade			Jack Scott
Third Grade Best and Fairest	Nick Theodore Shield	Peter Keeble	n/a
Third Grade 'Players Player'			n/a
Second Grade Best and Fairest		Noel Yates	Ethan Mosely
Second Grade 'Players Player'			Josh Dominello
First Grade Best and Fairest		Dave Rae	Takunda Chimwaza
First Grade 'Players Player'			Takunda Chimwaza
Players 'Player of the Year'	Phillip "Doris" McInerney Shield	Dave Bateman Tom Wren Rob Pedersen	Takunda Chimwaza
Rookie of the Year		Duarte Do Rego	Zini Makene
Player with the Most Potential	Dave Reading Shield	Dave Bateman Tom Wren Rob Pedersen	Zini Makene
Leading Try Scorer			Charles Curry Callam Rath
Leading Points Scorer		Dave Bateman Tom Wren Rob Pedersen	Zini Makene
Club Person of the Year		Keith Hales	Glenn McGuinness
'Iron Man' Award Played in all rounds.			Hamish Cole Ethan Mosely

