

BRO NEWS ISSUE 8



Back to Brothers Day

18th July 2009

On for young and old!

NEWSFLASH!

Badge Draw at every home game for players that have paid subs. Currently at \$140

Committee Update

➤ Back to Brothers Day 18th July



BACK TO BROTHERS DAY

Family Day has now changed to Back to Brothers Day on the 18th July. This will incorporate the young and old and there will be free kids bouncy castle, face painting and lucky dip. For the bigger kids there is drama and excitement of the rugby and the delectable delights of the BBQ.



SUPPORT YOUR BROTHERS

So players and supporters new and old bring your family and friends down to the ground for a day out together and get back to what it means to be a Brother.

➤ Website

The Brothers website has been updated and a load of photos added to the gallery. Mr Brannan does a fantastic job of taking photos most weeks and we are more than happy to add these to the website. Each edition of the Bro News will be published on the website as well.

If you have any ideas as to ways that we can improve or add to the website, please talk to Keith or Matt.

➤ Planning for 2010

Planning for the 2010 season is already taking place. A brains trust has been put together to discuss business plans, fund raising to facilitate a competitive & spirited club next year. We have called in some old Brothers member to gather their ideas and we will keep you posted on ideas that we have.

➤ Subs

We are still chasing some of you to pay your subs. The club does not run itself and we have bills to pay. For the payers that have not paid their subs, you will be harassed.

➤ The Badge Draw

All players who have paid their subs will be issues with a numbered key ring and a badge draw will take place at the end of every home game. The badge draw will take place during the speeches and the winning player needs to be present to collect the money. The pot is currently up to \$140 and you have to be there to claim the prize.

Please see Matt McIntyre if you have paid your subs and need a numbered keyring.

➤ **Look Smart**

We have designed a few extra items that you may be interested in buying. They are from Tsunami sport and the sizes are the same as the gear that you have been handed out this year. These are great for the wives / girlfriends to wear to the games on Saturdays. If you are interested in purchasing one or all of these please let Matt McIntyre know.

Top one is the hoodie made from fleece material - \$45

Middle is the Fleece - \$45

Bottom is the wet weather training top. This has a hat in the collar - \$60



➤ **Up Coming Games**

11th July V Balmain @ Home

18th July Vs Merrylands @ Home

27th July Vs Hunters Hill Away

1st August Wet Weather Week

➤ **Coaches**

Please ensure you are in contact with your coach about training and availability for games:

First Grade – Tom Burns - 0404468040

Second Grade – John Andrews – 0434047827

Third Grade – Ian Mears - 0419479773

Fourth Grade – Dave Taylor - 0411172505, Roy Anderson - 0414 706 195,

David Bullard – 0414262638

Match Reports

4th Grade

After last week's "Lull-to-end-all-Lull's" where only 13 players ran onto the field, last Saturday saw a re-alignment of the planets which caused havoc to The Feisty 4th's *modus operandi*.

Inexplicably, nearly the whole team was up at Wakehurst by 11.30 to play UWS... dressed by 11.45 and (*you may want to sit down for the next bit*).... and warming up... including a spot of running and arm-flapping pre-kick-off.

Sadly though, this spike of activity was short-lived, as soon after things got underway there appeared a flurry of arms and legs on the horizon which resulted in much whistle blowing.

Our covert reporter on the spot sent through a comprehensive analysis of the incident.

"Some prick put a late hit on Jerry so Pickle hit him and then someone hit Pickle and then Jaquesy tried to hit the bloke who hit Pickle but he was too short... then they all hand-bagged each other for a bit" ... magic stuff.

Final score in the game was another win to the geriatrics **20-5**.... which sees us still holding onto our 2nd Spot on the ladder - with Hunters Hill still having a game in hand.

Thanks to... starting from the back...Tommy B, Pat, Dom, Brown, Scotty, Enda, Slutty, Jerry, Iain Tuipupu, Gav, Hans, Coops, Rock, Kieren, Pickle, Steeley and Jaquesy (c).

From the sideline, it was a pretty uninspiring and messy game of footy where we played to their slow and scrappy level. We'll certainly need to lift our game given who we'll be facing in the coming weeks.

Next round is Petersham at Camperdown. They're drilled, young, and I'd imagine fitter than when we last saw them. Given that we only beat them in Round 1 on the final whistle, we'll certainly have to lift our game markedly to keep a winning momentum.

See you at Camperdown gentlemen...

The Feisty 4th's Lost 17-0 to Petersham last Saturday because:

- (a) Five blokes pulled out the day of the game (well four actually, as one who pulled out never bothered to let us know he was in)
- (b) All of the above.

Got to say it was pretty deflating for all concerned explaining to a waiting referee at 11.55am that 'Yes... we are The Brothers team 2nd on the ladder' ...and "No... it doesn't look like we'll be able to field a team today. Really sorry... maybe we should go and tell the opposition captain".

We did field a team by grabbing some 3rd Graders and an injured spectator and running on.

The net result was a loss - some very tired third graders who had two more games ahead of them - injured players doing more damage to themselves - and at least one solid Feisty 4th, after feeling compelled to reciprocate 3rd Grade's favour, doing himself a potentially long-term injury.

As a couple of blokes mentioned after the game, it really does feel like we're at the crossroads.

Don't bother saving yourself for the finals gents - there won't be any finals if last Saturday's situation becomes the norm.

3^d Grade

Brothers 15 - UWS 14

It's been a long time coming but finally have our first win and I'm confident in saying it won't be the last.

We were looking a good chance in our last game against Blacktown but faded in the second half thankfully this was not repeated this game.

Score line did not indicate the game as Brothers were the better side for most of the match. However a late try to UWS made for an uncomfortable last five minutes but we finished strongly and took the points.

3 points went to Tom Burns who had a great game at 5/8 his tactical kicking in the wet conditions gave us good field position for most of the match

2 points to our captain Simon Goodwin who was strong in both attack and defence.

1 point to Stuet Mangion who had a fine game in the tight.

A big thanks to those guys who backed up from the 4ths and to the higher graders who helped out.

To all the guys in the team well done let's use this win as motivation for the remaining games.

Our next game is against Petersham who beat us easily in the first game. I would like to think we can give them a big surprise this time around.

After our first up win of the previous week I was looking forward to this game with some confidence. Petersham won our first round game easily and I was hoping we would give them a bit of a surprise this time round but it was not to be.

Unfortunately due to a flu outbreak and some unavailability we were struggling to put a side on the field. However there were positives out of the game. Mike Harding had his best game of the season. This was his second game back from injury and the fitness levels are picking up. He was particularly impressive with the work he got through in both attack and defence and was awarded the 3 points.

2 points went to John Nichols who keeps battling a back injury. 1 point went to Issac Menton. It is great to see Issac back after some time off and he also appreciated his first game back last week as he also got through a mountain of work. Also a special mention to Duncan Fraser in only this second game of Rugby he was moved from wing to fullback in the second half and showed he has the ability and guts to be a good player well done Duncan.

All our sides were depleted this round but I have been really impressed with the Club spirit to those higher grade players who offer to play two games to help out to the 4th graders who back up so we can get fifteen on the paddock and to those guys who play a position that is not their choice thank you.

It is hoped we will have quite a few players back for next game and if this is the case we can be competitive. See you at training.

2nd Grade

Seconds v UWSH at Wakehurst on 27 July 2009

A move to Wakehurst saw the seconds without a specialist front row which required us to go uncontested. We are looking forward to seeing John Nichols back real soon. Special mention to Mark Patterson, Tristan Howes and Issac Menton for doing a quick turnaround to play in the front row, fortunately without having to contest the scrums. The game was perhaps highlighted by the tremendous try to Arron Neate, who cleverly kicked ahead and regained to score in the corner. The game also saw the most welcome return of Luke Sullivan from the wild West, playing in the unaccustomed role of 5/8. This was a game that was well contested early on, but it eventually got away from us. Ned Brown had a strong game, particularly off the back, until he eventually ran out of go due to a chest infection. Also strong for us were Brownie and Keith Bromwich who got through a lot of tight stuff. Our centres tackled well, but we need to generally attack the opposing player so as to close out their space. Sorry about the keg, but it was great to see our other teams get up. That elusive win is getting closer.

Seconds v Petersham 4/7/09

Whilst the score line was ugly (0-81), the bad news-the good news is that in the second half we saw an improved performance and Ned Brown got the all clear on his injury worry, so it was only his Saturday night that was affected. Once again, we were forced to go uncontested in the scrums, with Tristan Howes and Mike Harding backing up after a full game in 3s. Our best were Matt Gibbs (also backing up), Gerry Shannon tackling and running well in the centres and Issac Menton showing that he has a fair bit of ability and can get around the paddock at a pretty fair pace (during his two games).

Hugh Eriksson showed what a great Clubman he is by getting down to playing 2 games after being told by the coach that he was not initially in the starting line-up. Where would we be without blokes like Hugh?

A very honourable mention to 1) Duncan Fraser, who many may be surprised to know has now played his 3rd ever game of rugby-if the way he caught the high ball and took it back up were any indication, he is on the way to being a very valuable rugby player, and 2) Joe Vuli, who happened to play 3 games on Saturday-helping out 4ths when they were short at 11.55, playing a full game in seconds and then playing a majority of the Firsts and showing great skills in doing so. Maybe we all need to join the army to reach the desired level of fitness????

Message from the game-don't try and wrestle with gorillas if you don't happen to be one yourself.

1st Grade - OC Corner

OC Corner

Well I am happy to report that first grade have recorded their second win of the season. The boys started the game by deciding that may game plan was obviously flawed so they made up their own. It was a very scrappy first half we got ahead early with a lucky try to the skipper and then proceeded to ensure we played much of the remainder of the half inside our own 22. We went into the sheds 12-7 up the first time we have been up at half time all year. At half time it was suggested just as an idea to try sticking to the game plan, which I have to say they did. Great kicking game from Popeye (who later undid all his good work by swimming in the remains

of a certain coaches jager bomb which he decided was better out of his body rather than in, needless to say Ash Popeye's girlfriend was a little unimpressed with their cab trip home to manly) Anyway back to the report, the boys played great team rugby in the second half with the forwards setting a solid platform. Captain courageous scored 3 great tries (at one stage I had to ask the touch judge to stop raving on about his kick chase try as I thought I was going to be sick, which of course happened much later but obviously this was the source of my sickness). Billy I can run through a wall Madgwick continued his personal crusade to run through anything standing in front of him, one day he will learn to side step and Noodles kept the skipper honest with two tries to himself.

A special mention to Simon Ricketts who pulled of the tackle of the day coming from the blind wing to cut their centre in half to stop a certain try. From that moment on we never looked like getting beaten. Final score 36-12, six tries to two. Special mentions also, 3 points to Matt Mc, 2 Billy, 1 Ricko, John Evans and Alex Metcalfe for dropping three out of four kick offs, Paul Gibbs for getting home before 6am the day of the game. Quote of the day goes to the UWS Half Back after watching Brownie run on as a replacement "Oh F*** me here comes Robo Kop". Tommy Brom gets points for courage for again trying to rip his ear off getting bandaged up and getting back out there.

Keith Popeye Kitchen has become firm favourite for tour legend after showing some strong early form, the smart money is still on Paul I'm a Banana Gibbs though never write a true staying champion off and how could anyone forget last years finish down the home straight. Last years runner up the OC has dropped right out of the betting and anyone who likes some value should put a few dollars on him.

OC

The trip to Petersham was a tough day at the office. Flu kept Si and George in bed, Dan Mc had to pull out at the last moment and the tank trundled out after crawling out of bed with the flu.

It was a hard fought battle on a pitch that resembled a car park. The boys had an indifferent first half mixing some good footy (such as a driving mall from a line out which went for 30m straight from which Santa went under the post after a clever dummy switch), with some basic errors giving up valuable field position. Behind at half time and with big Joe playing his first game for first grade (after playing 4th and 2nd grade) I was a bit concerned about a score blow out. If nothing else this year's first grade side has started to believe in themselves and play for each other which is an attribute all good CBOB'S sides have had in the past. So tired, sore and flu ridden the boys went out for the second half and really took the game to the Shammies. Leading from the front as always our Kiwi capt (bring on the tri nations) pooped up for a couple of tries and all of a sudden we where right in the game with 5mins to go 17-29, a Petersham try on the bell killed us off but all in all I was very proud of the second half effort. Beau Keller had one of his best game for the club, Brownie should of got points for his swan dive from the top of the lineout when dropped by his so called mates and he landed soundly on his head. John Gibbs is in disgrace for appearing drunk 15 mins prior to kick off and supposedly injuring his knee early in the second half. I have suspicions of a certain Santa being slightly under the weather as well but he was smart enough to stay clear of the OC and score a try so he escapes punishment.

A successful night on sat night by all accounts, nothing major to report Popeye is claiming he did nothing stupid and OC was on the couch so he defiantly behave. Special thanks to Brownie for sending me a txt at 3.35am which made no sense what so ever, and a mention to Shel (that's noodles better half) who got home at 4am, decided she had the flu and did not get out of bed until 8pm Sunday, now that is poor form.

OC

Player Points V UWSH

4th Grade		3rd Grade		2nd Grade		1st Grade	
Patrick North	1	Stuart Mangion	1	Keith Bromwich	1	Simon Ricketts	1
Enda Winston	2	Simon Goodman	2	Paul Brown	2	Billy Madgwick	2
David Cooper	3	Tom Burns	3	Ned Brown	3	Matt McIntyre	3

Player Points V Petersham

4th Grade		3rd Grade		2nd Grade		1st Grade	
John Bezzina	1	Issac Menton	1	Issac Menton	1	Jonny Gavan	1
Clark Smith	2	John Nichols	2	Niall O'Riordan	2	Beau Keller	2
Hans Krenmayr	3	Michael Harding	3	Matt Gibbs	3	Matt McIntyre	3

Social Update

- July 18th Back to Brothers Day
Bring your family and friends down for a fun day out at the club.
There will be children's entertainment and riveting rugby for the grown ups.
- Poker Night TBC
- Ladies Day TBC August
- September we have the end of season tour. See Paul Gibbs or Scott James urgently if you are interested in going.
- Also in September we have our black Tie ball. The planning for this has started already. Dates and venues will be confirmed shortly.

PLAYER PROFILE



Player Profile



Full Name:

Gerard Shannon

Specs: Approximately as short, fat and old as Rod Kafer

DOB: 3/6/73

Position: 2nd 5

Most respected opponent:

That big unit from Merrylands that looked a bit like Ma'a Nonu

Most famous player played against:

Steven Pokere (in golf....STILL COUNTS!)

Best game you ever played:

Any week where I wasn't injured seems to be a good one at the moment

Any strange pre game rituals:

I perform a mystical routine of having about 5 nervous squirts.

Quick Fire Questions:

Holden or ford? Holden

Blonde or Brunette: Brunette

Cheese or chocolate: Cheese

Boardies or Speedos: Boardies

Star Trek or Star Wars: Star Wars

Would you eat a horse? Probably, if it was in a kebab or minced into a snag

Last book you read? Golden Boy, Kim Hughes biography (It was RUBBISH!)

If you could have one super power for a day what would it be (invisibility, immortality x-ray vision, super strength, Flying) - If it was a Saturday I go for strength, otherwise flying

3 famous dead or alive people you would invite to a dinner.

Jonah Lomu

Ricky Gervais

Beyonce