



COUGARS ROAR

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS
NEWSLETTER; ISSUE 1 2010

RUGBY
a game for ruffians
...played by ruffians

ESTABLISHED 1976

Welcome to the first of the 2010 Cougars Roar for the season. As always it is hoped to be able to get a newsletter out once every month to let you know what is happening in and around the Club. I will also use the email system regularly to keep you posted on Club matters!

Any feedback you have or stories or snippets for this newsletter will be helpful as it is for me to try and keep you all as well informed of the Clubs progress and developments as the season wears on. **Please read on....**

After the end of the 2009 season we prepared for our challenge of the tournaments ahead to see us in preparation of the 2010 Rugby season.

Singapore 7's

This was a successful tour with the Club bring home its first real piece of silverware in 25 years as Winners of the Bowl for 2009, although we would have liked to contested the plate we just lapsed on day one but certainly had our chances. We even had a hand in playing for the Ablitt Cup some 25 years after our winning of the Cup.....but more on that later!

DAY 1: **Oriental Rongotai** were our first opponent. "Orries" are from Wellington and are a previous winner of the Ablitt Cup in 2001 and a tournament favourite to take out the Plate but we managed to give them a hard game but the end result was Rongotai winning 22-19.

Borneo Eagles were our second challenge and we always knew this was going to be a big challenge. We can hold our heads up with a respectable score line of 34-5. Not a lot of pool match teams get to within 30 or even 40 points of the Eagles (who were also a favourite for the Plate along with Orries....both teams out of our pool contested the Plate Final so not bad from our guys at all)

Hong Kong Step was our last hurdle on Saturday evening. This was a game we thought we could win and win easily but the HKS were too good on the day and slid over for a 5 pointer in the dying seconds to take the game 24-21.

DAY 2: Saw Cougars pooled to contest the Bowl. Although we wanted to play the Cup/Plate rounds we were determined to make amends for our concentration lapses on the Saturday and give the Bowl a good shake!

First up saw the Cougars play the National Indian team the **Indian Invaders**. We had watched a couple of there games from the Saturday pool matches and believed that we could beat them. The game was well played by our guys with the Cougars showing dominance from the kick off to take the match with a 35-0 scoreline.

Next up was the rematch we were wanting against the **Hong Kong Step**. This time we were focused and came with our game faces on and again we were the dominant team from the outset taking on the Hong Kong development side the way we should have played on the Saturday. A last few seconds try from the Honkonese stopped us from clean sweeping them, with the final score 25-5 to the Cougars.

This win took us to the Bowl Final....it was to be an all Territory affair with **East Arnhem Rugby (Gove)** also breaking through to the Bowl Final but it was to be the Cats that took the victory lap with a solid 17-0 win over the boys from Gove.

Sunday proved to be our day by the Cougars only conceding 5 points for the day....well done to the lads and we will have another crack next season, this time at the Plate to complete our set of an Ablitt Cup, a Bowl and a Jug!

Heineken Hottest 7's "KOMBAT COUGARS"

The Hottest 7's are over for another year and from a Club perspective it was an extremely successful campaign with the Club being eliminated from the Buff Competition (Plate) by the Mozzies in a hard fought contest mid Sunday afternoon. Day one saw the Kombat Cougars play 4 games. Our goal was to win 2 of those games with an upset if possible! First game of the day for the Cougars was out on the back field against the Alice Springs. The First game of any tournament is





COUGARS ROAR

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS
NEWSLETTER; ISSUE 1 2010

ESTABLISHED 1976

RUGBY
a game for ruffians
...played by ruffians

always hard but the boys did a great job and won comfortably with a 26-0 scoreline.

The win against Alice Springs took us out to the main ground and into *Pool C*, against SRC Borneo Eagles (*Eventual winners of the Croc Final – Cup*), the Western Quokkas from Perth and the Aussie Spirit.

Second game on Saturday pitted us against SRC Borneo Eagles, who looked a better and stronger team than when we played them in Singapore 2 months earlier! Again we played well in patches but were no match for the professionalism of the Borneo team going down 28-5.

The third game was our target game, the Western Quokkas, they looked solid early in their earlier clash with the Aussie side but eventually going down 57-5. The Kombat Cougars easily won the game 28-5 putting us third in our pool, which is where we were aiming for.

The last game on Saturday was always going to be a hard task for a local amateur Darwin team to get up against a professional team in the Aussie Spirit. The Cougars took it to the Aussie team in the first half, trailing at the Half Time break, 7-0. The second half saw the Aussie team step up a notch or two and power through to a 47-0 scoreline. The guys can hold their heads high, it was a guts effort for the first 7 minutes and the crowd were well and truly behind us by half time.

Day two and a new challenge.....get to the Buff (Plate) final. Game one for us was against the URL Samurai (*Runners Up against Borneo Eagles in the Final*). The Cougars came out with their game face on and played well against yet another professional team. The Kombat Cougars put in a great showing to only go down to the finalist by 26-12.

This loss took us out of the Croc Competition (Cup) and into the Buff Competition (Plate) where we had wanted to be. We felt we had a better than even chance to go through to the Buff Final.

Next game as with any game in the business end of a competition, it was a do or die game. The game was against the South Australian team the Coopers Bulla Boys. This was a tough game and we were behind the eight ball most of the game and

locked up at 12 all with less than a minute on the clock, but in the dying seconds Joe Tuisuva slid under the posts to take us to a 19 – 12 win and through to the next round.

Next game was against the NT Mozzies, again we thought we could give the Mozzies a good shake up regardless of the fact that they had 4 imports and with only 3 or so minutes in the game remaining the Kombat Cougars were leading 12-10. However the Mozzies in the end were too strong and we made some basic errors which saw a couple of very soft tries scored which allowed them to win through into the Buff Final.

The Kombat Cougars Team:

Shaun Kober © - Shane Crowley – Damien Heath – Zac Phillips – Josh Phillips – Joseva Tuisuva – Manasa Tuisuva – Voasa Naivalu – Danny Robertson – Rongo Keene – Scott Kennon and George Kupu.

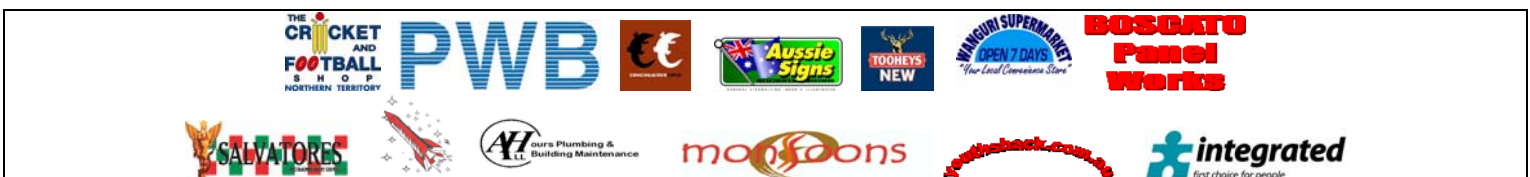
South Darwin 10's Cougars - Plate Winners 2010

Saturday the 27th February was the annual South Darwin 10's. We had what we believed to be a near full strength team and were going to give the tournament a good shake. The weather was abismal with strong winds and heavy rain most of the day.

We won our first match against Jabiru easily 26-0. Our next game was against the Army's 1st Brigade side who was defending their title from 2009. The game was hard and tough which resulted in a 5 all draw however because 1st Brigade were first to score they were deemed the winner, which put them through to the Cup and us through to the plate.

The plate was contested against Palmerston which saw the Blue and White score a resounding 46-0 to win the Plate!

Go Figure! we didn't lose a game all day and only had 1 try scored against us and we still came 3rd!





COUGARS ROAR

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS
NEWSLETTER; ISSUE 1 2010

ESTABLISHED 1976

RUGBY
a game for ruffians
...played by ruffians

JABIRU 10's

Cougars - Cup Winners 2010

Firstly thanks to all the players who gave up their Saturday to travel to Jabiru to play in the 10's tournament. We ended up taking only 12 players which was pretty disappointing as we really wanted to take a full squad of 15, however we had a few support staff and family members come out as well which was great to see considering the searing heat out at Jabiru.

The Club hired a bus and left at 7.00am on Saturday morning from Rugby Park. It was a long day for most of us with 20+ hours, not getting back into Darwin until about 1am on Sunday!

With 5 players from the South Darwin 10's the week before unavailable, (Scott Kennon, Rongo Keene, Dwight Shepherd, Adam Hubbard & Owen Griggs) and with a couple out on the sooks list, everyone that travelled stood up and played well and did the Cougars proud in what was an extremely hot day!

Our first game was to take on our nemesis from last weeks South Darwin 10's, 1st Brigade. It was a better result on the dry track with the Cougars getting on top of the Army 12-0. Next game saw us take on a young but energetic side from Palmerston, with a great result to the Cougars of about 38-0 or thereabouts! Third game for the day saw us take on South Darwin in a hard fought game with an end result of about 26-5 taking us to the top of our pool to play the also undefeated Uni Pirates.

No love lost here with the winners cup on the line against the Pirates and with the Cougars easy winners the score line ending up around 36-10 making the Cougars the Winners of the 2010 Jabiru 10's

As per usual, it was an enjoyable bus trip back!

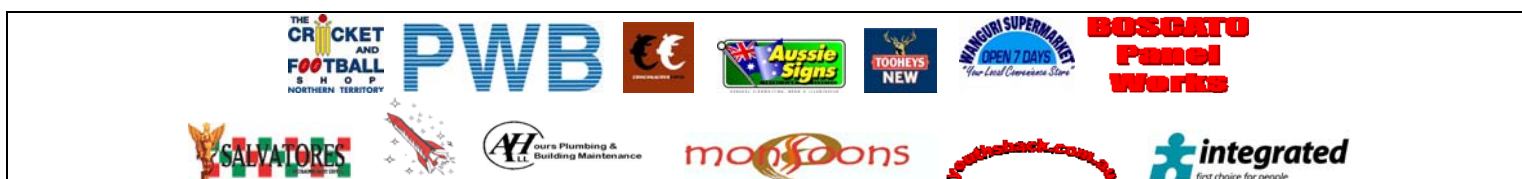
COACHES & MANAGERS

Mini & Juniors:

Team:	Coach:	Manager:
Under 5	Kathryn Smith	Vacant
Under 7	Brian Anderson	Kim Fox
Under 9	Regan Anderson Glen Boath Angus Lawrie	Jane Anderson
Under 11	Mason Smith-Lester	Megan Smith Lester
Under 13	Patrick McMahon	Di Miller
Under 15/17	Josh Phillips Zac Phillips Rob Christie	Sonny Schuman Drew Weaver Donna Hofmeier

Seniors:

Team:	Coach:	Manager:
Club Coach	Peter McGrath	
A Grade	Peter McGrath	Jone Tuiono Matt Thompson
B Grade B Grade	Glen Withers Danny Hansen	Siggi Buba Matt Watts (TBC)
Club Trainer:	Matt Thompson	
Sports Medicine:	Margaret Buba	
Sports Medicine:	Kathryn Heath	





COUGARS ROAR

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS
NEWSLETTER; ISSUE 1 2010

ESTABLISHED 1976

RUGBY
a game for ruffians
...played by ruffians

DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday 13th March @ 5pm – Austar Rugby Park

- Internal Trial Match.

Saturday 20th March – Austar Rugby Park
Senior Rugby Season Commences

- A Grade v South Darwin @ 6pm Field 2
- B Grade v Darwin Dragons @ 4.30pm Field 1

Saturday 26th March – Austar Rugby Park

- Junior Rugby season commences

Friday 9th April – Clubhouse

- Ladies Night

Saturday 17th April – Austar Rugby Park

- Cougars Home Game

Saturday 8th May – Austar Rugby Park

- Cougars Home Game
- Race Night (TBC)

Thursday 27th May – Venue TBC

- Battle of the Codes by K Faktor
- John “Knuckles” Connolly (V)
- Tommy “cattledog” Raudonikis

Saturday 5th June – Austar Rugby Park

- Cougars Home Game

Saturday 3rd July – Austar Rugby Park

- Cougars Ball

Saturday 4th September – Austar Rugby Park

- Grand Final

Saturday 11th September – Sydney

- Bledisloe Cup

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Senior Membership fees this season will be at **\$170.00** the same as last season or **\$220.00** with a Season Pass.

START PAYING YOUR FEES NOW!

See Mark or Kathryn on any given Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday at the Clubhouse.

We are not asking a lot compared to other sports....Please pay your fees ASAP. Instalments are fine and \$20 a week is the minimum but start making some payments. We also take EFTPOS.



WEBSITE UPGRADES AND INFORMATION

Remember to check out the Clubs website for all the latest news and information. We will again try and keep the site as up to date as possible throughout the season.

www.casuarinarugby.com.au

We have been making some improvements to the website and will continue to do so over the next few weeks, so any feedback you have on what would make the site better please let [me](#) know or [Shane](#) on your thoughts!

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce a couple of new sponsors to the Club in 2010.

PW Baxter & Associates who are sponsoring both the Old Boys and A Grade.

Monsoons who will also be sponsoring A Grade.

All Hours Plumbing who are sponsoring B Grade and Singapore.

