



2007

Annual Report





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Office Bearers 2007

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Ken Catchpole OAM

VICE PRESIDENT

Peter Medway

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Jim L'Estrange

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Office Bearers 2007

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TREASURER

Andrew Elliot



Chairman's Report



Arvid Petersen

NSW Rugby faced many challenges in 2007, a year that saw much change to infrastructure and personnel. The Mazda Australian

Rugby Championship was introduced then terminated, a new CEO was appointed and the organisation moved into a brand new, state-of-the-art centre of excellence, the IBM Centre.

After several years of strong financial results it was a year to take stock in the wake of a disappointing Super 14 season.

Indeed, 'Rugby Inc' faced a difficult year in 2007 but the Board and NSW RU management moved quickly to mitigate a sudden drop in crowd numbers and subsequent income reduction.

It was an outstanding effort to produce a \$200 000 surplus following such a difficult season.

The challenges for the HSBC Waratahs were significant. A large group of Test players were unavailable for most of the season and that tested our depth.

As Australia's leading state union, we set a high minimum standard and we did not go close to reaching that this season.

The Waratahs must be in the hunt for the semifinals every year and although way off the mark this year I feel the ground work is in place for a successful 2008 campaign.

Tempering the disappointment of the 2007 season was the emergence of the future stars of our game.

It will be hard to forget Lachie Turner's lightning pace on the left wing against the Crusaders.

In just his third game the teenager made his vastly more experienced All Black opponents look almost pedestrian by scoring an outstanding 70 metre try through evasive skill and speed. It inspired the team to the brink of an unlikely victory but more importantly left everyone at the stadium on that night with a strong sense of optimism for the future.

Kurtley Beale, Dean Mumm and Will Caldwell made similar impressions as they stepped up a level and provided their own magic moments.

But it was a disappointing year nonetheless and the Board conducted a thorough review of the Waratahs and the supporting structures beneath at season's end.

The following orders were handed down by the Board and executed without delay.

- **The formation of a Waratah Rugby Committee**
- **Appointment of an Attack Coach**
- **Review HPU and Academy Structures**

Following the fulfilment of these orders the Board is confident the HSBC Waratahs and HPU will be stronger structurally so seasons like 2007 can be avoided in future campaigns.

The recruitment of Todd Loudon from the Super 14 championship winning Bulls was a great coup for NSW Rugby. A former Premiership coach of the year winner with the Randwick club, Todd brings a vital attacking edge to the Waratahs.



Lachie Turner was a standout against the Crusaders and a sign of better times ahead.

Supporting an improved coaching structure is the relocation of the entire union to the IBM Centre at the Sydney Football Stadium. The building marks a turning point for the code in NSW. For more than 133 years the game has been without a true home. Now we have it.

Since turning professional the team has not had headquarters to match its status. Changing and meeting in car parks and corridors was the norm for many years but no longer.

A cutting edge gymnasium, medical and recovery facilities will ensure the best



The IBM Centre marked a turning point for Rugby in NSW during 2007, giving the sport its first true home in Sydney.



Super 14 winning attack coach Todd Louden confers with head coach Ewen McKenzie at training.

preparation possible for the Waratahs and other elite Australian teams.

In fact within weeks of moving in the strength and conditioning coaches reported the breaking of numerous records.

For the rest of the organisation we have an open plan first floor that encourages a free mix of ideas between all levels of the game. The Super 14 coaches are just metres away from the Community Rugby team, competition managers and administration.

Everyone in NSW Rugby is under one roof, working in one direction, in the best interests of the game.

The appointment of Jim L'Estrange as Chief Executive Officer in July was one of those decisions made in the best interests of the game. Jim came to NSW Rugby with a wealth of experience as the Managing Director of Star City Casino and major banking organisations prior to that period.

Jim was the right person at the right time to move NSW Rugby forward. We of course recognise the contribution of outgoing CEO Fraser Neill who helped stabilise the union following the return to self-governance after ARU administration.

Now in Jim L'Estrange we can take the next step with an expert in customer and stakeholder relations as well as vast experience in building world class brands. After last season there is much work to be done on all fronts.

It was a very busy year for all involved in the game. As Australia prepared for the World Cup in France a bold new initiative began with the Mazda Australian Rugby Championship.

Designed to bridge the gap between Super 14 and Club Rugby, the ARC produced

wonderful results Rugby-wise.

Special congratulations go to the Imagetec Central Coast Rays who took out the competition while the Western Sydney Rams (semifinalists) and Sydney Fleet also deserve high praise. I'd like to thank the coaches, committees, players and supporters who made every effort to make their ARC team a reality. Their work has not been in vain. We have seen what the future looks like now we must construct the financial model to make it work. It was extremely unfortunate to see it terminated by the ARU but given the financial burden the decision could not be criticised. The ARC has clearly shown the way in relation to pathway and professional player development. The game cannot go backwards from here and the decision has been taken to review the entire pathway structure in 2008. Some tough decisions are on the horizon.

Congratulations to Sydney University again this year for their victory in the Tooheys New Shute Shield, Club Championship and winner of the NSWRU Team of the Year.

The Students continue to raise the bar for Club Rugby but full credit to Scott Bowen and Eastern Suburbs for their courageous effort in the Grand Final.

Congratulations to Gordon too as inaugural winners of the Trevor Allan Cup which was run after the Shute Shield.

I'd also like to thank the ABC for their continued commitment to cover Club Rugby. The Club game formed the backbone of the second annual awards gala which was a

stunning success.

The night celebrated all things good about the game from schoolboys to women's to the Ken Catchpole medal. It has tremendous scope to grow in stature and congratulations to Jim and his management team for putting on such a great show.

To our valued partners, the sponsors, I offer our gratitude. HSBC has been a loyal partner for seven years and we appreciate their investment in the game not just with the HSBC Waratahs but the Junior Waratahs and Free Kick Clinics.

To all of our partners, we thank you sincerely for your support.

The hard working staff members at NSW Rugby deserve recognition for an extremely busy year as do the volunteers, officials, players, mums and dads.

So many people come together to make up the Rugby community and we should celebrate their passion, commitment and diversity.

Special thanks must go to our President Ken Catchpole OAM who stands down this year. Ken has been a long standing and dedicated servant of the game and for the last two years held the post with great aplomb. Ken's legacy is one that few will repeat and we thank him dearly for his contribution.

Lastly I would like to thank my fellow Directors on the NSWRU Board and wish everyone a successful 2008 season in whatever competition you're involved in.

Arvid Petersen
Chairman



Chairman of the SCG Trust, Rodney Cavalier AO, Chairman of NSW Rugby, Arvid Petersen, and Managing Director of IBM Australia, Glen Boreham, at the official opening of the IBM Centre.

Chief Executive Officer's Report



Jim L'Estrange

2007 could rightly be described as one of great highs and equally great lows. A year characterised in equal parts by challenge, success, and celebration.

Challenge like that of the HSBC Waratahs, who endured one of the toughest Super 14 campaigns ever experienced. Success in the Tooheys New Shute Shield and the Mazda Australian Rugby Championship, both of which featured highly entertaining play and were a showpiece for the talent produced in NSW. And celebration like we saw at our gala awards, where the NSW Rugby community came together to mark the year's high achievers.

I believe that Rugby in NSW is in a fundamentally healthy state. Much work is still to be done, however I see great potential and a springboard upon which to launch into the future.

But if we are to realise the future as I know we can NSW Rugby, like the sport of Rugby Union itself, must first overcome the challenges that lay before us.

Challenges that will not be fixed overnight, but which remain the focus of our intense attention and resolve.

Helping the HSBC Waratahs return to the top of the Super 14 ladder is one such challenge. Injuries and a string of narrow losses conspired to see the team finish 2007 in 13th position, an unacceptable result for all concerned. An in-depth review of the season was undertaken and a number of tough calls made. Ewen McKenzie and his staff were

tasked with righting the ship and the process is well and truly underway.

In 2008 we have new talent in the coaching ranks in Super 14 winner and former Randwick first grade mentor Todd Loudon. We have an improved playing group and we have the sting of 2007 spurring us on.

The drop in crowds that resulted from the team's tough year had a major effect on finances. Belt tightening was a necessity and I'm proud of the way all departments dug deep to reduce costs. We managed to post a not insignificant operating surplus in spite of the pressures upon us which is a credit to all within the organisation. It is reason enough to be confident that better times are ahead.

Challenges remain below the professional level of Rugby. 2008 begins with us once again focusing on the third tier and what form it should take. The Mazda Australian Rugby Championship was a hit with players and the brand of Rugby played was lauded by supporters and the media alike.

However while the Rugby was fantastic, resulting in a title for the Imagetec Central Coast Rays, the model was flawed financially. The fiscal risks were unacceptable and as such we understand the decision of the ARU to not continue with the concept in 2008.

Along with trying to find a way forward on the third tier, we are also working hard to establish a clear and viable pathway for our young and aspiring players. Retaining and growing Rugby in all areas of NSW remains



Phil Waugh returns to help end an injury plagued Waratahs season with a win in Wellington.



Rugby legend David Brockhoff receives a tour of the IBM Centre from Adam Freier.

a major focus for us and is a challenge that needs continual management, which is being carried out with distinction by our Development & Training department.

Away from the field of play we are working on ways to alleviate the pressures that are felt on an almost daily basis by our volunteers. As a sport, we ask so much of so few. And this is reflected by our determination to continually improve the quality of resources and administration not just at NSW Rugby level but across Rugby as a whole.

Of course, it is all too easy to only see challenges. 2007 was also a year of great success.

The Tooheys New Shute Shield culminated in more championship glory for Sydney University, who won a pulsating Grand Final against Eastern Suburbs. The Students' third straight first grade title was followed by their winning both the grade and colts club championships, a magnificent effort that stands as a tribute to the strength of both their playing stocks and administration.

Eastern Suburbs too deserve accolades, reaching a first grade Grand Final for the first time in 16 years, while head coach Scott Bowen was named coach of the year and fullback Gavin Debartolo took out the Ken Catchpole Medal for the best player in Sydney Club Rugby.

Club Rugby continued throughout August and September, with the Trevor Allan Cup held alongside the lower grade and colts competitions. Congratulations to Gordon, who took out the Trevor Allan and Henderson Cups; Manly, who won the Colin Caird Shield; and Sydney University, who claimed the Henderson Shield along with Colts 1, 2 and under 19 titles.

In 2008 we again look forward to a full home and away season of club Rugby and we welcome the challenge undertaken by the clubs to step up to a whole new level of performance.

It's a decision that will invigorate provincial Rugby and I commend SANZAR for making it so.

The ARC, along with the Sydney first and second grade competitions were played under the new Experimental Law Variations, which were successful enough to win implementation for the 2008 Super 14 season. It's a decision that will invigorate provincial Rugby and I commend SANZAR for making it so.

As always, our greatest strength lies in participation Rugby. NSW Suburban and NSW Country, juniors, schools, and NSW Referees all experienced wins in 2007 and continued to uphold the true ethos of Rugby – playing simply for the love of the game. Thank you all.

Success in 2007 is perhaps best exemplified by the appointment of two of our Academy coaches, Shannon Fraser and Greg Mumm, to the Fijian coaching team for the domestic Test series and the Rugby World Cup. Shannon and Greg were an integral part of Fiji's run into the quarterfinals and their careers in the future will be no doubt richer for the experience.

Success also came off the field, with the NSW Rugby Union moving into its state of the art new home, the IBM Centre, at the Sydney Football Stadium. The building is a good fit for the Union today while also allowing for plentiful growth in the future and provides us with a very public show of strength.

I would like to thank our valued partners, and in particular major sponsors HSBC, Vodafone, Tooheys, Mazda, ISC, Samsung and IBM. The support given to the Waratahs and NSW Rugby from our family of valued partners is immeasurable and we would not be able to function to the level we do without it.

I would also like to thank my enormously talented and hard working team at NSW Rugby for all their efforts over the past 12 months. We truly have some unique and dedicated individuals guiding Rugby in NSW.

The entire staff works tirelessly in its efforts to promote and further the game. This



Kurtley Beale lends a hand at an HSBC Free Kick clinic at Coogee Oval.

small yet dedicated band of individuals was involved in the staging of 754 matches in 2007, from the Super 14 down to under 19 colts. That number easily eclipses 1000 when NSW Suburban and NSW Country competitions are taken into account. Long weeks and big hours were pulled, without complaint. To all, I say a massive thank you.

I would also like to acknowledge the NSW Rugby Board of Directors. As always, we have worked together to secure a brighter future for Rugby in NSW and it has been a pleasure to serve with you.

Finally, the future cannot be bright without the ongoing and enormous support we receive from our army of volunteers. The help and assistance we get from the referees, the coaches, the administrators, the mums, dads, wives, husbands, girlfriends and boyfriends, from those behind the canteen counter and those who mark the lines. You allow us all to participate in Rugby and for that we are truly thankful.

Jim L'Estrange
Chief Executive Officer



CEO Jim L'Estrange addresses the crowd at NSWRU's annual Awards Gala.



Ken Catchpole

2007 will go down in history as both a year to forget and also one that should be remembered. The Super 14 campaign was disappointing, a horrific injury toll, a string of narrow losses, and some under-par performances testing both the team and its supporters. As a consequence of the season and subsequent drop in support our finances took a hit and it was only thanks to the loyal support of our sponsors and appropriate actions taken during the year that we managed to finish the year with under the circumstances a creditable result.

During the second half of the year plans were put in place to ensure 2007 is not repeated, including adjustments in recruitment, coaching, selection criteria and execution. We also welcomed a new era in August with the move into the IBM Centre, our new home base at the Sydney Football Stadium. This magnificent facility is state of the art and is proving highly popular with staff and players alike.

Away from the professional end of the game Rugby battled somewhat in parts of this state while in others continuing to command place in the hearts and minds of the public, whether they be supporters of the premiership, suburban, country, juniors or schools.

Sydney University claimed its third straight Premier Rugby title, defeating a gallant Eastern Suburbs in the Tooheys New Shute Shield Grand Final, and also won both the club championship and colts club championship, taking out the Henderson

Shield and all three colts grades. Gordon claimed both the Tooheys New Plate and, fittingly, the inaugural Trevor Allan Cup. In the country, Central Coast won the Caldwell Cup for the third straight year while Drummoyne won suburban Rugby's Kentwell Cup for the second time in as many seasons.

During 2007 13 players made their Super Rugby debuts for NSW, the highest number of new caps in a year since Rugby in Australia went professional. Kurtley Beale, Tim Davidson, David Dennis, Ben Hand, Josh Holmes, Al Manning, Dean Mumm, Beau Robinson, Chris Siale, Nathan Sievert, Jeremy Tilse, Lachie Turner, and Josh Valentine all played their first Super Rugby games for the Waratahs, while Beale and Dennis also recorded their first state caps.

David Lyons passed Nathan Grey's record of 94 state matches to become the third most capped Waratah in history while Rocky Elsom and Peter Hewat brought up 50 state matches. Elsom, Adam Freier, Lote Tuqiri, and Morgan Turinui also made their 50th Super Rugby appearances during 2007.

We were once again prominent at international level, with a good number of Waratahs selected for higher honours. Alastair Baxter, Matt Dunning, Rocky Elsom, Adam Freier, David Lyons, Sam Norton-Knight, Wycliff Palu, Lote Tuqiri, Daniel Vickerman and Phil Waugh all represented

their country with aplomb during 2007. I would particularly like to congratulate Phil Waugh, who filled the role of captain of the Wallabies for the second season in succession, leading the team against Wales in Sydney and Fiji in Perth. He was also vice captain on eight other occasions during 2007.

The Australia A program was also heavily populated by Waratahs, with Alastair Baxter, Kurtley Beale, Will Caldwell, Peter Hewat, Josh Holmes, David Lyons, Dean Mumm, Sam Norton-Knight, Tatafu Polota-Nau, Lachie Turner, and Josh Valentine all taking part in the Pacific Nations Cup tournament. National representation continued at the iRB under 19 world championships in Belfast, where Andrew Barrett, Peter Betham, Adam Campbell, Mitchell Inman, Rowan Kellam, Ben McCalman, Patrick McCabe, Rodney Ma'a, Alfi Mafi, Daniel Palmer, Jason Ryan, Jeremy Su'a, Jared Waerea-Hargreaves, and Sam Wykes all won selection out of Sydney Club Rugby or the Waratah Academy.

In a difficult year I would like to thank for their continued efforts head coach Ewen McKenzie and assistant coaches Steve Tuynman and Les Kiss; the strength and conditioning team headed by Peter McDonald; the medical team of Dr. Sharron Flahive and physiotherapist Stuart Pavely; team manager Scott Harrison and assistant manager Geoff Threlfo; and the media team headed up by media and communications



Lachie Turner proves a hit with fans despite the Waratahs tough season.



Rocky Elsom won every Waratah award there was to win in 2007.

manager Djuro Sen. May the future reward their efforts during 2007.

Congratulations to our award winners for 2007, namely Rocky Elsom (Matthew Burke Cup, Waratah Medal, Herald Cup), Lachie Turner (Australian Super 14 Rookie of the Year), Gavin Debartolo (Ken Catchpole Medal), Scott Bowen (David Brockhoff Medal), and Ian Smith (Dick Byres Medal). All of the above individuals were rated by their peers and also independent judges to be the best in their respective categories during 2007 and deserve due recognition.

A lack of space precludes me from naming the remainder of our award winners from 2007, however let me just emphasise that all were extremely worthy and all upheld the values of Rugby over the course of the last 12 months. May they continue to do so in the future.

NSW teams performed well in the Mazda Australian Rugby Championship. The Imagetec Central Coast Rays took out the title, the Western Sydney Rams claimed the minor premiership and the Sydney Fleet finished a very creditable fifth. I thank all involved for their efforts.

2007 saw a number of players depart the Waratahs for teams both overseas and elsewhere in Australia. Two deserving of special mention are Peter Hewat and Morgan Turinui, both of whom made significant contributions over the years. Hewat, who played his 50th state game in the Waratahs final round win over the Hurricanes in Wellington, joined the London Irish club after scoring an impressive 636 points for his state. His record of 24 tries, 93 conversions and 110 penalty goals is second only to the great Matthew Burke on the all-time list of point

scorers for NSW. Turinui will join the Reds in 2008, after 65 state and 58 Super Rugby games for NSW since 2003. We wish them both well for the future.

It was with great sadness that we said our final farewell to a number of Waratahs over the past 12 months. One of the most renowned, in both the Waratah and Wallaby ranks, Trevor Allan OAM, passed away in January aged 80 after a long battle with cancer. The Trevor Allan Cup was struck in his memory and was fittingly won by Gordon, his home club. We also take this opportunity to honour Boyd Blackburn, Clarrie Davis, Keith Gudsell, John Halter, Ken Kearney, Graeme Stevens, and Kevin Coggan, all of whom passed away in 2007.

With 2008 now upon us, we look back on the events of the past 12 months confident that better days are once again ahead. Every effort has been made both on and off the field to ensure that in the 2008 season the HSBC Waratahs return to the upper echelons of Super 14 competition.

Grass roots Rugby will not be forgotten in this quest to achieve at the highest level. NSW Rugby's aim is to grow the game, to support and invest in it, at all levels. This will continue unabated in 2008.

There is an expectation placed upon the side and also the staff of NSW Rugby that second best is not good enough and armed with this knowledge we look forward to all the next year brings. We look forward to sharing it with you.

**Ken Catchpole OAM
President**



Young fans getting into the Mazda Australian Rugby Championship action.



Waratah Alfi Mafi collars an Irishman at the World Under 19 Championships.



Head Coach Ewen McKenzie fronts the media scrum.

It is my sincere belief that we'll look back on 2007 as a tough but incredibly important year in the long term development of this current crop of Waratahs. There was high expectation from our supporters, from the staff and playing group. This made the 13th placing even tougher to swallow. We took it very hard as did our loyal supporters.

Our injury toll was widely reported but I'll briefly refer to it here to highlight just how well our young squad members stepped up to the challenge.

We lost a lot of experience in 2007 for long periods of the competition. It is not an excuse for our season's performance just one factor in a challenging season.

Losing Wallabies Daniel Vickerman, Al Kanaar, Phil Waugh, David Lyons, Matt Dunning and Mat Rogers for much, or in several cases, the entire Super 14 season took its toll. At the start of the year those players represented 364 Super Rugby caps between them.

We moved quickly, promoting players earlier than planned. Kurtley Beale faced the most difficult of challenges.

The schoolboy genius was suddenly thrust into the big time and he still had a lot of work to do in preparing his body for the rigours of Super Rugby.

But this is where the 2007 season delivers on the long term front. Kurtley is now match hardened one whole year ahead of schedule. There were tough times for the youngster particularly in defence. He was courageous in the line but outmuscled on occasions due to his premature elevation.

Now in the wake of a stellar Mazda

Australian Rugby Championship and consistent strength and conditioning program he's physically ready and mentally capable of directing the backline.

Kurtley wasn't the only player to shine in an otherwise arduous season.

Lachie Turner burst onto the scene against the Crusaders with a try that most observers regard as the best of the year.

Turner brought enormous enthusiasm but more importantly, blistering speed to the wing. Turner and Beale are just two examples of young Waratahs that will look back on 2007 with a different perspective.

Another player who developed impressively through a year of adversity was Will Caldwell. Although more experienced, he suddenly became the lineout leader in the absence of Daniel Vickerman and Al Kanaar. The second row reshuffle also exposed Dean Mumm to a higher level of competition and by year's end he had matured greatly.

In relation to Will Caldwell, not only did he slog out every minute of the 2007 Super Rugby season, he stepped up in the tactical stakes.

But to ensure Will's game didn't suffer under the increased workload we moved Rocky Elsom into lineout strategy department and increased his leadership responsibilities.

Rocky was a standout for the Waratahs this season and he was subsequently awarded the players' player award, the Matthew Burke Cup.

Special mention here should go to Adam Freier. In difficult circumstances Adam showed incredible character to lead the team on and off the field in the absence of Phil Waugh.

I'm the first to admit the Waratahs 2007 win-loss ratio doesn't make for impressive



Young gun Kurtley Beale is congratulated by Lote Tuqiri on his first start against the Cheetahs in Kimberley.

reading for the season but a significant positive point was the attitude of the side.

Five of our defeats were by margins of six or less. Many of the matches were heartbreakers for the group especially the 33-34 loss to the Crusaders after the team had worked so hard to be in a winning position late in the game.

Those narrow losses spoke volumes for the Waratahs' character. It also shows just how different things could have been.

The final Super 14 game of the season in Wellington often gets lost in the background



Matthew Burke Medallist Rocky Elsom.

noise but to the team it was significant. We pitched this game as the start of the 2008 campaign.

The return of Phil Waugh was a huge plus and it no doubt contributed to our first ever Super Rugby victory in the New Zealand capital. It was made all the sweeter as the competition's biggest score against a Kiwi team in 2007.

It was the game we wanted to play all year. We started strongly, something we struggled to do in most matches, then finished off full of running to end the season on a positive note.

On the innovation front we had success.

Our approach to South Africa was a radical departure from previous theories on winning in the republic. The 2007 draw marked the first three-game tour ever by the Waratahs in Super Rugby.

We flew from Sydney to Johannesburg just two days before playing the Lions in the opening match.

By flying in late we took out several well documented issues; altitude, food and time away from home.

It was considered risky by some but the squad made it work. Discipline on the aeroplane was critical. The players had to sleep straight away and stay well hydrated. Everyone stuck to the plan and the result was a victory. The tactic will be repeated in 2008 when we head to South Africa at the back end of the draw.

I personally welcomed a Board endorsed review of the Waratahs' coaching structure and program towards the end of the season.

The review led to the appointment of Todd Loudon as the Waratahs' attack coach for 2008 and changes to our reporting systems in relation to selection and recruitment.

I'd like to acknowledge the extra work done by assistant coaches Steve Tuynman and Les Kiss during a difficult year. They put in long hours and always remained positive. They deserve high praise.

We also extend our thanks the ARU for making Scott Wisemantel (skills) and Michael Foley (scrum) available during the year to work with the squad.

The rest of the management team again put their personal lives on hold to keep the Waratah machine going. Team manager Scott Harrison pulled it all together, Dr Sharron Flahive and physiotherapist Stuart Pavely did an amazing job putting a team on the paddock week to week.

Charlie Higgins had his hands full as the rehabilitation coordinator with as many as fifteen players at one time going through his program.

Head strength and conditioning coach Peter McDonald faced some unique challenges, changing programs on the run as the injury toll mounted. Peter's management of Kurtley Beale was particularly praise worthy as he prepared him to play earlier than expected while keeping in mind the need to add bulk to his schoolboy frame.

Training would never happen without our assistant manager Geoff Threlfo and we thank him for his buoyant approach to the job which helped keep spirits up in 2007.

The ongoing support from the HSBC Junior Waratahs coaching staff was also invaluable.

The vastly experienced Joe Barakat, Shannon Fraser and Greg Mumm did an excellent job preparing the next generation of squad members. Shannon also stepped into the role of kicking coach for the Waratahs and immediately impressed the playing group.

Shannon and Greg also deserve our congratulations for their appointments to the coaching staff of Fiji at the Rugby World Cup.

To Djuro Sen, media & communications manager, I'd like to express my sincerest gratitude for his counsel and management of the press during a season of high scrutiny.

Tony D'Arcy and his efforts as HPU general manager were also vital in securing Timana Tahu and a host of young players to ensure the long term future of the Waratahs.

And finally I'd like to thank the supporters

who stuck by us through the tough times this year and the Board who never panicked at any stage. Under the leadership of Arvid Petersen the Board has given the Waratahs the resources to move forward with the construction of the IBM Centre.

After a century of nomadic life, the Waratahs now have a true home and we are ready to bounce back in 2008.

Ewen McKenzie
Head Coach



Assistant Coaches Les Kiss & Steve Tuynman pre-match.



Core Waratah fans showed their support through thick and thin.

Super 14 2007 Match Reports

WEEK 1 - Ellis Park Johannesburg Friday 2 February 2007. HSBC Waratahs 25 Lions 16

Heat and humidity proved no barrier for the HSBC Waratahs as they opened their 2007 Super 14 campaign with a 25-16 win over the Lions at Ellis Park.

The Waratahs started strongly despite touching down just 48 hours before kick off, tries to flyhalf Daniel Halangahu and flanker Rocky Elsom seeing them race to a 15-6 half time lead.

A try through rookie Louis Ludik got the Lions in the match shortly after the break, while penalties to Peter Hewat and Louis Strydom kept both teams in the hunt at 18-16.

Adam Freier sealed a 25-16 victory for the visitors with a try shortly before full time.

HSBC WARATAHS 25:

Daniel Halangahu, Rocky Elsom, Adam Freier tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

LIONS 16:

Louis Ludik try; Louis Strydom conversion, 3 penalty goals

Crowd:

10,000 (Approx.)

Referee:

Chris Pollock (NZ)

Man of the Match:

Rocky Elsom (Waratahs)



Man of the match Rocky Elsom packs down against the Lions.

WEEK 2 - ABSA Stadium Durban Friday 9 February 2007. Sharks 22 HSBC Waratahs 9

The HSBC Waratahs first loss of 2007 came in week two in Durban, beaten 22-9 by eventual Finalists the Sharks.

Playing in oppressively humid conditions the Waratahs lead early but were 6-3 down by the 13th minute of the match after a penalty and drop goal to Francois Steyn.

The Sharks never surrendered their lead, Percy Montgomery adding three penalties after taking over the kicking midway through the opening stanza.

The Waratahs threatened at times but couldn't find the home side's tryline, Peter Hewat scoring all his side's points through three penalty goals.

A Butch James try two minutes from full time secured the Sharks a 13 point victory.

SHARKS 22:

Butch James try; Percy Montgomery conversion, 3 penalty goals; Francois Steyn penalty goal, drop goal

HSBC WARATAHS 9:

Peter Hewat 3 penalty goals

Crowd:

35,000 (Approx.)

Referee:

Chris Pollock (NZ)

Man of the Match:

Rory Kockott (Sharks)



Adam Freier searches for a way forward in the clash with the Sharks.

WEEK 3 - ABSA Park Stadium Kimberley Saturday 17 February 2007. Cheetahs 30 HSBC Waratahs 26

Disaster struck in week three, with captain Phil Waugh tearing ankle ligaments early in the Waratahs 30-26 loss to the Cheetahs.

Waugh was carried off in the second minute and the home side replied with three quick tries to lead 19-3 after 20 minutes.

The Waratahs hit back with tries to Kurtley Beale and Ben Jacobs seeing them trail 22-17 at the break.

The Waratahs remained in the hunt until Cheetahs captain Juan Smith scored midway through the second half, taking the score to 30-20.

Two late Peter Hewat penalties saw the

score finish at 30 points to 26.

CHEETAHS 30:

Ronnie Cooke, Phillip Burger, Eddie Fredericks, Juan Smith tries; Meyer Bosman 2 conversions, penalty goal; Herkie Kruger drop goal

HSBC WARATAHS 26:

Kurtley Beale, Ben Jacobs tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 4 penalty goals

Crowd:

15,000 (Approx.)

Referee:

Lyndon Bray (NZ)

Man of the Match:

Juan Smith (Cheetahs)



Dr. Sharron Flahive attends to Phil Waugh after he injured his ankle in Kimberley.

WEEK 5 - Sydney Football Stadium Friday 2 March 2007. HSBC Waratahs 16 Western Force 16

A 16-all draw with the Western Force welcomed the HSBC Waratahs back to Sydney in week five, the result just their third ever draw in Super Rugby.

A pair of Peter Hewat penalties put the home side on the front foot with Morgan Turinui stretching their lead to 13-nil midway through the first half.

The Force hit back with two tries of their own before two Cameron Shepherd penalty goals put them 16-13 up.

Hewat levelled the scores with another penalty, the match finishing at 16-all after the Waratahs opted for a quick tap over a shot for goal when awarded a penalty on full time.

HSBC WARATAHS 16:

Morgan Turinui try; Peter Hewat conversion, 3 penalty goals

WESTERN FORCE 16:

Drew Mitchell, Matt Giteau tries; Cameron Shepherd 2 penalty goals

Crowd:

31,149

Referee:

Paul Marks (Aus)

Man of the Match:

Matt Giteau (Western Force)



Morgan Turinui opens the scoring against the Force.

WEEK 6 - Sydney Football Stadium Saturday 10 March 2007. Bulls 32 HSBC Waratahs 19

The Waratahs were ruthlessly exposed by an outstanding Bulls outfit in week six, the eventual champions steamrolling their way to a 32-19 victory.

Two tries apiece to wing Bryan Habana and scrumhalf Fourie du Preez saw the visitors take full points from the match, which they led 32 points to 12 before a late converted try to Kurtley Beale put some respectability into the scoreline.

Peter Hewat finished with all but five of the Waratahs points, converting the Beale try and adding four penalty goals for a personal tally of 14 for the match.

BULLS 32:

Bryan Habana 2, Fourie du Preez 2 tries; Derick Hougaard 3 conversions, 2 penalty goals

HSBC WARATAHS 19:

Kurtley Beale try; Peter Hewat conversion, 4 penalty goals

Crowd:

21,854

Referee:

Kelvin Deaker (NZ)

Man of the Match:

Fourie du Preez (Bulls)



Kurtley Beale scatters the Bulls defensive line.

WEEK 7 - Sydney Football Stadium Saturday 17 March 2007. Stormers 16 HSBC Waratahs 10

The pain continued for the HSBC Waratahs in week seven, losing their second game in succession to South African opposition, 16-10 to the Stormers.

Leading 3-nil at half time Stormers flanker Luke Watson scored their only try early in the second half, while flyhalf Peter Grant scored the remainder of his side's points off the boot.

A penalty try was as close as the Waratahs came to scoring with the Stormers managing to keep their line intact.

On the plus side the Waratahs picked up a bonus point for losing by less than seven, while rookie winger Lachie Turner enjoyed some good touches in his maiden Super Rugby outing.

STORMERS 16:

Luke Watson try; Peter Grant conversion, 3 penalty goals

HSBC WARATAHS 10:

Penalty try, Peter Hewat conversion, penalty goal

Crowd:

18,409

Referee:

Lyndon Bray (NZ)

Man of the Match:

Luke Watson (Stormers)



On debut, Lachie Turner makes the Stormers take notice.

Super 14 2007 Match Reports

WEEK 8 - Eden Park Auckland Friday 23 March 2007. Blues 34 HSBC Waratahs 6

The HSBC Waratahs ran into a red-hot Blues outfit in week eight of the Super 14, losing 34-6 at Eden Park.

A vastly improved effort across the board would prove nowhere near enough as the Waratahs lost heavily to the then-top ranked side, who scored four tries to nil including two in each half.

Once again the Waratahs points came off the boot of Peter Hewat, while Troy Flavell scored twice for the Blues with Daniel Braid and Steve Devine also touching down.

BLUES 34:

Troy Flavell 2, Daniel Braid, Steve Devine tries; Luke McAlister 4 conversions, 2 penalty goals

HSBC WARATAHS 6:

Peter Hewat 2 penalty goals

Crowd:

Not Announced

Referee:

Marius Jonker (RSA)

Yellow Card:

Will Caldwell (Waratahs)

Man of the Match:

Not awarded



Peter Hewat scored all of the Waratahs points against the Blues.

WEEK 9 - Sydney Football Stadium Saturday 31 March 2007. Crusaders 34 HSBC Waratahs 33

A thrilling Lachie Turner try kicked off the Waratahs clash with the Crusaders, Rico Gear, Stephen Brett and Scott Hamilton left clutching at air as the 19 year old sprinted in to score.

Tries to Sam Harris and Sam Norton-Knight saw the Waratahs take the lead at 25-22 after half time, however the Crusaders hit back through tries to Casey Laulala and Gear, putting them in the box seat at 34-25.

A penalty to Peter Hewat and a try to Tatafu Polota-Nau got the deficit back to just one point with 10 minutes remaining however the win would ultimately elude the Waratahs, who went down 34-33.

CRUSADERS 34:

Rico Gear 2, Campbell Johnstone, Mose Tuiali'i, Aaron Mauger, Casey Laulala tries; Stephen Brett 2 conversions

HSBC WARATAHS 33:

Lachie Turner, Sam Harris, Sam Norton-Knight, Tatafu Polota-Nau tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 3 penalty goals

Crowd:

25,494

Referee:

Craig Joubert (RSA)

Man of the Match:

Rico Gear (Crusaders)



Lachie Turner bleeds in a standout performance against the Crusaders.

WEEK 10 - Canberra Stadium Sunday 8 April 2007. Brumbies 36 HSBC Waratahs 10

The Waratahs fell victim to the Stephen Larkham show against the Brumbies on Easter Sunday, the flyhalf scoring two tries and setting up two more to help his side to a 36-10 win at Canberra Stadium.

Larkham finished with man of the match honours in a game in which the only highlight for the Waratahs was a blockbusting try to Rocky Elsom shortly after half time.

In all the Waratahs conceded five tries, the first of which was scored by Mark Gerrard in just the third minute of play.

The loss was the Waratahs first against the Brumbies since 2003.

BRUMBIES 36:

Mark Gerrard 2, Stephen Larkham 2, Jone Tawake tries; Julian Huxley 2 conversions, penalty goal; Mark Gerrard 2 conversions

HSBC WARATAHS 10:

Rocky Elsom try; Peter Hewat conversion, penalty goal

Crowd:

23,097

Referee:

Matt Goddard

Man of the Match:

Stephen Larkham (Brumbies)



Will Caldwell gives his all on a disappointing night out in Canberra.

WEEK 11 - Sydney Football Stadium Saturday 14 April 2007. HSBC Waratahs 26 Reds 13

Relief came for the HSBC Waratahs in week 11 of the 2007 season in the shape of a drought breaking 26-13 defeat of the Reds in Sydney.

The match never scaled to any great heights however the Waratahs showed better composure to score two tries to the Reds one.

Man of the match Josh Valentine scored just before half time to put the Waratahs ahead while rookie flanker Beau Robinson sealed the win with his debut Super Rugby try late in the game.

The win gave the Waratahs breathing space over the last placed Reds, putting them seven competition points clear of the bottom of the ladder with three games left to play.

HSBC WARATAHS 26:

Josh Valentine, Beau Robinson tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 4 penalty goals

REDS 13:

Clinton Schifcofske try, conversion, 2 penalty goals

Crowd:

21,872

Referee:

Kelvin Deaker (NZ)

Yellow Card:

Tama Tuirirangi (Reds)

Man of the Match:

Josh Valentine (Waratahs)



Beau Robinson celebrates his debut try against the Reds.

WEEK 12 - Sydney Football Stadium Saturday 21 April 2007. Highlanders 26 HSBC Waratahs 25

A stellar late comeback failed to save the Waratahs from their second one point defeat in the space of a month, fighting back from 20 points down before losing 26-25 to the Highlanders at the Sydney Football Stadium.

The Highlanders ran in three first half tries to lead 20-6 at the break, while two Nick Evans penalty goals appeared to lock it up for the visitors early in the second.

Tries to Josh Holmes and a double to Peter Hewat got the Waratahs back to within one point late in the game.

Unfortunately for Hewat his last kick, a sideline conversion attempt with 90 seconds left on the clock, went wide, leaving the Waratahs stranded.

HIGHLANDERS 26:

Viliame Waqaseduadua, Nick Evans, Jason Kawau tries; Nick Evans conversion, 3 penalty goals

HSBC WARATAHS 25:

Peter Hewat 2, Josh Holmes tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, penalty goal

Crowd:

17,672

Referee:

Craig Joubert (RSA)

Man of the Match:

Nick Evans (Highlanders)



Ben Jacobs is collared by some vigorous Highlanders defence.

WEEK 13 - Sydney Football Stadium Friday 27 April 2007. Chiefs 28 HSBC Waratahs 23

A poor start and dubious late call saw the HSBC Waratahs lose yet another close one in week 13, the Chiefs scoring a 28-23 victory in Sydney.

The Waratahs hit back from 10-nil down after six minutes to lead 23-21 three minutes from full time, when Chiefs replacement Tane Tu'ipulotu went in off a Liam Messam pass that replays later confirmed to be forward.

The loss was the Waratahs fifth by six points or less for the season, a heartbreaking result in their final home match of the year

CHIEFS 28:

Sitiveni Sivivatu, Liam Messam, Tane Tu'ipulotu tries; Stephen Donald 2 conversions, 3 penalty goals

HSBC WARATAHS 23:

Sam Norton-Knight, Lachie Turner tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 3 penalty goals

Crowd:

16,288

Referee:

Craig Joubert (RSA)

Man of the Match:

Adam Freier (Waratahs)



The Waratahs ponder another close loss, this time to the Chiefs.

Super 14 2007 Match Reports

WEEK 14 - Westpac Stadium Wellington Saturday 5 May 2007. HSBC Waratahs 38 Hurricanes 14

The HSBC Waratahs finished their Super 14 campaign on a high with an emphatic 38-14 win over the Hurricanes in Wellington.

With skipper Phil Waugh returning to the team for the first time since rupturing ankle ligaments in round three, the Waratahs started strongly and were never headed on their way to an eventual four tries to two win.

A try to Dean Mumm and two penalties to Peter Hewat saw the Waratahs take a narrow 13-7 lead into the break, however it was two quick tries after half time – scored by Lachie Turner and Lote Tuqiri – that kicked the visitors clear.

A final try to Ben Jacobs finished the rout

and secured the Waratahs their third and final win of 2007.

HSBC WARATAHS 38:

Dean Mumm, Lachie Turner, Lote Tuqiri, Ben Jacobs tries; Peter Hewat 3 conversions, 4 penalty goals

HURRICANES 14:

Jimmy Gopperth, Jerry Collins tries; Piri Weepu 2 conversions

Crowd:

25,000 (Approx.)

Referee:

JC Fortuin (RSA)

Man of the Match:

Not Awarded



Phil Waugh makes a welcome return for the Waratahs against the Hurricanes.

HSBC WARATAHS SUPER 14 DEBUTANTS 2007

Week 1 v Lions: Kurtley Beale, Tim Davidson, Ben Hand, Dean Mumm, Josh Valentine

Week 2 v Sharks: Beau Robinson

Week 3 v Cheetahs: Jeremy Tilse

Week 6 v Bulls: Al Manning

Week 7 v Stormers: Lachie Turner

Week 9 v Crusaders: Dave Dennis

Week 10 v Brumbies: Josh Holmes

Week 12 v Highlanders: Chris Siale, Nathan Sievert

HSBC WARATAHS MILESTONES 2007

Week 1 v Lions	Phil Waugh – First Super Rugby Win as Captain Daniel Halangahu – 50 State Points Kurtley Beale – Youngest Player in Super Rugby (NSW)
Week 2 v Sharks	Phil Waugh – Sixth Most Capped Waratah (84, passing Tim Gavin) Adam Freier – 50 Super Rugby Caps for the Waratahs Lote Tuqiri – 50 Super Rugby Caps for the Waratahs Morgan Turinui – 50 Super Rugby Caps for the Waratahs
Week 3 v Cheetahs	Peter Hewat – 500 State Points
Week 5 v Western Force	Peter Hewat – 400 Super Rugby Points Morgan Turinui – 100 Super Rugby Points; 20 Super Rugby Tries
Week 6 v Bulls	David Lyons – Fourth Most Capped Waratah (91, passing Sam Payne)
Week 9 v Crusaders	Rocky Elsom – 50 State, Super Rugby Caps for the Waratahs Waratahs 400th try in Super Rugby
Week 10 v Brumbies	David Lyons – Third Most Capped Waratah (95, passing Nathan Grey)
Week 11 v Reds	Peter Hewat – 100 Season Points
Week 12 v Highlanders	Peter Hewat – 600 State Points Most new caps in a season for NSW in Super Rugby (13)
Week 13 v Chiefs	Matt Dunning – Seventh Most Capped Waratah (84, passing Tim Gavin) Peter Hewat – 500 Super Rugby Points Sam Norton-Knight – 50 State Points
Week 14 v Hurricanes	Peter Hewat – 50 State Caps for the Waratahs First NSW win at Westpac Stadium



Rookie Beau Robinson shows no fear against Wallaby Hugh McMeniman.



Dean Mumm charges in an outstanding debut season.

Matthew Burke Cup

Flanker Rocky Elsom capped a big season at provincial level when he was named the 2007 winner of the Matthew Burke Cup for the HSBC Waratahs players' player.

Elsom started the year strongly, picking up 45 player votes against the Lions in round one in what would prove to be the biggest single round haul of the season.

He eventually polled votes in all bar one of the Waratahs 13 games to finish on 200 for the year, 17 ahead of hooker and 2006 winner Adam Freier.

Freier picked up the best forward award, while rising backline star Ben Jacobs was named best back after polling 142 votes on the way to a third place finish.

Elsom joins Freier (2006), Nathan Grey (2005) and Phil Vaughn (2004) on the list of past winners of the coveted trophy.

MATTHEW BURKE CUP 2007

1. Rocky Elsom *Winner, Matthew Burke Cup, 2007 - 200 votes*
2. Adam Freier *Winner, Best Forward - 183*
3. Ben Jacobs *Winner, Best Back - 142*
4. Lote Tuqiri - 133
5. Lachie Turner - 122
6. Wycliff Palu - 105
7. Will Caldwell - 86
8. David Lyons - 82
9. Sam Harris - 62
10. Josh Valentine - 54

THE WINNERS

2007 – Rocky Elsom
2006 - Adam Freier
2005 - Nathan Grey
2004 - Phil Vaughn (inaugural winner)

Waratah Medal

Rocky Elsom beat a classy field of nominees to add the Waratah Medal to his Matthew Burke Cup win in 2007.

Awarded to the player that makes the biggest contribution to the HSBC Waratahs on and off the field, Elsom was judged to best fit the selection criteria – that being leadership, on field performance, strong Waratah values, charitable, and being a team player.

Also nominated for the award were Adam Freier, Ben Jacobs, Tim Davidson and Lachie Turner.

THE WINNERS

2007 – Rocky Elsom
2006 – Chris Whitaker (inaugural winner)

Herald Cup

Rocky Elsom added the Herald Cup to his growing list of honours in late 2007, taking

out the time honoured award for the most outstanding Waratah in the Super 14.

Awarded every year since 1949, Herald Cup votes have since 1996 been awarded on a 3-2-1 basis to the best players in each match.

Elsom's win sees him join a list of recent winners that includes Phil Vaughn (2004), Daniel Vickerman (2005), and Adam Freier (2006).

Investec Super 14 Awards

Lachie Turner's outstanding debut season at Super Rugby level was officially recognised with his being awarded the 2007 Investec Super 14 Rookie of the Year title.

Turner became the third Waratah in succession, and the sixth overall, to take out the title, joining Benn Robinson (2006) and Peter Hewat (2005), Van Humphries (2002), Phil Vaughn (2000), & Chris Whitaker (1998) as those to have won the award in its ten year history.

Sydney referee Stuart Dickinson was named referee of the year, Wallabies, Brumbies and Manly flanker George Smith took out player of the series, and team-mate and Northern Suburbs product Adam Ashley-Cooper picked up try of the year.

The Winners – NSWRU Gala Awards Night

The Ken Catchpole Medal - Player of the Year;
Tooheys New Shute Shield 2007 Winner:
Gavin DeBartolo (Eastern Suburbs)

The Waratah Medal - Most outstanding on and off field contributor; HSBC Waratahs 2007 Winner: Rocky Elsom

The David Brockhoff Medal - Coach of the Year 2007 Winner:
Scott Bowen (Eastern Suburbs)

The Dick Byres Medal - Mazda Referee of the Year 2007 Winner: Ian Smith

The Chris Whitaker Aspiring Waratah Award - Player of the Year, NSW Waratah Academy 2007 Winner: Patrick McCutcheon

The Mazda Australian Rugby Championship Award - For the highest placed NSW player in Mazda ARC Player of the Year voting 2007 Winner: Kurtley Beale

The Eric Spilsted Memorial Medal for Media - Most outstanding contribution to Rugby by a member of the press 2007 Winner:
Phil Wilkins, Sydney Morning Herald

The Kentwell Medal - Player of the Year, NSW Suburban Rugby 2007 Winner:
Jim Mule (Mosman)

The Will Tanner Award - Player of the Year, NSW Country Rugby 2007 Winner:
Nick Leseberg (Merewether-Carlton/ Newcastle Hunter)

The Spirit of Rugby Award - Volunteer of the Year 2007 Winner: Matthew Alexander (Byron Bay Rugby)

The Rova Media NSW Rugby Union Women's Player of the Year 2007 Winner:
Alana Thomas (Orange Emus)

The HSBC NSW Rugby Union Schools Player of the Year 2007 Winner:
Damien Fitzpatrick (St Joseph's College)

The HSBC NSW Rugby Union Junior Player of the Year 2007 Winner:
Dominic Bower (Tamworth)

The NSW Rugby Union Team of the Year 2007 Winner: Sydney University Tooheys New Shute Shield team



Tireless flanker Rocky Elsom won every major award on offer in 2007.



Lachie Turner with his Investec Super 14 Rookie of the Year trophy.

High Performance Unit

The HSBC Waratahs High Performance Unit exists, in part, to protect the long term future of the Waratahs by preparing the next generation of player for the step up to Super 14 level and in 2007 this was achieved with great success.

Our stated purpose is to ensure the Waratahs have the capacity to win two Super 14 titles in the next five years and to consistently finish in the semifinals of the competition. This was not achieved during 2007 however the groundwork for future success was laid with the introduction of so many new faces at Super 14 level – including three Professional Academy players in Ben Hand, David Dennis and Nathan Sievert.

A lot is written about what high performance sports programs are and are not. They are designed to maximise the performance of an athlete or team using scientifically based methodologies in coaching, sports medicine and applied sports science.

In specific Rugby terms, high performance means:

1. The dedicated commitment of systems, structures, resources and people to ongoing sustainable performance improvement.
2. An attitude of relentlessly pursuing excellence and best practice standards in all aspects of playing and preparation – on field and off.
3. An acceptance that best practice is evolutionary and is not a destination but a journey.
4. A commitment to maximising the rate of performance enhancement – to accelerating positive change in all areas of Rugby.

The primary role of our Elite Player Development (EPD) Programs, including the Waratah Professional Academy and Waratah Academy, is to accelerate the development process of Athletes by implementing High

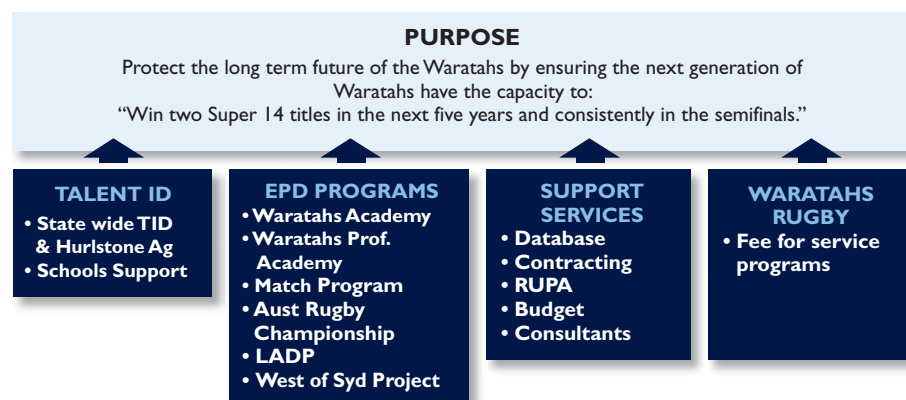
Performance Sport Program principles.

WARATAHS HPU

There are four key service/program areas the Waratahs HPU delivers to fulfil its purpose and realise its corporate goal:

1. Talent identification – finding and recruiting potential Wallabies.
2. Preparing players for professional Rugby. Data is continuously collected and analysed to assess if a player is capable of taking the step into professional Rugby.
3. The sharing support services between the Waratahs and the HPU to maximise efficiency; and
4. The Waratahs Rugby College is a new initiative designed to sell the Waratahs' Rugby intellectual property to help underwrite the costs of the HPU and other Elite Player Development initiatives.

THE MODEL



KEY HPU FUNCTIONS

Identification and recruitment; Preparing players for Professional Rugby; Contracting the best of the best, given NSW has 55% of the Rugby playing population and only 25% of the professional contracts; Contracting the best coaches, staff and consultants; Ensuring the Rugby Intellectual Property (IP) is retained for the next generation; Managing the Waratahs departmental budget; and developing an edge unique to the Waratahs.

THE WARATAH PROFESSIONAL ACADEMY

In 2007 the Waratah Professional Academy was added to bridge the gap between the Academy and professional Rugby. The Professional Academy trains 3.5 days a week and works with and independently to the Waratahs full-time squad. In essence, it exists as a type of finishing

school for players who have come through the Waratah Academy system and have previously been identified as having Wallaby potential.

THE WARATAH ACADEMY

The Waratah Academy is an out of hours high performance program (6-8am & 6-8pm) which enables players to prepare for a career in professional Rugby while also pursuing a course of study or career. The Academy program is physically and mentally very demanding by design in order to maximise the athlete's development and make judgments about how these players react in a challenging environment. The principle development window for the Academy is November to March, which is followed by a maintenance program from April to July, allowing the players to turn out for their respective clubs.

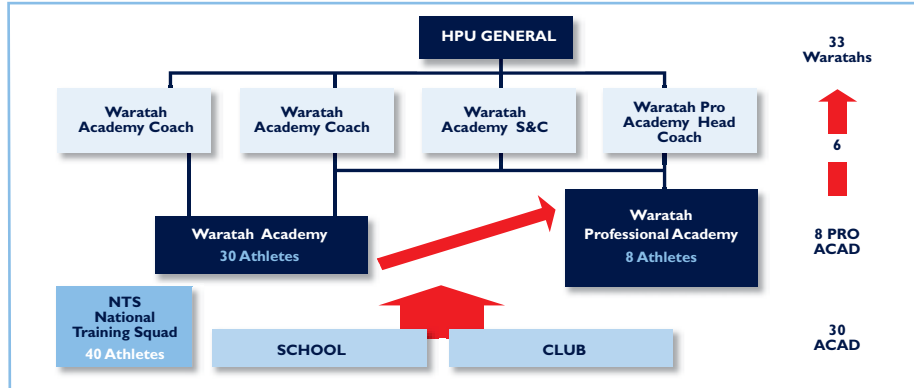


Nigel Staniforth finds open space for the Waratah Academy against Victoria.



NSW's Lachlan Mitchell shows calmness under pressure against the Brumbies in Canberra.

2007 STRUCTURE



WARATAHS HPU – FACTS & FIGURES

Fifty-seven (41%) of the 138 contracted professional Rugby players in Australia have come through the Waratahs EPD pathway. Twenty-seven (79%) of the 34 players contracted to the Waratahs in 2007 have come through the Waratahs EPD pathway.

	WARATAHS	REDS	BRUMBIES	FORCE	TOTAL
Provincial Contracts	34	38	31	35	138
Waratahs Academy Players	27	3	13	14	57
% of Contracted Players developed by Waratahs Acad.	79%	8%	42%	40%	41%

WARATAHS HPU – BENEFICIARIES

The Waratahs remain the principal beneficiary of Waratah HPU activities. However, the program provides a significant secondary benefit in lifting the standard of Club Rugby in Sydney through:

1. Accelerating the development of 38 players participating in Club Rugby in Sydney;
2. Keeping aspiring Rugby professionals in Sydney by providing a clear pathway to the Waratahs;
3. Attracting elite players from interstate in partnership with Clubs; and
4. Sharing Waratahs intellectual property with club players and coaches.

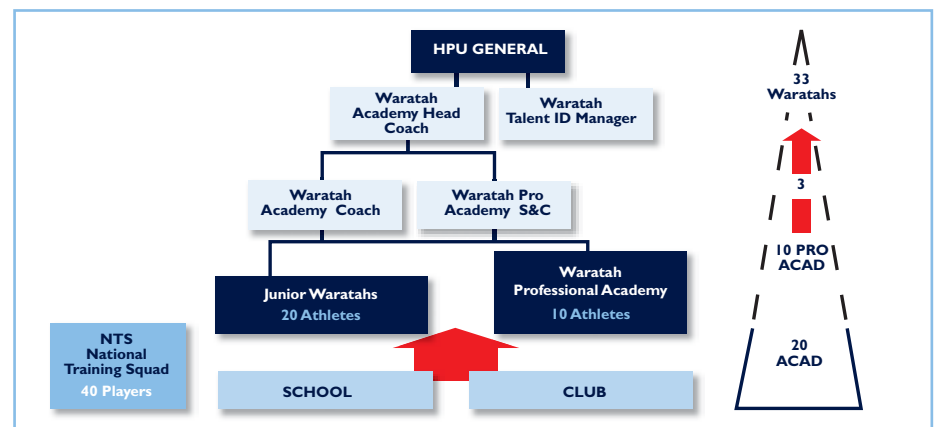
In the last round of the Sydney club competition 22 Academy players played first grade, 4 played second grade, 2 played colts 1 and two players had a bye (Eastwood) out of a total of 38.

WARATAH PROFESSIONAL ACADEMY & WARATAH ACADEMY 2007

Professional Academy: Andrew Barrett, David Dennis (Waratah contract '08), Clint Eadie, Simon Greally, Ben Hand (Elevated to Waratah contract '07), Patrick McCutcheon (Waratahs Professional Academy contract '08), Shawn Mackay, Nathan Sievert, Sam Wykes (Force contract '08)

Academy: John Adams, Pelea Afu, Peter Betham (Brumbies contract '08), Adrian Buxton, Ben Coridas (Waratahs Professional Academy contract '08), Kane Douglas, Ofa Fainga'anuku, Scott Fardy (Force contract '08), Nick Hensley, Ed Jenkins, Dan Kelly, Patrick McCabe, Ben McCalman, Rob McMiken, Rodney Ma'a, Josh Mann-Rae, Lachlan Mitchell (Waratahs Professional Academy contract '08), Jackson Mullane, Jye Mullane, Dan Palmer (Waratahs Professional Academy contract '08), Matt Page, Daniel Roach (Cronulla RL contract '07), Kingsley Seale, Rory Sidey, Dylan Sigg, Jeremy Sua, Pauliasi Taumoepeau, Lai Vatadroka, Jared Waerea-Hargreaves (Manly RL contract '08), Laurie Weeks (Waratahs Professional Academy contract '08), Tom Woods.

2008 STRUCTURE



2007 – KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Ben Hand, David Dennis & Nathan Sievert made their Super 14 debuts.
- We re-signed nine Waratahs (Phil Waugh, Alastair Baxter, Matt Dunning, David Lyons, Sam Norton-Knight, Tatafu Polota-Nau, Benn Robinson, Brett Sheehan, Lote Tuqiri).
- Recruitment of players with sub-five second times over 40 metres (Timana Tahu, Matt Carraro).
- Nine Academy players were selected to represent Australia at the iRB Under 19 World Championships (Peter Betham, Ben Coridas, Patrick McCabe, Alfi Mafi, Daniel Palmer, Ben McCalman, Rodney Ma'a, Jared Waerea-Hargreaves, Sam Wykes).
- NSW A won its series against A sides from Queensland and the ACT.
- Introduction of the Professional Academy.
- The recruitment by the Fijian national team of Waratah Academy Coaches Greg Mumm and Shannon Fraser, who as assistant coaches helped Fiji to the quarterfinals.
- Working with Waratah team manager Scott Harrison to reduce professional Rugby costs.

2008 – KEY INITIATIVES

- 2008 will see the Waratah Academy and Waratah Professional Academy renamed the Junior Waratahs, in conjunction with official naming rights sponsor HSBC.
- The size of the Junior Waratahs will be reduced from 30 to 20 athletes while the Professional Academy will be increased from 8 to 10.
- A specialised talent ID and recruitment section will be set up within the HPU to ensure that the Waratahs recruit the best of the best.
- A comprehensive review of the Waratah pathway, representative age Rugby, talent ID and recruitment will be undertaken.
- The Junior Waratahs/Professional Academy programs produce eight S14 contracts.

Tony D'Arcy

General Manager, Waratahs HPU

Premiership Rugby

2007 once again produced an innovative and entertaining Sydney Club Rugby season. The premierships competition saw the Shute Shield returned to its rightful position as the pinnacle trophy on offer in Australian Club Rugby. The Tooheys New Shute Shield featured the 12 Sydney metropolitan clubs and the Illawarriors, an Illawarra representative team based at Wollongong's WIN Stadium. A 14-week season, which featured for the first time the introduction of a very well received local derby round, was followed by a top six Finals series, while for the first time teams that finished in positions seven through 12 featured in an entertaining and hard fought Plate playoff competition.

Congratulations to first grade premiers Sydney University, who claimed their third straight premier Rugby title with a 34-11 victory over Eastern Suburbs in the Grand Final at the Sydney Football Stadium. Well done too to Plate Grand Final winners Gordon, who defeated Manly 28-20 in the curtain raiser.

The Tooheys New Shute Shield was followed in First Grade by the Trevor Allan Cup, which was devised in conjunction with the clubs to provide continuity of first grade competition following the start of the Mazda Australian Rugby Championship. The Gordon club donated the trophy in memory of former Highlander, Waratah and Wallaby great Trevor Allan, who passed away in January 2007. The Cup featured a seven week, two pool competition between the 12 Sydney clubs. Gordon and West Harbour finished on top of their respective pools, with the Highlanders



Matt Carraro on the attack for Randwick.

claiming their second piece of silverware for the year defeating the Pirates 34-7 in the Final at Concord Oval.

Innovation was embraced off the field as well, with all clubs openly accepting the shift to the Experimental Law Variations (ELV's). The first and second grade competitions trialed a total of four of the ELV's, with surveys, forums and video analysis undertaken by the Australian Rugby Union in conjunction with the International Rugby Board to review their effect on the game.

The top six finals structure used in the Tooheys New Shute Shield was also employed down the grades for the first time. Clubs were given the opportunity to host finals series matches and a total of 11 club grounds were used. Sydney University took out the club championship and colts club championship, winning five of the eight premierships on offer including the Tooheys New Shute Shield, JR Henderson Shield, and

all three Colts grades. Congratulations to Uni and also to our other premiers Manly (Colin Caird Shield) and Gordon (Trevor Allan Cup and Henderson Cup).

Congratulations to the various award winners from club Rugby for 2007, including Gavin Debartolo (Ken Catchpole Medal – Player of the year; Rosco Fahey Trophy – highest point scorer in the Tooheys New Shute Shield), Scott Bowen (David Brockhoff Medal – Coach of the year), Ian Smith (Dick Byres Medal – Referee of the year), Sydney University First Grade (Sir Roden Cutler Shield; Team of the year).

Thanks to NSW Rugby Union Judiciary Chairman Terry Willis and Appeals Chairman John Gleeson and their committees for their tireless efforts throughout the season. Thanks too to the ABC and their commentary and production teams for their work in both covering and promoting the competition across NSW and the ACT each Saturday afternoon during the winter months.

As always, it would be difficult if not impossible to conduct a competition the size of Sydney club Rugby without the support of our valued sponsors, and I would particularly like to thank our main sponsors Tooheys and Coca Cola for their ongoing and valued support.

I would like to express my gratitude to the clubs, their players and representatives for their help and assistance over the course of the 2007 Sydney Rugby season. Thanks must go to the club Presidents and General Managers, and also to the clubs representative on the NSWRU Board Alan Williamson, all of whom dedicated a significant amount of time and effort towards steering the competition through a tough and at times highly challenging season, both on and off the field. The ongoing success of club Rugby relies a great deal on your involvement and for that I thank you.

And finally, a big thank you to the unseen masses, the volunteers, for everything you bring to the game both on match day and during the year. Rugby has become a year round pursuit and the countless hours that are donated for nothing more than the satisfaction of a job well done do not go unnoticed. Volunteers will always be the heartbeat of the game in this city and their efforts to promote and grow the game cannot be underestimated.

Matt Want
Premiership Competition Manager



Tooheys New Shute Shield Grand Final Captains Tim Davidson and Tom Egan.

TOOHEYS NEW SHUTE SHIELD GRAND FINAL

Sydney Football Stadium
Saturday 27 July 2007
Sydney University 34
Eastern Suburbs 11

Sydney University entered the realms of the all time greats with their emphatic 34-11 victory over Eastern Suburbs in the Tooheys New Shute Shield Grand Final at the Sydney Football Stadium.

The Students win was their third in succession, seeing them join the great Uni sides of the 1920's & 50's and Randwick teams of the 60's, late 70's, late 80's and early 90's as the only teams to win three straight.

Only Randwick, which won five straight between 1978 & 1982 and six straight between 1987 & 1992, can now boast a better record than the Uni side of 2005-2007.

Easts, chasing its first first grade Grand Final win since 1969, started strongly and led 11-nil nearing half time through a try to Junior Puroku and two Anthony Faingaa penalty goals.

However a converted try to man of the match Daniel Halangahu just before the break turned the match in Uni's favour, and starting the second half just four points down the platform for victory was laid.

Halangahu finished with two tries, three conversions and a penalty goal to claim his

second straight player of the match award in a Grand Final, while the Students other points came through tries to skipper Tim Davidson, wing Alfi Mafi and scrumhalf Nick Haydon.

Davidson struck a familiar pose as he lifted the Shield after full time, having done the same with the Tooheys New Cup in 2005 & 2006.

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 34:

Daniel Halangahu 2, Tim Davidson, Nick Haydon, Alfi Mafi tries; Daniel Halangahu 3 conversions, penalty goal

EASTERN SUBURBS 11: Junior Puroku try; Anthony Faingaa 2 penalty goal

Referee: Ian Smith

Yellow Cards: David Dennis (Uni); Sia'a Faingaa (Easts); Dan Lewinski (Uni)

Man of the Match: Daniel Halangahu (Sydney University)

TOOHEYS NEW PLATE FINAL

Sydney Football Stadium
Saturday 27 July 2007
Gordon 28 Manly 20

Gordon picked up its first piece of First Grade silverware since 1998 with a 28-20 defeat of Manly in the Tooheys New Plate Final, played as a curtain raiser to the Tooheys New Shute Shield decider at the Sydney Football Stadium.

Tries were traded throughout the first half with neither side able to take the match by the scruff of the neck, however Gordon was

able to take a 16-8 lead into the break thanks to five pointers from Josh Whittaker and Viliame Ratu.

Manly hit back after the break with Peter Hewat and Bruce Rauqe scoring to put the Marlins into the lead.

But the Highlanders twice came from behind to win the match, tries to fullback Mark Preston and wing Greg Wade inside the final 14 minutes of play securing them victory.

GORDON 28: Josh Whittaker, Viliame Ratu, Mark Preston, Greg Wade tries; David Harvey conversion, 2 penalty goals

MANLY 20: David Collis, Peter Hewat, Bruce Rauqe tries; Peter Hewat conversion, penalty goal

Referee: Nathan Pearce



Gordon's Ed Gower with the Tooheys New Plate.



Sydney University players celebrate victory in the Tooheys New Shute Shield decider.



Peter Hewat kicks for field position in his final match for Manly.



More silverware for Gordon, Trevor Allan Cup winners.

TREVOR ALLAN CUP FINAL

Concord Oval

Saturday 8 September 2007

Gordon 34 West Harbour 7

A complete performance in both attack and defence saw Gordon defeat West Harbour 34 points to seven in the Trevor Allan Cup Final at Concord Oval.

The speed and elusiveness of the Gordon backs was only matched by the ruthless efficiency of their forwards as they ran out five tries to one victors.

To their credit, West Harbour fought valiantly only to find themselves out of contention by ten minutes into the second half, at which point the Highlanders had raced out to a 29-7 lead.

The result was also a fitting way for Gordon to honour one of its own, becoming the first club to lift the Cup donated by it in memory of the great Trevor Allan.

The match unravelled quickly in favour of the Highlanders, tries either side of the break seeing them turn a narrow 8-7 lead late in the first half into a handsome 22 point buffer with 30 minutes left to play.

Gordon Kome, Mark Preston, Craig Thomas, Greg Wade, and Ed Gower scored for the victors while Donny Nepia finished with four from seven for the match.

West Harbour's points came through a try to Sam Raymond and conversion to Steve Massey.

GORDON 34: Gordon Kome, Mark Preston, Craig Thomas, Greg Wade, Ed Gower tries; Donny Nepia 3 conversions, penalty goal

WEST HARBOUR 7: Sam Raymond try; Steve Massey conversion

MAJOR PREMIERSHIP RUGBY AWARDS

KEN CATCHPOLE MEDAL

Eastern Suburbs fullback Gavin Debartolo capped an enigmatically brilliant season by taking out the Ken Catchpole Medal for the best player in the Tooheys New Shute Shield.

The exciting attacking player polled 21 referee votes over the regular season – 13 of which came in the first five rounds – to claim victory from Gordon's Mark Preston (18 votes) and Warringah's Clint Eadie (14).

Ken Catchpole Medal 2007 – Top Ten:

Gavin Debartolo (Eastern Suburbs) 21 votes; Mark Preston (Gordon) 18 votes; Clint Eadie (Warringah) 14 votes; Jason Peseta



2007 Ken Catchpole Medallist Gavin Debartolo in full flight.

(Northern Suburbs) 11 votes; David Harvey (Gordon) 11 votes; Nick Haydon (Sydney University) 10 votes; Ben Jacobs (Warringah) 10 votes; Jye Mullane (Northern Suburbs) 10 votes; Tom Carter (Sydney University) 9 votes; Peter Hewat (Manly) 9 votes; Mark Howell (West Harbour) 9 votes; Hugh Perrett (Eastwood) 9 votes.

DAVID BROCKHOFF MEDAL

Scott Bowen ensured an Eastern Suburbs clean sweep of the major Sydney Premiership awards for 2007, taking out the David Brockhoff Medal for coach of the year.

Bowen excelled in his second year at the helm at Woollahra Oval, leading Easts to seven straight victories to start the season and finishing within one win of the 2007 title.

The former Wallaby scrumhalf was present at the NSW Rugby Union Gala Awards night, where he received his medal from the man whose name it bears, former Wallaby, Waratah, Easts and Sydney University legend David Brockhoff.



Coach of the year Scott Bowen on stage with Mark Beretta of Sunrise.

LOWER GRADE GRAND FINALS



Manly players celebrate their Colin Caird Shield win.

COLIN CAIRD SHIELD

Manly ended two years of Grand Final frustration taking out the Colin Caird Shield title with a 27-10 win over Northern Suburbs.

The Marlins, who lost the 2005 & 2006 deciders to Sydney University, scored four tries to one with wing Matt Bell crossing for a double.

MANLY 27: Matt Bell 2, Coedi Towney, Paul Dineen tries; Stephen Locke 2 conversions; Adam Darcy penalty goal

NORTHERN SUBURBS 10: Ryno Delpont try; Hadley Jackson conversion, penalty goal

JR HENDERSON SHIELD

Sydney University secured its second premiership of 2007 downing Northern Suburbs 16 points to 3 in the Henderson Shield third grade decider.



Uni skipper Dan Kelly with the Henderson Shield.

The Students controlled the match from the outset and despite some stiff resistance from a committed Norths outfit were far too strong in the finish, scoring two tries to nil to take victory.

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 16: Pauli Siania, Josh Munro tries; Dan Kelly 2 penalty goals

NORTHERN SUBURBS 3: Brad Collins penalty goals.

HENDERSON CUP

Gordon continued its strong season across the grades defeating a fast finishing Southern Districts 15 points to 8 in the Henderson Cup fourth grade Grand Final.

Souths reached the decider from fourth position and won three sudden death matches in succession to qualify for the Grand Final, only to lose to an outstanding Gordon side, which had already claimed the minor premiership for the season.

GORDON 15: Mark Rankmore, Gareth Davies tries; Anton Harris conversion, penalty goal

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS 8: Andrew Maloney try; Josh Sund penalty goal



Gordon's Lincoln Mortlock lifts the Henderson Cup.

COLTS

Sydney University finished 2007 on a high with victory in all three Colts Grand Finals played at Concord Oval on Sunday, 10 September.

The Students claimed the Colts 1 title with a comprehensive 41-13 defeat of Eastwood, following on from a 13-10 win over West Harbour in Colts 2 and a 25-18 victory over Eastwood in Colts U19.

The wins were just reward for a season in which Uni took out the minor premiership in all three colts grades to claim the Eric Spilsted Shield for the Colts club championship.



Mitchell Inman on the attack for Uni in the Colts 1 Grand Final.

COLTS I

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 41: Nathan Charles 2, Matt Schwager, Mitchell Inman, James McMahon, Jacob Taylor tries; Justin Bosilkovski 3 conversions, penalty goal; Jacob Taylor conversion

EASTWOOD 13: Mark Frost try; Mark Frost conversion, penalty goal

COLTS II

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 13: Alastair King try; Harrison Brown conversion, 2 penalty goals

WEST HARBOUR 10: Pascal Wallace try; Moses Schuster conversion, penalty goal



Uni's victorious Colts II side kick off celebrations.

COLTS UNDER 19

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 25: Nick Delaney 2, Francis Raikoroka tries; Challis Potoi 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

EASTWOOD 18: Sam Ridley 2, Michael Otton tries; Shaun Gerber penalty goal

Mazda Australian Rugby Championship



Daniel Halangahu is mobbed by Fleet teammates.

SEASON 2007

2007 saw the introduction of the Mazda Australian Rugby Championship, an eight team, eight week competition featuring sides from NSW, Queensland, Victoria, Western Australia and the ACT.

Representing NSW were the Imagetec Central Coast Rays, the Sydney Fleet, and the Western Sydney Rams, playing out of Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium, North Sydney Oval and Parramatta Stadium respectively.

WEEK ONE

North Sydney Oval played host to the first ever Mazda Australian Rugby Championship match, a local derby between the Sydney Fleet and Imagetec Central Coast Rays on Friday 10 August.

The Fleet triumphed over a Rays outfit that featured Wallaby Wycliff Palu, winning 25-19 in front of a crowd of 3547.

Later that night Western Sydney opened its campaign with a narrow 21-13 loss to the Perth Spirit at Members Equity Stadium.

WEEK TWO

The Western Sydney Rams opened their season's account in week two, teenage flyhalf Kurtley Beale scoring two tries and setting up two more in the 39-30 victory over the Rays in Gosford.

The Sydney Fleet went down in the wet in Brisbane, losing to the Ballymore Tornadoes 26-20.

WEEK THREE

Week three was a successful one for all three NSW teams.

The Imagetec Central Coast Rays opened their account with a 44-15 defeat of the East Coast Aces on the Gold Coast, the Sydney Fleet defeated an ill-disciplined Perth 35-25 at

North Sydney, and the Rams won their first match at home 31-10 over Melbourne.

WEEK FOUR

The Rams were the only team to taste victory in week four, defeating a lacklustre Ballymore outfit 25-7 at Parramatta.

The Fleet travelled to Melbourne only to lose 39-20 to the Rebels while the Rays were ousted 31-19 by Perth on the Central Coast.

WEEK FIVE

Friday night football came to the Central Coast in week five and the Rays repaid their fans faith by picking up their first win at home, a 29-10 victory over Ballymore.



World Cup bound Wallaby Wycliff Palu turns out for the Rays.



Ben Jacobs eludes the Perth Spirit's Ryan Cross.

The Rams and Fleet both played away two days later, the Rams defeating the Aces 44-20 on the Gold Coast, the Fleet losing heavily to the Vikings 56-29 at Canberra Stadium.

WEEK SIX

The Rays set a path for the final in week six when they scored a hard fought 17-13 win over the Vikings at Manuka Oval.

The Fleet meantime kept their home record intact with an upset 24-17 win over the ladder leading Western Sydney at North Sydney Oval.

WEEK SEVEN

The Rays stamped their authority on the competition in week seven, scoring eight tries on the way to a thumping 55 points to 7 victory over the Rebels in Melbourne.

In a weekend of big wins the Fleet dispatched the Aces 40 points to 7 and the Rams outclassed Canberra 54-17.

WEEK EIGHT

The Rams claimed top spot in 2007 despite a narrow 20-19 loss to Perth in week eight, the bonus point enough to secure them the minor premiership and a home semifinal.

The Rays defeated the Fleet in Gosford to grab second position and the second semifinal, winning 55-19.

SEMIFINAL ONE

The Rays turned around a 16-nil half time deficit to defeat the Perth Spirit 27-19 in semifinal one, booking themselves the first place in the Mazda ARC Final.

Fullback Peter Hewat was instrumental in the win, finishing with 17 points for the match off a try, three conversions and two penalty goals.

SEMIFINAL TWO

The Rams run came to an end in semifinal two, out enthused by the Melbourne Rebels 23 points to 3 at Parramatta Stadium.

The Rebels scored three tries then defended their way to a thoroughly deserved victory.

Mazda Australian Rugby Championship

MARC FINAL

BLUETONGUE CENTRAL COAST STADIUM, GOSFORD

Saturday 13 October 2007
Imagetec Central Coast Rays 20
Melbourne Rebels 12

The Imagetec Central Coast Rays saved their best for last, securing the inaugural Mazda Australian Rugby Championship title with a 20-12 victory over the Melbourne Rebels in the Final at Gosford's Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium.

The Rays attacked with purpose, however it was their defence that won them the match, thwarting the Rebels at almost every turn during a second half where the visitors spent almost 15 minutes camped on the Rays line.

Flankers Ross Duncan and Beau Robinson played themselves into the ground, while in attack centres Sam Harris and Ben Jacobs gave the Rays the directness needed to overcome an early deficit.

Peter Hewat was also outstanding in his last match on Australian soil, scoring a try and kicking two conversions and two penalties to finish with 15 points for the game.

The match started badly for the home side, the crowd of 4,189 shocked on 10 minutes when the Rebels converted a good overlap out wide into points through a try to hooker James Hanson, which was converted by Jack Farrer for a 7-nil lead.

Sam Harris made good metres to lay the platform for the Rays first in the 22nd minute, Robinson scoring off the next phase. Hewat converted to lock up the scores at seven all.

He then put the Rays into the lead with a penalty goal before giving fans what they wanted, converting messy ball out wide into seven points after he touched down on the right flank.

The fullback converted to see the score along to 17-7 in favour of the home side at half time.

The Rebels set up camp on the Rays line after half time, spending more than 10 minutes peppering the line without result.

In the end it took the yellow carding of Rays winger Andrew Smith to get the Rebels over the line, David Croft touching down beside the posts to narrow the gap to 17-12.

Faced with a seemingly straightforward conversion attempt from in front Farrer instead had his kick charged down by Duncan, who maintained the Rays a vital five point lead heading into the final 15 minutes.

Hewat nudged the Rays out to an eight point lead with a penalty 10 minutes from full time, the strike proving decisive as the Rebels attempts to pull back the deficit failed.

The win sparked rapturous scenes among the Rays and their supporters, the team spending half an hour after full time on the field of play celebrating, signing autographs and throwing balls into the crowd.

IMAGETEC CENTRAL COAST RAYS

20: Beau Robinson, Peter Hewat tries;
Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals
MELBOURNE REBELS 12: James Hanson,
David Croft tries; Jack Farrer conversion
Crowd: 4,189

Referee: Matt Goddard

Man of the Match (ABCTV

Nominated): David Croft (Rebels)

MARC PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Western Sydney Rams flyhalf Kurtley Beale defied his age and opponents to be named player of the year in the Mazda Australian Rugby Championship. Beale, at just 18 years of age, polled 10 votes including two man of the match awards to finish two clear of Melbourne skipper and former Wallaby David Croft, picking himself up a brand new Mazda SUV, CX-7 for his efforts.



Peter Hewat scored 15 of his side's 20 points in the Final.



Rays captain Cameron Treloar lifts the Mazda ARC trophy.



Alastair Baxter with kids at the ever popular HSBC Free Kick clinics.



A Tah Kids ball boy in action.

In 2007 the NSW Rugby Marketing and Operations department maintained its momentum and dedication to delivering premium service to our commercial partners, members and supporters.

EVENTS & OPERATIONS

2007 provided a packed calendar for NSW Rugby which featured great opportunities for growth and development. In addition to the Super 14, other events were hosted including NSW A home fixtures, Tooheys New Shute Shield Final and the Pacific Nations Cup match between Tonga and Australia A.

The Mazda Australian Rugby Championship was a new addition to the calendar, with NSW RU running matches for teams representing Western Sydney, Sydney and Central Coast.

SUPER 14

Whilst Super 14 attendance was down on previous seasons match day maintained a focus on ensuring an enjoyable spectator experience.

Key initiatives included:

- Renewed focus on transport and the provision of Rugby specific shuttle buses for selected games during the season.
- The introduction of the Tah Bar inside the venue precinct, designed to provide members and their guests a place to go pre and post match, with a focus on improving access in and out of the venue.
- Introducing new match day entertainment,

including themed days (Easter Show; Year of the Lifesaver; Junior March Past), the Acoustic Quarter pre-match on field entertainment, and the broadcast of New Zealand games on screens inside the venue.

MAZDA AUSTRALIAN RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

The Mazda Australian Rugby Championship provided challenges operationally with the three teams playing at three separate venues - Parramatta Stadium, North Sydney Oval and Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium.

Key highlights included:

- Hosting the first match of the tournament at North Sydney Oval, attracting 3547 spectators.
- Introducing curtain raisers before games, including the Junior Rugby Championship, an under 15 competition mirroring each NSW team.
- The staging of Walla and Mini Rugby matches at half time.
- Hosting both semifinals and the Final at Bluetongue Stadium.



Tah Bar patrons catch up before the game.

HOSPITALITY & EVENTS

The hospitality and events team took the annual NSW Rugby Awards gala to a new level in 2007. Held at the Sofitel Wentworth Sydney, the gala was a great success and set a benchmark for the future.

We are focused on increasing the number of events in 2008 across all areas of the business, incorporating Lady Waratah, young fans, and corporate functions, with the aim of giving all members, partners and supporters events to attend.

These functions will also meet various needs within the organisation in terms of marketing, media, sponsorship servicing, team requirements and return in revenue.

SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship activities during 2007 included the highly successful HSBC Free Kick clinic held at North Sydney Oval, Coogee Oval and Granville Oval.

Other activities undertaken included the team recording an anthem for Vodafone, and the Vodafone Tah Bar, which offered members a place to relax before and after the game.

One of the many highlights was a new range of interactive sponsor events, one of which saw Waratah players challenge sponsor representatives to a cook off under the watchful gaze of qualified chefs.

TICKETING & MEMBERSHIP

2007 saw a decrease in memberships by 13%, a trend common across all sporting codes, with a total of 9,500 membership packages purchased for the season.

A number of new memberships aimed at diversifying our supporter base were launched with some success despite the overall drop in numbers. Tah Kids, Lady Waratah and SupportTAH memberships were well patronised and saw an increase in public interest outside of our standard fan base, with females, juniors and interstate supporters becoming more prevalent. We could also offer members more bang for their buck as a result of the implementation of the partner advantage program in conjunction with our sponsors.

Lady Waratah cocktail functions held on match day through the year were extremely successful in driving membership, offering a new market the opportunity to enjoy Rugby while also receiving pamper packages and other hospitality. Emphasis was also placed on enhancing the life members function held for each match, with

upgraded food options, prizes & giveaways, player appearances and photo opportunities laid on for our core member base.

MARKETING

2007 saw two key marketing initiatives implemented to attract fans to attend games:

- **Take a Kid to Rugby:** reduced price ticketing for children accompanied by a full paying adult in category two and three seating, implemented for home game against the Brumbies, Force, Bulls and Stormers. The ticket package also included a free showbag containing a sponsor product, posters and stress balls.
- **Take a Bus to Rugby:** Aimed at increasing sales and awareness of group bookings. For every group booking of 30 or more, NSW Rugby provided a bus to and from the event.

Marketing was also involved in the Mazda Australian Rugby Championship, creating awareness amongst the local community. Initiatives used to achieve this included free entry for children 15 and under using passes distributed to juniors, player appearances, posters, stickers, and advertising in local media.

LOOKING FORWARD

The focus in 2008 will be on increasing brand awareness and improving communication and support across all levels of Rugby from the Waratahs to the grass roots.

At a Super 14 level we will increase entertainment value at all games and for the first time introduce a Waratah mascot. Our new membership drive – the “Tah'd for Life”



Thousands of HSBC mini footballs were thrown to fans after home games.

campaign – was rolled out in late 2007 using improved online application and renewal software for the first time while we are also focused on increasing the value to members through the addition of new benefits and increased communication.

Exciting developments are currently underway away from game day also. A 12 month strategic marketing plan is being introduced, using research and customer segmentation data currently being collated, to ensure Rugby is present in the market throughout the entire year with tailored messages. A new merchandise line, Vintage Waratah, will be launched in early 2008 highlighting street and corporate wear. We are committed to increasing our support for existing partners while also adding new companies and brands to our ever expanding portfolio of NSW RU partners.

Kym Aust-Howlett
General Manager
Marketing & Operations



Entertainer Jenny Morris performs in the Acoustic Quarter.

2007 required a high level of maturity from players and officials in the face of sustained criticism from the media and public. Many teams in similar situations have adopted siege mentalities and blamed others for their problems. This was not the case with the 2007 HSBC Waratahs. They copped the criticism on the chin and vowed to reward their loyal supporters.

Adam Freier deserves high praise for the way he conducted himself during a season that netted just three wins and a draw.

Handed the captaincy following an injury to Phil Waugh, Adam faced the brunt of the inquisition head-on and without complaint. Nor did he offer excuses for the Waratahs' predicament.

Adam's positive attitude kept the team going through a disappointing period. Admired widely for his attitude Adam set a new high standard for others to follow.

The post-match press conference can be an intimidating process to go through at the best of times but this year it was a real test of character.

Each time Adam and head coach Ewen McKenzie acquitted themselves honourably in the wake of a disappointing result.

Adam also showed off his photographic skills by producing a weekly photo blog for Rugby Heaven.

The attitude, frankness and honesty of the squad were appreciated by media of all backgrounds.

Training sessions remained open and players continued their media commitments. There was no hiding behind closed stadium gates.

The enduring positive message of the season was 'youth'.

The loss of experienced players like Phil Waugh, Dan Vickerman and Mat Rogers was countered by the excitement of unearthing players like



Eddie Jones, Ewen McKenzie and Greg Growden of the *Sydney Morning Herald* tackle the big issues on Tah Talk.

Lachie Turner, Kurtley Beale and Dean Mumm.

The management of Kurtley's debut season won high praise from many quarters. Early in January it became clear that public expectation and media workload was becoming too great a burden for the young star in the making.

Kurtley's main concern surrounded his lack of game time. He felt uncomfortable answering questions without having played a senior match. It was decided to give Kurtley a reprieve from his media duties. A couple of weeks later he was a capped Waratah and back talking to the media.

By year's end we had a Kurtley Beale who was comfortable with the media spotlight and better equipped to handle himself in tricky situations.

This responsible management of the exposure of our rising stars will put us in good stead in 2008 and beyond.

The year started with a challenging three game tour of South Africa. Utilising video compression technology the media unit broke new ground with the popular internet program Tah TV. Two shows were produced in the republic in high definition.

Unfortunately budget constraints prevented further programs upon the squad's return.

Phil Cartwright, formerly of the Seven Network Australia and CNN London, joined us on the South Africa leg. Phil shot training vision and satellite crosses that were fed back to Fox Sports in Sydney for distribution to all Australian television networks.

As usual we supplied high resolution photographs to the world's media from South Africa, New Zealand and Australia. This would include a variation of training, game and recreational activities or 'colour' pictures. Again the uptake of this service was extremely high.

Photographically the Media Unit engaged Paul Seiser to supply photos for editorial use during the entire Club Rugby season. This ongoing commitment ensures that local and metropolitan daily newspapers have a ready supply of pictures for match reports, previews and features.

Media Operations Coordinator, Ross Smart, kept the supply of Club Rugby scores and news flowing during the Tooheys New Shute Shield and Trevor Allan Cup competitions.



The media scrum descends for the announcement of a long term contract for Lote Tuqiri.

MEDIA & CLUB RUGBY

- Previews, full time score summaries, and in-depth match reports
- Providing story angles to key Journalists
- Providing editorial, photographic, and financial support to Rugby News
- Collating team lists for inclusion in the *Sydney Morning Herald*
- Distribution of high resolution imagery
- Accreditation
- Media Guides
- Grand Final day media operations
- Audio Visual support for events, launches, and awards nights

Media and Communications

Following the Premiership competitions the Media Unit moved into Australian Rugby Championship mode.

Websites for the Imagetec Central Coast Rays, Western Sydney Rams and Sydney Fleet were produced. To keep costs low the sites branched off the main NSWRU site. A weekly media schedule and major news events for each NSW team were run from the NSWRU Media Unit.

Day to day media in the local areas was the responsibility of the team managers.

2007 marked by far the biggest stretch on resources due to the two club competitions, Super 14 and three ARC teams.

Throughout the year Tah Talk, the NSWRU podcast, continued to break big stories. Averaging four thousand downloads per month, with an 'off-season' peak one month of over five thousand. The audience has doubled in size since 2006.

Tah Talk attracted the Cabana Bar & Lounge on a short-term sponsorship deal which included an extremely popular video episode shot at the venue. This has opened the door for future

revenue opportunities for Media Unit content. Heavy cross-promotion continued to underscore the editorial strength of the program with the Herald, Daily Telegraph and wire services quoting heavily from several shows.

Tah Talk even appeared on the Nine Network's nightly news when Queensland head coach Eddie Jones joined Ewen McKenzie for a head-to-head panel discussion.

More importantly Tah Talk delivered full and frank explanations of the Waratahs' Review. Chairman Arvid Petersen and Ewen McKenzie appeared on episode 53 'The Report'. In it they addressed the issues of the 2007 season and what the report recommended going forward.

I'd like to thank Mark Cashman, editor of Inside Rugby and the Waratahs' match day program for making the time each week to participate on the show.

Mark ensures there's also an independent voice on the program and is never afraid to ask the tough questions.

This year the program included several



Media & Communications Manager Djuro Sen working the phones in South Africa.

interstate and international internet crosses making Tah Talk more flexible and immediate.

The Media Unit once again produced audio/visual content for major functions hosted by NSW Rugby. This included the Matthew Burke Cup Awards Night, Tooheys New Shute Shield Grand Final Luncheon and NSWRU Awards Gala at the Sofitel Wentworth.

Considerable cost savings have been made by keeping production in-house. It also leads to a better product on screen.

Once again Ewen McKenzie was a regular contributor to the Saturday edition of the Sydney Morning Herald. Several times during the year Ewen proved prophetic with his analysis of the England-Australia quarterfinal during the World Cup a case in point.

Ewen's appreciation of the media and the vital role they play in our game is worth acknowledging. The players and other coaching staff also deserve high praise for their efforts to not only fulfil their media duties but make them feel welcome around the Waratahs.

Jim Davis of Rugby News deserves special praise for his unyielding support for Club Rugby and the ARC in 2007. Jim's passion and commitment gives our clubs a profile that is unique in Australian Rugby and we thank him for his tireless effort.

The greatest of appreciation must go to our honorary statistician Steve Johnson. Without Steve's contribution the statistical record of the game in NSW would be fragmented at best, as opposed to the outstanding database that we now have extending back more than a century. I'd also like to thank Chairman Arvid Petersen, the Board and CEO Jim L'Estrange for their professional approach to their media and public commitments.

The messages have been strong and unified and that makes for a positive future.

Djuro Sen
General Manager
Media & Communications



Mark Nolan from official NSWRU photographic agency Getty Images in action.



NSW Rugby especially thanks Michael Hines and his ABC team for their commitment to club Rugby. This year, the ABC committed to a further three seasons of live, free to air coverage. Here Toby Lawson hosts the 2007 Grand Final luncheon.



Junior Rugby players in action at half time in a Super 14 match.

2007 proved to be a challenging year for Community Rugby – Development and Training following a tough period on the field for the HSBC Waratahs. With downward pressure on crowd numbers belt tightening was necessary and the challenge was there, in many areas, to continue producing the results of years previous while accepting major cuts to our budget.

This challenge was tackled positively by all community staff and they are to be congratulated for their efforts, especially in regional areas suffering the ongoing effects of drought. Our affiliates are also to be congratulated on their patience for the delivery of many community Rugby initiatives in 2007.

Community Rugby has taken a customer based approach in 2007 and it has been highly successful. We still have a long way to go however the communication lines with our affiliates are open and the consultation process is beginning to gain momentum. Initiatives such as the inaugural Junior Rugby Forum and the regular Youth Forum meetings, chaired by NSWRU Board member Barry Killham, have been great avenues for community Rugby to receive feedback and direction from our affiliates. Thank you to all who participated in these events and we look forward to continuing to grow strong relationships in 2008.

TRAINING

It has been another big year for the team responsible for the training and education of coaches and referees across NSW.

The cornerstone of coach and referee education in Australia is the SmartRugby course, the ARU's Occupational Health and Safety program. In 2006, NSWRU supported the decision of the ARU to make the course compulsory for all coaches and referees and 2007 saw NSWRU continue our successful 2006 policy of enforcing SmartRugby compliance.

In 2006, 99.2% of regular Rugby teams were coached by a SmartRugby qualified coach, and in 2007 this number rose to 99.9%, an outstanding achievement not only for NSWRU but for every club and school in the state.

As of 2007 SmartRugby is delivered in three settings: as a free stand-alone course, as part of the Junior Player Pathway (JPP) course, and as part of the Foundation course. In total 2,832 people were made SmartRugby compliant in 2007.

The final point to note regarding SmartRugby is the much-needed provision of SmartRugby online, available to people reaccrediting only. Our thanks to the ARU for providing this fantastic resource to the states.

The Foundation course remains very popular with 1,050 participants attending

31 courses across NSW. While feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, we will be altering the delivery structure of the course slightly in 2008 to enhance the skills specific to coaching and refereeing that are taken away by course participants. We will also be encouraging Foundation participants to complete their level one coaching and refereeing accreditation in 2008.

NSWRU was fortunate enough to have Michael Magriplis work wonders on the delivery of the Pathway course in 2007, with a total of 11 courses run involving 367 participants. When University participant numbers are taken into account this number swells to just under 500. This will continue in 2008, with more refereeing content and a further focus on coaching drills.

Level 2 Coaching courses were run again successfully, co-ordinated by Matt McGoldrick. Demand is high, with the December 2007 course booked out months in advance. Matt also ran the Advanced Coach Education scheme, a program designed to bridge the gap between the Level 2 and Level 3 coaching courses, which featured presentations from Brian Goorjian, Wally Masur and Ewen McKenzie.

On top of the coaching courses presented by coach education, work was carried out to develop a stand-alone website for NSW coaches to be up and running in early 2008. One feature of this website will be the Level 2 Coach Club (for all currently accredited Level 2 coaches in NSW) where high performance information, Waratah drills and a specific coaching forum will be delivered.



Waratah Ben Hand presents a Western Sydney Junior with his Rams jersey.



Lote Tuqiri after presenting Finley Wright (L) & Harry Doyle with their Waratahs shorts and socks.

The coach education team has begun the production of a resource to assist coaches across NSW. New training footage has been shot and a new Waratah coaching resource should be available in February 2008.

At present NSW has approximately:

- 8442 people SmartRugby qualified
- 1428 people JPP qualified since 2004
- 3458 people Foundation course qualified since 2005
- 702 current Level 1 accredited coaches
- 335 current Level 2 accredited coaches

**NSW is in a strong
position to
move forward...**

With these figures in mind, NSW is in a strong position to move forward with regard to the continued high quality coach education provided in the state. Thank you to all coaches and referees who have given up their time to receive education to improve the standard of Rugby throughout all levels in NSW.

DEVELOPMENT

The development of Rugby took many forms in the last twelve months from gala days, school visits and junior tackling clinics to supporting elite and indigenous programmes. All activities run by volunteers and supported by NSW Rugby contributed to the overall development of the game in NSW.

The numerous elite high school tournaments run during the year were a highlight and are gaining popularity throughout Sydney. We are also receiving increased interest from country schools, and the more competition Rugby we can provide the better the Rugby will become.

In regional areas our development staff has felt the impact of budget cuts with two staff members finishing their contracts and not being replaced. The work of those left should be commended as they have all stepped up to fill the breach.

It is a credit to these men, and the thousands of volunteers throughout the state, that the numbers of junior Rugby players have increased slightly in 2007. In 2008 our focus will turn to linking school activities to Junior Rugby clubs to increase further against the push from the other codes.

This brings me to the best part of community Rugby by far, the volunteers. Mums, Dads, brothers and sisters, relatives, friends – all of whom give up their time happily to grow our great game. Without them the game would be much poorer and on behalf of New South Wales Rugby I would like to thank all for their incredible efforts.

This year we have begun to develop some solid strategies, in consultation with our affiliates, which if supported will enhance the future of the game. It is with great anticipation that we await the 2008 season and we look forward to continuing to make the game of Rugby an enjoyable, safe and fun experience for everyone involved.

Michael Doyle
General Manager
Development and Training



Benn Robinson mixes with young players at HSBC Free Kick.

NSW Suburban Rugby Union

In 2007 NSW Suburban Rugby lived up to its motto, "The Game for the Game Itself".

We welcomed four new clubs. Seaforth, Rouse Hill, Norwest & Redfield all made valuable contributions, with

Rouse Hill taking out the Division Five Club of the Year title after wins in the David Swan Shield & Jeffrey Cup.

Drummoyne won its second consecutive Kentwell Cup, becoming the most successful Division One team this century. The 2007 premiership is the fourth since 2000 for the Dirty Reds, who are also the first back to back winners since Waverley's treble between 1989 and 1991.

Colleagues, Beecroft, Waverley and UWS Hawkesbury claimed club championships, with Colleagues picking up the Bruce Graham Shield.

Mosman claimed the lion's share of seasonal awards, with Jim Mule's Kentwell Medal added to the Whales' Suburban Club of the Year, Whiddon, Judd, Barbour & U85kg Cup wins. Mosman Colts coach Matt Wilkie also claimed the Suburban Coach of the Year award, while UNSW stalwart Emmanuel Nichles was bestowed with the Service to Rugby Award for over 30 years of service to the game.

Disappointingly, we experienced a five percent drop in player numbers in 2007, with six less teams competing in both regular divisional

competition and the Halligan Cup. On a positive note, the Under 85kg competition increased to ten teams, with 14 Suburban players selected for NSW's tour of New Zealand.

Our representative program saw significant improvement under the guidance of coach Michael Doyle, reclaiming the Barraclough Shield from Queensland. Already plans are under way to do better next year, with a Super 14 curtain raiser scheduled for April 2008.

The Union's relationship with NSW Rugby is stronger than ever. Suburban staff assist with the administration and management of the Premiership and Sydney Women's competitions as well as Youth Rugby through Juniors and Schools, an arrangement that works incredibly well.

I cannot emphasise enough the positive role my staff plays in the success of this Union, and more recently with other Unions within NSW. Competition Managers Tim Richards (Suburban) and Matt Want (Premiership) are capably supported by Rugby administrator David Livanes, all true professionals whose efforts alone ensure that competitions are run in the best possible manner. Michael Bell and Lachlan McBain have joined the team, and although they are focused on Junior Rugby matters, they bring professionalism and dedication to their positions and are a credit to the Unions they serve.

Thank you to the Directors of Suburban Rugby who meet regularly during the year as a Board and as members of sub-committees, often over and above their own club administrative, coaching and playing commitments.

To Mark Groom and his fellow Judiciary members and Richard Harvey and his fellow Appeals Tribunal members we say thanks for a difficult job done well. The Judiciary in particular work incredibly hard, meeting over 25 times this year, often until late in the evening.

I have the pleasure to report Data Solutions Australia (DSA) has extended its major sponsorship of the Union until the end of 2009. As part of the extended agreement, an associated company, Contact Point, has also come on board. The Union thanks David Webb and Donovan Clarke of DSA for their outstanding support.

This year we also welcomed new sponsors, International Sports Clothing, and I thank clubs that have supported ISC through the purchase of their playing apparel this year. Thank you also to our other valued sponsors, most of whom have been with us for over 10

years: Beiersdorf (Leuko), Coca-Cola, Gilbert, Interfuse, Icons of Sport, International Sports Tours (IST) and Australian Rugby News and Review & Rugby E-News.

The Union acknowledges the financial and administrative resources provided by NSW Rugby and we thank NSWRU Chairman Arvid Peterson and CEO Jim L'Estrange and their staff. Particular thanks to the referees for their support of Suburban Rugby.

Last, but by no means least, I would like to thank all of our magnificent club volunteers, without whom the game would not exist. The Union looks forward to assisting you in 2008 and beyond.

Mark Green
Executive Director
NSW Suburban Rugby Union

KENTWELL MEDAL 2007

The 2007 Kentwell Medal for the best and fairest player in Suburban Rugby was taken out by Mosman centre Jim Mule. Mule made a sudden and all too fleeting impact for the Whales, arriving in Sydney from Fiji early in the year on a work transfer before returning home soon after the conclusion of the season. In the meantime, his hard direct running style and fierce defence spearheaded Mosman to a fifth placed finish and him to a Kentwell Medal win.



Drummoyne players and supporters celebrate back to back wins in the Kentwell Cup.

New South Wales Country Rugby Union managed to record a successful 2007 season, despite having to overcome several obstacles along the way.

The loss of the Union's major sponsor and the inability to secure a replacement had an undoubted impact on the operations of Country Rugby. The loss of such a substantial amount of funds resulted in severe cut backs, which unfortunately flowed through to Country's affiliates and resulted in the cancellation of a representative program.

The Illawarra zone again took up the invitation from NSW Rugby Union to participate in the expanded Shute Shield Competition. Whilst not achieving the results they aspired to on the field, they again enhanced their zone and showcased NSW Country Rugby Union on the biggest club stage in Australia.

The 2007 season opened with the traditional Country Championships

The 2007 season opened with the traditional Country Championships, which saw Central Coast take out its third consecutive Caldwell Cup, Western Plains claim back to back Richardson Shields, and Newcastle Hunter its second straight under 20 title. Central Coast joined the ACT and Central North as the only zones to have won three consecutive Caldwell Cups, which dates back to 1951. Hunter took out its seventh consecutive Women's championship, while the under 19 championships were unfortunately cancelled. The cancellation was a flow on effect of the ongoing drought which continues to grip the majority of the state.

Financial cut backs saw the Country representative program reduced to three teams, the Cockatoos, under 19's and women's. The Cockatoos dropped one match during the season and finished second in the Australian Rugby Shield, while the under 19's finished second in the QRU Transition Program, and the women third in the National Championships.

Three Cockatoos were named in the Australian Rugby Shield Order of Merit Team, while seven of our women's representatives were selected in the Wallaroos for their three match tour of New Zealand.



Cockatoos lock Adam Winter trains with a young fan in Orange.

The drought continued to have a destabilising effect at zone and club level, with the decline in the rural economy and availability of employment having a major affect on a number of clubs. It was disappointing to see some traditional rural clubs struggle, but it was heartening to see an increase in participation numbers and the formation of new clubs in some regional areas.

The life blood of Country Rugby continues to be the financial support received from New South Wales Rugby Union and our long term sponsors. NSW RU employs our Executive Officer and provides direct funding to the Union by way of Administration Funding Grants to the zones in addition to the provision of Development Officers across the state. I would like to thank the New South Wales Rugby Union Board of Directors for their ongoing and valued support.

I would like to acknowledge the ongoing support of our family of sponsors. Beiersdorf Australia, Best Western Australia, Classic Sportswear Pty Ltd, Gilbert Footballs, GrainCorp Operations Ltd, International Sports Tours Pty Ltd, Kelly Travel, QantasLink, The Land Newspaper and Toyota Financial Services.

The administration of the Union has been in good hands, and I would like to thank the Board of Directors, including John Perkins, Steve Rosa, Peter Veenstra, Garry

Warfield, Bruce Worboys and Chris Zucker; Sponsorship Officer Terry Orman; and in particular our Executive Officer Terry Woodward. All the aforementioned men are giving of their time above and beyond the call and I thank them deeply for their efforts over the past 12 months.

2008 will continue to see new and old challenges for Country Rugby, with the signing of a new major sponsor the number one priority. The Union has been very active in this quest over the last twelve months, but the ongoing drought has bitten deeply into the rural and regional economy and made the search difficult.

Nothing is ever easy in the bush and Country Rugby as a true Country icon has met all challenges in the past, and will overcome whatever is thrown up in the future.

Laurie Maher
President
NSW Country Rugby Union

WILL TANNER AWARD

The 2007 Will Tanner Award for the most outstanding contribution to the NSW Country Cockatoos went to Merewether-Carlton's Nick Leseberg. The Country skipper started the season slowly before man of the match performances against Melbourne and Queensland Country saw him claim the award from runner up and 2006 winner Paul Elliott.



2007 was a year of consolidation and some experimentation for NSW Referees. Programs across all spectrums of refereeing were implemented throughout the state and the department was actively involved in the introduction of the Experimental Law Variations (ELV's) in Premier Rugby and in the Mazda Australian Rugby Championship.

A new development program aimed at school leavers was added to our list of programs in 2007, the aim of which was to ensure a smooth progression from refereeing at school and junior level to refereeing adults. Led by level 3 referee coach Roger Higgins, the program was highly successful and will be continued and more than likely expanded in coming years.

The Advanced Referee Program (ARP) was expanded in 2007 to include referees and referee coaches from metropolitan district associations. The ARP is positioned above the ARU Level 2 Referee Course and is our equivalent of the NSWRU ACES program conducted for senior coaches. It was well attended, attracting participants from most NSW associations and also a referee coach from the Victorian Referees Association. This very successful program will again be conducted in 2008.

The department continued to provide education material for use by all referee associations. Packages covering "Dealing with On-field Dissent, Advantage, War Gaming, Decision Making and Touch Judging" have been added to our library of NSWRU designed and developed material. We are currently developing more packages covering leadership and refereeing, best practice management of low skill matches and pre-game preparation. These will be used in referee education sessions in 2008.

NSWRU-run education sessions were held for all referees on a monthly basis throughout the season, and there will be more, in four metropolitan locations, in 2008. This will increase our coverage of district association referees and will allow all referees in Sydney the opportunity to choose a session most suitable to them.

I would like to acknowledge the work of Gavin King, our fitness consultant, who provided weekly training sessions for referees from January through to August.



Kentwell Cup Grand Final referee Jamie McGregor.

Recruiting of referees in 2007 was fairly successful. We had a modest increase in the number officiating across the state. However, the referees as a group continue to be an aging population and the modest increase has not markedly varied this situation. In 2008 we will be placing more emphasis on converting the large number of junior referees under the age of 21 into adult referees.

One of the most exciting developments of the past 12 months was our involvement, in conjunction with the ARU and IRB, in the implementation of the ELV's in Sydney Premier Rugby. We participated in the formulation of game management guidelines prior to their implementation. As the ELV's greatly varied the way the game was played, care was taken to ensure that referees were consistent in their application of the laws and a select cadre of referees for these matches was maintained to ensure that during the competitions they refereed only ELV fixtures.

From a referee standpoint, with the exception of allowing hands in the ruck, the ELV's were considered to be very positive changes to the way the game is played. Referees who were involved in the Tooheys New Shute Shield and the Mazda Australian Rugby Championship reported that the mix of laws for the TNSS produced better outcomes than those in the MARC.

Congratulations must go to Stuart Dickinson, who was selected to referee at the 2007 Rugby World Cup. Mention must also be made of Ian Smith, who turned from a regular second grade referee in 2006 to represent

us at the IRB Adelaide 7's, refereed the TNSS Grand Final, and was selected to referee in the inaugural MARC. He also won two NSWRRRA awards and was selected as the Mazda Dick Byres Medal winner.

The NSWRU Referees Department would like to thank Mazda for their continuing support in 2007 and we look forward to it continuing in years to come.

We would also like to acknowledge the support of the NSWRRRA and CRURA Executives throughout 2007 and we look forward to working with them and all referee associations in 2008.

Ron Mancell
Manager
NSWRU Referees

DICK BYRES MEDAL 2007

The 2007 Dick Byres Medal for the best referee in Sydney Premier Rugby was won by Ian Smith. Smith, a second grade referee in early 2006, enjoyed a vintage year that saw his true talent emerge. After refereeing the Adelaide Sevens, Smith turned his attentions to the Tooheys New Shute Shield Grand Final and Mazda Australian Rugby Championship. He was unable to accept his award at the NSW Rugby Awards Gala on account of his being called away to referee the Singapore Sevens.



NSW Junior Rugby Union, in conjunction with its Sydney & Country member Unions, provided structured competition and representative programs for approximately 19,000 registered players in 2007.

From a representative perspective the year got off to an unforgettable start. The State Championships were hit by some of the worst storms seen in NSW in decades. Faced with the unavailability of most fields, age groups between under 11 and under 14 were rescheduled for July while the 15's, 16's and 17's were held to avoid impacting other representative programs.

I would like to take this opportunity to praise the efforts of the Rugby community during this time and offer sincere thanks to all involved, especially Rockdale Rugby Club, Parramatta Seniors, NSWRU for providing additional financial support, and to the district and village clubs of Warringah, Randwick, West Harbour, Blacktown, Wakehurst, Manly, Central Coast and Parramatta for their outstanding support and assistance.

This year the NSWJRU State Championships were again sponsored by the HSBC Waratahs, allowing over 1900 players representing 82 teams from Sydney, NSW Country, ACT and Victoria to take part.

Congratulations to the following State Champions:

Under 11: Gordon
Under 12: Parramatta
Under 13: Sydney University
Under 14: Southern Districts
Under 15: Gordon
Under 16: Manly
Under 17: Warringah

The under 15 Regional Championships were held at Maitland and were won by a very strong and talented Metropolitan Northern Zone. The annual City v Country carnival was also held in Maitland, with the following results:

Under 14's (Tim Gavin Shield):	Country
Under 15's (Steve Tuynman Cup):	Sydney
Under 16's (Ella Cup):	Sydney
Under 17's (Michael Brial Cup):	Country

Sincere thanks to Maitland Juniors for their invaluable hard work and support, which was instrumental in making both carnivals a great success.

NSW under 15 & under 17 sides were selected following the City v Country

carnival. The 15's travelled to Queensland and played a curtain raiser at Ballymore against Queensland under 15, losing narrowly in a thrilling, open game of Rugby. The 17's played Samoan Schools and toured New Zealand, beating Canterbury Country Under 17 & Buller Under 18 and losing Christchurch Metro Development Under 18 26-25.

I am pleased to advise that agreement has been reached in principle with QJRU for annual matches between Queensland and NSW in the under 15 and 17 age group. These games will now form part of our representative program with NSWJRU travelling to Brisbane in 2008.

NSWJRU also conducted Mini and Walla gala days in 2007. Sincere thanks to Parramatta and Wests Juniors for hosting these events.

This year we have been very fortunate to have sponsorship arrangements with SNP Securities, the HSBC Waratahs, Spartan and Classic and we thank you for your continuing support.

We were immensely pleased to yet again see one of our most promising players recognised by NSW Rugby, with Dominic Bower of Tamworth named NSW Junior Player of the year. Dominic's form for Central North, Country and the NSW 17's was outstanding and he was truly a worthy recipient.

In 2007 an outstanding level of cooperation existed between the three junior Unions - NSWJRU, SJRU and NSWCJRU. This mutual support assisted immensely our efforts with NSWRU to obtain a more equitable distribution of funding and resources for junior club Rugby in NSW. Arising from these discussions, we will see a better alignment of development resources for junior clubs in NSW and the provision of additional

administrative support for SJRU and NSWCJRU.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow committee members Sam Reid, Stuart Murray, Charles McCarthy, Graham Roberts, Brad King and Brad Weyland for all their help and support in 2007. Special thanks also to NSWJRU administrator Lachlan McBain for his efforts throughout the year.

John Spana
President
NSW Junior Rugby Union

JUNIOR OF THE YEAR

Tamworth's Dominic Bower, pictured here with HSBC Waratahs assistant coach Steve Tuynman and HSBC's Alastair Wood, enjoyed an outstanding season for Central North, Country, and NSW under 17's, which culminated in him being named NSW Junior of the Year.



Juniors Max Beer & Scott Goodman with Alan Cadman MP, Nick Farr-Jones & John Spana.

Sydney Womens Rugby Union

The 2007 season was both challenging and successful for Sydney Womens Rugby. Traditional clubs for the most part saw continued strong performances while Parramatta was able to consolidate its personnel and fielded a very competitive team. Two new teams in Canterbury and Wollondilly were admitted to the Sydney competition, however these advances were tempered by the mid-season withdrawal of Drummoyne and the inability of West Harbour and Brisbane Water to field teams this year. We are hopeful all will be back again in 2008.

DOMESTIC COMPETITION

The 2007 season saw clubs complete 18 games, with a number of those forced to be rescheduled following the torrential rain of early June.

Canterbury proved to be very competitive in its first year and will be even stronger in 2008. Wollondilly had a mixed season, never winning a game, however the players and coaches did their club, their sport and themselves proud, giving nothing less than total commitment each week.

Wollondilly secured Womens Rugby publicity like it has never seen before

Wollondilly did succeed off the field however, with the print and broadcast media and in particular the Daily Telegraph following the clubs fortunes closely. The, combined with the involvement of HSBC Waratahs lock Alex Kanaar, who came on board as an unofficial assistant coach, secured Womens Rugby in Sydney publicity like it has never seen before.



Warringah's Lisa Fiaola on the charge in the Sydney Women's Grand Final.



Alex Hargreaves breaks the line for Sydney against the ACT.

Warringah won the division one Grand Final, downing a gallant Parramatta 30-13. The division two Grand Final saw UWS Bankstown beat Waverley 27-15.

The Grand Finals were played for the first time under new sponsor, Graham Chapman Advertising. We thank Graham Chapman for his support and also for presenting the division one trophy to the victorious Warringah side.

REPRESENTATIVE SEASON

Sydney seconds fielded two representative teams in the ARU National Championships.

Under the guidance of new head coach Michael Kelynack, ably assisted by John Rownes, Michael Minns, and Kelly Rees-Zarb, the Sydney First XV overcame a limited preparation to win the 2007 national title, defeating Queensland in the Final 17-nil.

To their credit, the girls went through the championship without a point being scored against them.

The Sydney Second XV, led by coaches Ned Carroll and Michael Magriplis and assisted by Denise Carroll and Narelle Murray, were also relentless in their charge, with a number of players wearing the Sydney blue jersey for the first time.

Sydney seconds displayed a great commitment to their game preparation and sadly injuries to a number of players made it difficult for the side to advance to a top three placing.

The Wallaroo squad to tour New Zealand was named following the conclusion of the championships. The following Sydney players gained selection:

Cheryl Soon, Ruan Sims, Tui Ormsby, Alex Hargreaves, Chris Ross, Lisa Fiaola

Whilst the Wallaroos were unable to claim victory against New Zealand they were never disgraced and ensured that their opposition knew they had been in a game of Rugby. The final game in Wellington was played in bleak conditions however the Wallaroos never took a backward step.

An interesting feature of this game occurred during the haka when Captain Cheryl Soon led her players in accepting the challenge. The Wallaroos advanced towards the New Zealand players, setting the scene for a hard fought match.

In closing I would like to particularly thank Mark Green for all his assistance during the season and also to all the club delegates who sacrificed their time to attend various committee and other meetings during the season.

I intend to again nominate next season for the role of Chairman and I want to thank all the players, club officials and NSWSRU office staff for their assistance during this season.

Tony Beger
Chairman
Sydney Womens Rugby Union

WOMENS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

The NSW Rugby Womens Player of the Year award went to Orange Emus flyhalf Alana Thomas. Thomas was named player of the tournament at the 2007 national championships after helping Country to a third placed finish. Her performances at nationals again earned her selection in the Wallaroos side for its two Test tour of New Zealand.



If one measures progress by the amount of silver in the trophy cabinet it could be said that the NSW Schools Rugby Union has remained in the same position as it finished in 2006.

I do not, however, believe this to be the case. New blood has been introduced to the committee, coaching and managerial ranks, and the teachers in our schools continue to produce talented players who will play a significant role in senior Rugby in the years to come.

A position of prominence in 2007 must be given to the deeds of Peter Reeves, who coached the NSWSRU under 16s to their fourth consecutive title at the ARU Championships. Peter goes about his tasks in a quiet and efficient manner and has impressed all who have come under his stewardship. He has also had the benefit of being most ably assisted by John Guy and Ashley Johansen.

Our open teams represented their state admirably in the ARFSU Championships with the Firsts, under the guidance of Chuck Ardron, Dean Hargraves, and Jed Hogan, making the finals only the lose to a talented Queensland team.

The Seconds were in the hands of a completely new coaching team in Paul Kipp, Phil Brown and Paul Ridgeway, and were most competitive. Each of our newcomers will have benefited enormously from the experience and the beneficiaries will be the players of the future.

It is also important to acknowledge the contributions made by our Physiotherapists, Narelle Veverka, Andrew Ryan and Alanna Antcliff, who gave selflessly of their time and expertise.

The selection trials were once again conducted in a faultless manner

The selection trials were once again conducted in a faultless manner by the incomparable Chuck Ardron. Thanks must also be extended to Knox Grammar School for the use of its magnificent facilities and to Macquarie Bank for its generous sponsorship. Congratulations and appreciation must also be given to the selectors who performed the most thankless of tasks in a thoroughly professional manner.



Rob Horne on the attack for NSW Schools.

It would be appropriate at this stage to acknowledge the contribution of Greg Bamford and Denis Kelliher, two outgoing committee members and selectors who have given generously of their efforts and expertise over a long period of time. Gentlemen, it has been a pleasure to serve with you, and I offer you my humblest thanks.

From a personal point of view, I am strongly in favour of the implementation of the Experimental Law Variations seen in higher levels of the game during 2007. I am also an advocate of their implementation across the board in 2008.

I would like to acknowledge the ongoing financial and technical support of the NSW Rugby Union and give a special thanks to Mark Green who has made effective communication between our Unions readily available. Mark has a very positive approach towards his work and the whole of Rugby which is very much appreciated.

To the members of the Executive and Committee, I thank you for your support and positive outlook. As anyone knows in

organisations such as ours the real driving forces are the Secretary and Treasurer and in Greg Gerrard and Andrew Elliot we have two of the best. They undertake their duties responsibly, conscientiously and without complaint at their work load. Sincerely, thank you gentlemen.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all of those responsible for the success of the ARFSU team in 2007, especially committee members Geoff Melville (Assistant Coach), Graeme Dedrick (Manager) and Andrew Elliot (Assistant Manager).

Colin Murray
President
NSW Schools Rugby Union

SCHOOLBOY OF THE YEAR

Australian Schools captain Damien Fitzpatrick, pictured here with HSBC Waratahs head coach Ewen McKenzie and David Walker of HSBC, capped a big year by being named the NSW Schoolboy of the Year. The St Joseph's College hooker helped his school to a GPS title before captaining Australian Schools to its first win in a decade over New Zealand.



NSW made a large contribution to a triumphant 2007 Australian Schools program.

COMBINED ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

The 2007 CAS season was won by Waverley College, who held off a spirited challenge from Knox Grammar School to claim the Henry Plume Shield for the 25th time outright and the 30th time in total.

The representative season saw mixed results, with good wins against CHS followed by three heavy defeats at the hands of GPS. We also lost to ISA in the NSW trials at Knox.

Thanks must go to a number of people for their input during 2007:

- Mr Chuck Ardron and his staff at Knox for their work in staging the NSW Trials.
- All First XV Coaches for their help and advice throughout the year.
- The six CAS Sports masters for their continued support.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the staff and players of NSW Schools for their success in Canberra.

A number of issues arose during 2007 that will have to be addressed if we are to experience success as an association in the future, with CAS faced with one of the toughest representative schedules in memory. There is a strong belief that the situation did not give CAS players the best possible chance to achieve NSW selection, with only three boys achieving this feat. We hope our concerns will be taken into account when scheduling future fixtures.

Martin Hayward
Convener, CAS Rugby



Corey Brown in the clear for NSW Schools.



NSW Schoolboy of the year Damien Fitzpatrick breaks the line against Queensland.

COMBINED CATHOLIC COLLEGES

NSWCCC Rugby enjoyed a successful NSW Schools Championships. We bounced back from a heavy defeat at the hands of CHS 2's in 2006 to lead 14-nil early in the second half. The eventual 20-14 loss was disappointing however the improvement was encouraging.

Our second game against AICES saw us record a hard fought 28-5 victory, laying the platform for Nick White's (St Gregory's) selection in the NSW second XV for the Australian Championships.

The camp at Narrabeen again proved very popular and successful and no doubt coming together as a team is vital to building the teamwork that is necessary for us to be competitive at the championships.

We would like to thank Kim Skerritt and Andy Martin for their support during the year. With Andy resigning as CCC Convener we would especially like to thank him for his tireless efforts on behalf of the CCC in recent years and we have no doubt that the association is stronger as a result of his efforts.

Steve Mitchell/Nic Lah
Coordinators, CCC Rugby

COMBINED HIGH SCHOOLS

2007 began for CHS with a successful five match development tour of New Zealand in April, playing games in Greymouth, Christchurch and New Plymouth.

Returning home, Central Coast and Ku-Ring-Gai zones drew in the final of the NSW CHS State Championships, which featured 14 area/

zone teams and was played at Narrabeen. From these championships NSWCHS teams for 2007 were selected prior to games against CAS and the NSW Schools trials at Knox Grammar School.

The CHS first XV was privileged to play Japan Schools and England Schools, and while both matches finished in losses it was nonetheless a worthwhile experience.

The following CHS players won Australian Schools selection in 2007:

Micah Watene, Larman Ma'a, Jessie Parahi, Shannin Proctor, Tim Bennetts, Robert Horne, Sam Latunipulu, Jason Hopkins, David Tautioleue, Setivini Mafi.

Special mention should go to Robert Horne who won the prestigious Golden Boot Award for the players player in the Australian Schoolboys historic win over New Zealand Schools.

The following CHS schools won state knockouts during the season:

Matraville SHS (Waratah Shield & Robson Shield); Hills SHS (Buchan Shield); Mitchell HS (Shaw Shield, U15 Girls)

Thanks must go to our dedicated and hard working coaches, managers, selectors at school, zone, area and state level; our referees; and to all who helped in any way with NSWCHS Rugby in 2007.

Glenn Clayton
Convener, CHS Rugby

GREAT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Congratulations to St. Joseph's College who were once again crowned champions in the Challenge Shield for 2007. Joeys went through the season undefeated, scoring 254 points while conceding just 74.

In 2007 each GPS school produced quality first XV teams under the guidance of expert school masters. This remains one of the strengths of the GPS competition, that school masters are able to nurture the Rugby development of so many boys as part of an holistic education. The standard of Rugby remains high and the values inculcated have not changed over time.

The Combined GPS Rugby fixtures were held at the conclusion of term two and were played at Knox Grammar School. Three teams were chosen to represent the GPS with Damien Fitzpatrick from St. Joseph's College, Jack Archibald from the King's School, and Toby Browne from the Scot's



Newington hosts Scots in GPS Rugby.

College captaining the teams. The three teams enjoyed strong performances against the CAS and set up thrilling fixtures against CHS.

Congratulations to the Australian Schools team, captained by Damien Fitzpatrick from St. Joseph's College, on their resounding victory over New Zealand Schools.

Mark Ticehurst
Convener, GPS Rugby

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

The 2007 ISA Rugby competition began with St Patrick's and St Augustine's sharing title favouritism, and the first five rounds of the competition confirmed their status with both teams going through undefeated.

The match of the season came in round six when the two schools faced off at Narrabeen, where St Augustine's were worthy victors, gaining a bonus point to secure their first premiership at First XV level.

On a representative front, ISA teams enjoyed their most successful season ever. The first and second XV's enjoyed excellent results over CAS and Country Schools and were rewarded with 12 players selected in NSWSRU representative teams.

From the Australian Championships, congratulations to Corey Brown (KWS), Brock McGarrity (SSC) and Katone Ale (St Aug) who were selected for Australia A to play England Schools.

One of the major reasons for our success at representative level is the preparatory work Paul Geddes from CCGS does each year leading up to the trials. Paul works tirelessly to ensure all ISA teams are well prepared for their particular games. Well done also

to all coaches who worked with the ISA representative teams this year.

In terms of premierships, well done to St Augustine's who won four out of five A grade titles, including the first XV, 15a's, 14a's and 13a's – all of which were undefeated. Congratulations also to Oakhill who won the Schools Championship Shield for the first time in 2008

Stephen Tulevski
Convener, ISA Rugby

COUNTRY SCHOOLS

2007 was a productive year for NSW Country Schools characterised by changing systems of operation and an array of representative Rugby opportunities for schoolboys across regional NSW. The year also had a sad note with the passing of the inaugural President of the Association, Bernie McGrane, in August.

A successful development tour to New Zealand was held during the Easter school holidays, with a number of players going on to represent the Country Schools first XV in 2007. The side was managed by Richard Rowlings while coach Matt Evans will continue his association in 2008, taking on the managerial duties for the upcoming tour to South Africa. Assistant coach Mark O'Neil will fill the role of coach next year with Phil Hughes joining the team as assistant.

The 2007 Country Schools Championships were held over the June long weekend. Eight sides competed for the Bernie McGrane Shield with Hunter victorious over New England in the final.

First XV results from the NSW trials are indicative of an association in a rebuilding phase. However, the initiation of a training camp on the weekend prior to the NSW trials and an improved selection process at the NSW Country Schools championships auger well for the future.

A hard fought 20-8 loss to Samoan Schools in Newcastle in September was the best ever result against a touring international side. Thanks to Bob Harrison, first XV coach John Guy and first XV manager Baden Bodanovs for help organising the match.

A Country Schools under 16 side was again selected in 2007, completing an extensive program that involved trials in Coffs Harbour, a training camp, and an annual fixture against Combined Catholic Colleges. Plans are underway to make this side even more

representative of all regions in 2008.

Matt de Dassel
Vice President
NSW Country Schools Rugby

PRIMARY SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION

A total of 70 teams entered the 2007 NSW PSSA knockout, with Alstonville, Dubbo South, Clovelly and Avalon qualifying for the playoffs, held over one day at Parramatta Rugby club.

Alstonville defeated Dubbo South in one semifinal while Clovelly was too strong for Avalon in the second. Clovelly was crowned champions for 2007 after defeating Alstonville in the Final, their first win in the 55 year old competition. Avalon finished third after downing Dubbo South in the third v fourth playoff.

The state carnival was hosted by Combined Independent Schools at the Armidale School. The carnival was won by a strong Sydney North team which defeated a gallant MacKillop team in a riveting Final. Next year the carnival will be hosted by MacKillop in Nowra.

The 2007 interstate carnival was hosted by NSW at Parramatta Rugby club in late September. Victoria U12's, South Australia U12's, ACTPSSA and NSW PSSA competed, with NSW defeating Victoria to retain the Phil Waugh Shield and ACTPSSA in the Trevor Allan Shield. Next year this carnival will be hosted by Victoria at a venue to be decided.

Grant Fuller
Convener, NSW PSSA Rugby



Scots players celebrate victory over Kings.

2007 Results

HSBC WARATAHS V LIONS SATURDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2007 Ellis Park Johannesburg

1. Benn Robinson	Eastwood
2. Tatafu Polota-Nau	Parramatta
3. Alastair Baxter	Northern Suburbs
4. Will Caldwell	Sydney University
5. Ben Hand #	Eastwood
6. Rocky Elsom	Randwick
7. Phil Waugh [c]	Sydney University
8. Wycliff Palu	Warringah
9. Josh Valentine *	Manly
10. Daniel Halangahu	Sydney University
11. Lote Tuqiri	West Harbour
12. Ben Jacobs	Warringah
13. Morgan Turinui	Randwick
14. Peter Hewat	Manly
15. Sam Norton-Knight	Northern Suburbs

RESERVES

16. Adam Freier	Randwick
17. Aaron Broughton-Rouse	Eastwood
18. Dean Mumm #	Sydney University
19. Tim Davidson *	Sydney University
20. Brett Sheehan	Warringah
21. Kurtley Beale ^#	Northern Suburbs
22. Sam Harris	Manly

HSBC WARATAHS 25

Daniel Halangahu, Rocky Elsom, Adam Freier tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

LIONS 16

Louis Ludik try; Louis Strydom conversion, 3 penalty goals

^ NSW Debut

Super 14 Debut

* Super 14 Debut for the Waratahs

HSBC WARATAHS V SHARKS SATURDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2007 The Absa Stadium Durban

1. Benn Robinson	Eastwood
2. Adam Freier	Randwick
3. Alastair Baxter	Northern Suburbs
4. Will Caldwell	Sydney University
5. Ben Hand	Eastwood
6. Rocky Elsom	Randwick
7. Phil Waugh [c]	Sydney University
8. Wycliff Palu	Warringah
9. Josh Valentine	Manly
10. Daniel Halangahu	Sydney University
11. Lote Tuqiri	West Harbour
12. Ben Jacobs	Warringah
13. Morgan Turinui	Randwick
14. Peter Hewat	Manly
15. Sam Norton-Knight	Northern Suburbs

RESERVES

16. Tatafu Polota-Nau	Parramatta
17. Aaron Broughton-Rouse	Eastwood
18. Dean Mumm	Sydney University
19. Beau Robinson #	Northern Suburbs
20. Brett Sheehan	Warringah
21. Kurtley Beale	Northern Suburbs
22. Sam Harris	Manly

HSBC WARATAHS 9

Peter Hewat 3 penalty goals

SHARKS 22

Butch James try; Percy Montgomery conversion, 3 penalty goals; Francois Steyn penalty goal, drop goal
Super 14 Debut

HSBC WARATAHS V CHEETAHS SATURDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2007 Absa Park Kimberley

1. Benn Robinson	Eastwood
2. Adam Freier	Randwick
3. Alastair Baxter	Northern Suburbs
4. Dean Mumm	Sydney University
5. Will Caldwell	Sydney University
6. Rocky Elsom	Randwick
7. Phil Waugh [c]	Sydney University
8. Wycliff Palu	Warringah
9. Brett Sheehan	Warringah
10. Kurtley Beale	Northern Suburbs
11. Lote Tuqiri	West Harbour
12. Sam Harris	Manly
13. Ben Jacobs	Warringah
14. Peter Hewat	Manly
15. Sam Norton-Knight	Northern Suburbs

RESERVES

16. Tatafu Polota-Nau	Parramatta
17. Jeremy Tilse #	Sydney University
18. Ben Hand	Eastwood
19. Tim Davidson	Sydney University
20. Josh Valentine	Manly
21. Daniel Halangahu	Sydney University
22. Morgan Turinui	Randwick

HSBC WARATAHS 26

Kurtley Beale, Ben Jacobs tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 4 penalty goals

CHEETAHS 30

Ronnie Cooke, Phillip Burger, Eddie Fredericks, Juan Smith tries; Meyer Bosman 2 conversions, penalty goal; Herkie Kruger drop goal
Super 14 Debut

HSBC WARATAHS V WESTERN FORCE FRIDAY 2 MARCH 2007 Sydney Football Stadium

1. Benn Robinson	Eastwood
2. Adam Freier [c]	Randwick
3. Alastair Baxter	Northern Suburbs
4. Dean Mumm	Sydney University
5. Will Caldwell	Sydney University
6. Rocky Elsom	Randwick
7. Beau Robinson	Northern Suburbs
8. Wycliff Palu	Warringah
9. Josh Valentine	Manly
10. Kurtley Beale	Northern Suburbs
11. Lote Tuqiri	West Harbour
12. Daniel Halangahu	Sydney University
13. Ben Jacobs	Warringah
14. Morgan Turinui	Randwick
15. Peter Hewat	Manly

RESERVES

16. Tatafu Polota-Nau	Parramatta
17. Aaron Broughton-Rouse	▲ Eastwood
18. Ben Hand	Eastwood
19. David Lyons	Sydney University
20. Brett Sheehan	Warringah
21. Sam Norton-Knight	Northern Suburbs
22. Sam Harris	Manly

HSBC WARATAHS 16

Morgan Turinui try; Peter Hewat conversion, 3 penalty goals

WESTERN FORCE 16

Drew Mitchell, Matt Giteau tries; Cameron Shepherd 2 penalty goals
▲ Reserve not used



Lote Tuqiri calls for water in the Johannesburg heat.



Daniel Halangahu streaks away.



Rocky Elsom faces a show of Force.



The going gets tough against the Bulls.



Stand in skipper Adam Freier feels the pinch.



Benn Robinson was one of the Waratahs best in Auckland.

HSBC WARATAHS V BULLS SATURDAY 10 MARCH 2007 Sydney Football Stadium

1. Benn Robinson	Eastwood
2. Adam Freier [c]	Randwick
3. Alastair Baxter	Northern Suburbs
4. Dean Mumm	Sydney University
5. Will Caldwell	Sydney University
6. Rocky Elsom	Randwick
7. David Lyons	Sydney University
8. Wycliff Palu	Warringah
9. Brett Sheehan	Warringah
10. Kurtley Beale	Northern Suburbs
11. Lote Tuqiri	West Harbour
12. Daniel Halangahu	Sydney University
13. Ben Jacobs	Warringah
14. Morgan Turinui	Randwick
15. Peter Hewat	Manly

RESERVES

16. Al Manning #	Northern Suburbs
17. Matt Dunning	Eastwood
18. Ben Hand	Eastwood
19. Beau Robinson	Northern Suburbs
20. Josh Valentine	Manly
21. Sam Norton-Knight	Northern Suburbs
22. Sam Harris	Manly

HSBC WARATAHS 19

Kurtley Beale try; Peter Hewat conversion, 4 penalty goals

BULLS 32

Bryan Habana 2, Fourie du Preez 2 tries; Derick Hougaard 3 conversions, 2 penalty goals # Super 14 Debut

HSBC WARATAHS V STORMERS SATURDAY 17 MARCH 2007 Sydney Football Stadium

1. Benn Robinson	Eastwood
2. Adam Freier [c]	Randwick
3. Alastair Baxter	Northern Suburbs
4. Dean Mumm	Sydney University
5. Will Caldwell	Sydney University
6. Rocky Elsom	Randwick
7. Beau Robinson	Northern Suburbs
8. David Lyons	Sydney University
9. Josh Valentine	Manly
10. Kurtley Beale	Northern Suburbs
11. Lachie Turner #	Eastwood
12. Morgan Turinui	Randwick
13. Lote Tuqiri	West Harbour
14. Sam Norton-Knight	Northern Suburbs
15. Peter Hewat	Manly

RESERVES

16. Tatafu Polota-Nau	Parramatta
17. Matt Dunning	Eastwood
18. Ben Hand	Eastwood
19. Wycliff Palu	Warringah
20. Brett Sheehan	Warringah
21. Daniel Halangahu	Sydney University
22. Ben Jacobs	Warringah

HSBC WARATAHS 10

Penalty try; Peter Hewat conversion, penalty goal

STORMERS 16

Luke Watson try; Peter Grant conversion, 3 penalty goals # Super 14 Debut

HSBC WARATAHS V BLUES FRIDAY 23 MARCH 2007 Eden Park Auckland

1. Benn Robinson	Eastwood
2. Adam Freier [c]	Randwick
3. Alastair Baxter	Northern Suburbs
4. Dean Mumm	Sydney University
5. Will Caldwell	Sydney University
6. Rocky Elsom	Randwick
7. Wycliff Palu	Warringah
8. David Lyons	Sydney University
9. Josh Valentine	Manly
10. Kurtley Beale	Northern Suburbs
11. Lachie Turner	Eastwood
12. Morgan Turinui	Randwick
13. Lote Tuqiri	West Harbour
14. Sam Norton-Knight	Northern Suburbs
15. Peter Hewat	Manly

RESERVES

16. Tatafu Polota-Nau	Parramatta
17. Matt Dunning	Eastwood
18. Ben Hand	Eastwood
19. Tim Davidson	Sydney University
20. Brett Sheehan	Warringah
21. Daniel Halangahu	Sydney University
22. Ben Jacobs	Warringah

HSBC WARATAHS 6

Peter Hewat 2 penalty goals

BLUES 34

Troy Flavell 2, Daniel Braid, Steve Devine tries; Luke McAlister 4 conversions, 2 penalty goals

HSBC WARATAHS V CRUSADERS SATURDAY 31 MARCH 2007 Sydney Football Stadium

1. Benn Robinson	Eastwood
2. Adam Freier [c]	Randwick
3. Alastair Baxter	Northern Suburbs
4. Ben Hand	Eastwood
5. Will Caldwell	Sydney University
6. Rocky Elsom	Randwick
7. Tim Davidson	Sydney University
8. David Lyons	Sydney University
9. Brett Sheehan	Warringah
10. Sam Norton-Knight	Northern Suburbs
11. Lachie Turner	Eastwood
12. Morgan Turinui	Randwick
13. Lote Tuqiri	West Harbour
14. Peter Hewat	Manly
15. Kurtley Beale	Northern Suburbs

RESERVES

16. Tatafu Polota-Nau	Parramatta
17. Matt Dunning	Eastwood
18. David Dennis ^#	Sydney University
19. Beau Robinson	Northern Suburbs
20. Josh Valentine	Manly
21. Sam Harris	Manly
22. Ben Jacobs	Warringah

HSBC WARATAHS 33

Lachie Turner, Sam Harris, Sam Norton-Knight, Tatafu Polota-Nau tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 3 penalty goals

CRUSADERS 34

Rico Gear 2, Campbell Johnstone, Mose Tuai'i, Aaron Mauger, Casey Laulala tries; Stephen Brett 2 conversions

^ NSW Debut

Super 14 Debut

2007 Results

HSBC WARATAHS V BRUMBIES SUNDAY 8 APRIL 2007 Canberra Stadium

1. Benn Robinson	Eastwood
2. Adam Freier [c]	Randwick
3. Alastair Baxter	Northern Suburbs
4. Ben Hand	Eastwood
5. Will Caldwell	Sydney University
6. Rocky Elsom	Randwick
7. Tim Davidson	Sydney University
8. David Lyons	Sydney University
9. Josh Valentine	Manly
10. Sam Norton-Knight	Northern Suburbs
11. Lote Tuqiri	West Harbour
12. Sam Harris	Manly
13. Morgan Turinui	Randwick
14. Lachie Turner	Eastwood
15. Peter Hewat	Manly

RESERVES

16. Tatafu Polota-Nau	Parramatta
17. Matt Dunning	Eastwood
18. Dean Mumm	Sydney University
19. Beau Robinson	Northern Suburbs
20. Josh Holmes #	Eastwood
21. Kurtley Beale	Northern Suburbs
22. Ben Jacobs	Warringah

HSBC WARATAHS 10

Rocky Elsom try; Peter Hewat conversion, penalty goal

BRUMBIES 36

Mark Gerrard 2, Stephen Larkham 2, Jone Tawake tries; Julian Huxley 2 conversions, penalty goal; Mark Gerrard 2 conversions # Super 14 Debut

HSBC WARATAHS V REDS SATURDAY 14 APRIL 2007 Sydney Football Stadium

1. Benn Robinson	Eastwood
2. Adam Freier [c]	Randwick
3. Alastair Baxter	Northern Suburbs
4. Ben Hand	Eastwood
5. Will Caldwell	Sydney University
6. Rocky Elsom	Randwick
7. Beau Robinson	Northern Suburbs
8. David Lyons	Sydney University
9. Josh Valentine	Manly
10. Sam Norton-Knight	Northern Suburbs
11. Lote Tuqiri	West Harbour
12. Morgan Turinui	Randwick
13. Ben Jacobs	Warringah
14. Lachie Turner	Eastwood
15. Peter Hewat	Manly

RESERVES

16. Tatafu Polota-Nau	Parramatta
17. Matt Dunning	Eastwood
18. Dean Mumm	Sydney University
19. Wycliff Palu	Warringah
20. Josh Holmes	Eastwood
21. Kurtley Beale ▲	Northern Suburbs
22. Sam Harris ▲	Manly

HSBC WARATAHS 26

Josh Valentine, Beau Robinson tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 4 penalty goals

REDS 13

Clinton Schifcofske try, conversion, 2 penalty goals
▲ Reserve not used

HSBC WARATAHS V HIGHLANDERS SATURDAY 21 APRIL 2007 Sydney Football Stadium

1. Matt Dunning	Eastwood
2. Tatafu Polota-Nau	Parramatta
3. Alastair Baxter	Northern Suburbs
4. Dean Mumm	Sydney University
5. Will Caldwell	Sydney University
6. Rocky Elsom [c]	Randwick
7. Beau Robinson	Northern Suburbs
8. David Lyons	Sydney University
9. Josh Holmes	Eastwood
10. Sam Norton-Knight	Northern Suburbs
11. Lote Tuqiri	West Harbour
12. Sam Harris	Manly
13. Ben Jacobs	Warringah
14. Lachie Turner	Eastwood
15. Peter Hewat	Manly

RESERVES

16. Adam Freier	Randwick
17. Benn Robinson	Eastwood
18. Tim Davidson	Sydney University
19. Wycliff Palu	Warringah
20. Nathan Sievert #	Sydney University
21. Chris Siale #	Manly
22. Daniel Halangahu	Sydney University

HSBC WARATAHS 25

Peter Hewat 2, Josh Holmes tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

HIGHLANDERS 26

Viliame Waqaseduadua, Nick Evans, Jason Kawa tries; Nick Evans conversion, 3 penalty goals
Super 14 Debut

HSBC WARATAHS V CHIEFS FRIDAY 27 APRIL 2007 Sydney Football Stadium

1. Matt Dunning	Eastwood
2. Adam Freier [c]	Randwick
3. Alastair Baxter	Northern Suburbs
4. Dean Mumm	Sydney University
5. Will Caldwell	Sydney University
6. Rocky Elsom	Randwick
7. Beau Robinson	Eastwood
8. Wycliff Palu	Warringah
9. Josh Holmes	Eastwood
10. Sam Norton-Knight	Northern Suburbs
11. Lote Tuqiri	West Harbour
12. Sam Harris	Manly
13. Ben Jacobs	Warringah
14. Lachie Turner	Eastwood
15. Peter Hewat	Manly

RESERVES

16. Tatafu Polota-Nau	Parramatta
17. Benn Robinson	Eastwood
18. David Lyons	Sydney University
19. Tim Davidson	Sydney University
20. Daniel Halangahu	Sydney University
21. Kurtley Beale	Northern Suburbs
22. Chris Siale	Manly

HSBC WARATAHS 23

Sam Norton-Knight, Lachie Turner tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 3 penalty goals

CHIEFS 28

Sitiveni Sivivatu, Liam Messam, Tane Tu'ipulotu tries; Stephen Donald 2 conversions, 3 penalty goals



Former Tah Stephen Hoiles fends off Rocky Elsom.



Ben Jacobs & Matt Dunning relieved after beating the Reds.



Will Caldwell cuts a lonely figure after losing to the Highlanders.



Lote Tuqiri finds the tryline in Wellington.



Sam Norton-Knight makes his Test debut against Wales.



Daniel Vickerman takes the high ball against Fiji in Perth.

HSBC WARATAHS V HURRICANES SATURDAY 5 MAY 2007 Westpac Stadium Wellington

1. Benn Robinson	Eastwood
2. Adam Freier	Randwick
3. Alastair Baxter	Northern Suburbs
4. Dean Mumm	Sydney University
5. Will Caldwell	Sydney University
6. Rocky Elsom	Randwick
7. Phil Waugh [c]	Sydney University
8. Wycliff Palu	Warringah
9. Josh Valentine	Manly
10. Sam Norton-Knight	Northern Suburbs
11. Lote Tuqiri	West Harbour
12. Sam Harris	Manly
13. Ben Jacobs	Warringah
14. Lachie Turner	Eastwood
15. Peter Hewat	Manly

RESERVES

16. Tatafu Polota-Nau	Parramatta
17. Matt Dunning	Eastwood
18. David Lyons	Sydney University
19. Tim Davidson	Sydney University
20. Brett Sheehan	Warringah
21. Daniel Halangahu	Sydney University
22. Chris Siale	Manly

HSBC WARATAHS 38

Dean Mumm, Lachie Turner, Lote Tuqiri, Ben Jacobs tries; Peter Hewat 3 conversions, 4 penalty goals

HURRICANES 14

Jimmy Gopperth, Jerry Collins tries; Piri Weepu 2 conversions

AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVES – 2007 Domestic Test Season

Adam Ashley-Cooper	ACT, Northern Suburbs
Alistair Baxter	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Matt Dunning	NSW, Eastwood
Rocky Elsom	NSW, Randwick
Adam Freier	NSW, Randwick
Mark Gerrard	ACT, Warringah
Stephen Hoiles	ACT, Randwick
Julian Huxley	ACT, Sydney University
David Lyons	NSW, Sydney University
Stirling Mortlock	ACT, Gordon
Sam Norton-Knight	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Wycliff Palu	NSW, Warringah
George Smith	ACT, Manly
Lote Tuqiri	NSW, West Harbour
Daniel Vickerman	NSW, Sydney University
Phil Waugh	NSW, Sydney University

AUSTRALIA V WALES JAMES BEVAN TROPHY SATURDAY 26 MAY 2007 Telstra Stadium Sydney

Matt Dunning	NSW, Eastwood
Rocky Elsom	NSW, Randwick
Phil Waugh [c]	NSW, Sydney University
Wycliff Palu	NSW, Warringah
Sam Norton-Knight #	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Adam Ashley-Cooper	ACT, Northern Suburbs
Stirling Mortlock [vc]	ACT, Gordon
Mark Gerrard	ACT, Warringah
Julian Huxley #	ACT, Sydney University

AUSTRALIA V WALES JAMES BEVAN TROPHY

(Continued)

RESERVES

Adam Freier	NSW, Randwick
Benn Robinson	NSW, Eastwood
Daniel Vickerman	NSW, Sydney University
Stephen Hoiles	ACT, Randwick
George Smith [vc]	ACT, Manly

AUSTRALIA 29

Wycliff Palu, Nathan Sharpe, Matt Giteau, Stephen Hoiles tries; Stirling Mortlock 3 conversions, penalty goal

WALES 23

Gareth Thomas, Jamie Robinson tries; James Hook 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals, drop goal # Test debut

AUSTRALIA V WALES JAMES BEVAN TROPHY SATURDAY 2 JUNE 2007 Suncorp Stadium Brisbane

Benn Robinson	NSW, Eastwood
Daniel Vickerman	NSW, Sydney University
Rocky Elsom	NSW, Randwick
George Smith [vc]	ACT, Manly
Wycliff Palu	NSW, Warringah
Adam Ashley-Cooper	ACT, Northern Suburbs
Stirling Mortlock [c]	ACT, Gordon
Julian Huxley	ACT, Sydney University

RESERVES

Adam Freier	NSW, Randwick
Matt Dunning	NSW, Eastwood
Stephen Hoiles	ACT, Randwick
Phil Waugh [vc]	NSW, Sydney University
Mark Gerrard	ACT, Warringah

AUSTRALIA 31

Digby Ioane, Drew Mitchell, Julian Huxley tries; Stirling Mortlock 2 conversions, 4 penalty goals

WALES 0

AUSTRALIA V FIJI SATURDAY 9 JUNE 2007 Subiaco Oval Perth

Matt Dunning	NSW, Eastwood
Adam Freier	NSW, Randwick
Alastair Baxter	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Daniel Vickerman	NSW, Sydney University
Phil Waugh [c]	NSW, Sydney University
David Lyons	NSW, Sydney University
Lote Tuqiri	NSW, West Harbour
Adam Ashley-Cooper	ACT, Northern Suburbs
Julian Huxley	ACT, Sydney University

RESERVES

Benn Robinson	NSW, Eastwood
Stephen Hoiles	ACT, Randwick
George Smith	ACT, Manly
Sam Norton-Knight	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Stirling Mortlock [vc]	ACT, Gordon

AUSTRALIA 49

Scott Staniforth 2, Lote Tuqiri 2, Julian Huxley, Stephen Larkham, Sam Norton-Knight, Adam Ashley-Cooper tries; Julian Huxley 3 conversions, 1 penalty goal

FIJI 0

2007 Results

AUSTRALIA V SOUTH AFRICA TRI NATIONS & MANDELA PLATE SATURDAY 16 JUNE 2007 Newlands Stadium Cape Town

Matt Dunning NSW, Eastwood
Daniel Vickerman NSW, Sydney University
Rocky Elsom NSW, Randwick
George Smith [vc] ACT, Manly
Wycliff Palu NSW, Warringah
Lote Tuqiri NSW, West Harbour
Stirling Mortlock [c] ACT, Gordon
Julian Huxley ACT, Sydney University

RESERVES

Adam Freier NSW, Randwick
Alastair Baxter NSW, Northern Suburbs
Stephen Hoiles ACT, Randwick
Phil Waugh [vc] NSW, Sydney University
Adam Ashley-Cooper ACT, Northern Suburbs
Mark Gerrard dnp ACT, Warringah

AUSTRALIA 19

Matt Giteau try; Stirling Mortlock conversion, 4 penalty goals

SOUTH AFRICA 22

Jacque Fourie try; Percy Montgomery conversion, 3 penalty goals; Francois Steyn 2 drop goals

dnp Did Not Play

AUSTRALIA V NEW ZEALAND TRI NATIONS & BLEDISLOE CUP SATURDAY 30 JUNE 2007 Melbourne Cricket Ground

Matt Dunning NSW, Eastwood
Daniel Vickerman NSW, Sydney University
Rocky Elsom NSW, Randwick
George Smith [vc] ACT, Manly
Wycliff Palu NSW, Warringah
Lote Tuqiri NSW, West Harbour
Stirling Mortlock [c] ACT, Gordon
Adam Ashley-Cooper ACT, Northern Suburbs
Julian Huxley ACT, Sydney University

RESERVES

Adam Freier NSW, Randwick
Alastair Baxter NSW, Northern Suburbs
Stephen Hoiles ACT, Randwick
Phil Waugh [vc] NSW, Sydney University
Mark Gerrard dnp ACT, Warringah

AUSTRALIA 20

Adam Ashley-Cooper; Scott Staniforth tries; Matt Giteau 2 conversions; Stirling Mortlock 2 penalty goals

NEW ZEALAND 15

Tony Woodcock, Rico Gear tries; Dan Carter conversion, penalty goal

dnp Did Not Play

AUSTRALIA V SOUTH AFRICA TRI NATIONS & MANDELA PLATE SATURDAY 7 JULY 2007 Telstra Stadium Sydney

Matt Dunning NSW, Eastwood
Adam Freier NSW, Randwick
Daniel Vickerman NSW, Sydney University
Rocky Elsom NSW, Randwick

AUSTRALIA V SOUTH AFRICA TRI NATIONS & MANDELA PLATE

(Continued)

George Smith [vc] ACT, Manly
Stephen Hoiles ACT, Randwick
Mark Gerrard ACT, Warringah
Stirling Mortlock [c] ACT, Gordon
Adam Ashley-Cooper ACT, Northern Suburbs
Julian Huxley ACT, Sydney University

RESERVES

Alastair Baxter NSW, Northern Suburbs
David Lyons NSW, Sydney University
Phil Waugh [vc] NSW, Sydney University

AUSTRALIA 25

Mark Gerrard, Stephen Hoiles, Matt Giteau tries; Stirling Mortlock 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

SOUTH AFRICA 17

Wikus Van Heerden, Breyton Paulse tries; Derick Hougaard 2 conversions, penalty goal

AUSTRALIA V NEW ZEALAND TRI NATIONS & BLEDISLOE CUP SATURDAY 21 JULY 2007 Eden Park Auckland

Matt Dunning NSW, Eastwood
Daniel Vickerman NSW, Sydney University
Rocky Elsom NSW, Randwick
George Smith [vc] ACT, Manly
Stephen Hoiles ACT, Randwick
Stirling Mortlock [c] ACT, Gordon
Mark Gerrard ACT, Warringah
Adam Ashley-Cooper ACT, Northern Suburbs

RESERVES

Adam Freier NSW, Randwick
Alastair Baxter NSW, Northern Suburbs
Phil Waugh [vc] NSW, Sydney University

NEW ZEALAND 26

Tony Woodcock try; Daniel Carter 7 penalty goals

AUSTRALIA 12

Stirling Mortlock 3 penalty goals; Matt Giteau drop goal

AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVES – 2007 RUGBY WORLD CUP SQUAD

Adam Ashley-Cooper ACT, Northern Suburbs
Alastair Baxter NSW, Northern Suburbs
Matt Dunning NSW, Eastwood
Rocky Elsom NSW, Randwick
Adam Freier NSW, Randwick
Mark Gerrard ACT, Warringah
Stephen Hoiles ACT, Randwick
Julian Huxley ACT, Sydney University
David Lyons NSW, Sydney University
Stirling Mortlock ACT, Gordon
Wycliff Palu NSW, Warringah
George Smith ACT, Manly
Lote Tuqiri NSW, West Harbour
Morgan Turinui † NSW, Randwick
Daniel Vickerman NSW, Sydney University
Phil Waugh NSW, Sydney University

† Squad Member, Did Not Play



The Wallabies face the Haka on an historic night in Melbourne.



Randwick's Stephen Hoiles scores against the Springboks.



Dan Vickerman feels the heartbreak of Tri Nations defeat.



Rocky Elsom won man of the match against Japan in the RWC.



Wycliff Palu scatters the Welsh defence in Cardiff.



Matt Dunning and Andrew Sheridan square up in the Quarters.

AUSTRALIA V JAPAN RUGBY WORLD CUP SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2007 Stade Gerland Lyon

Matt Dunning	NSW, Eastwood
Alastair Baxter	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Daniel Vickerman	NSW, Sydney University
Rocky Elsom	NSW, Randwick
George Smith [vc]	ACT, Manly
Wycliff Palu	NSW, Warringah
Lote Tuqiri	NSW, West Harbour
Sterling Mortlock [c]	ACT, Gordon
Adam Ashley-Cooper	ACT, Northern Suburbs

RESERVES

Adam Freier	NSW, Randwick
Stephen Hoiles	ACT, Randwick
Mark Gerrard	ACT, Warringah

AUSTRALIA 91

Rocky Elsom 3, Drew Mitchell 2, Chris Latham 2, Berrick Barnes 2, Nathan Sharpe, Adam Ashley-Cooper; George Smith, Adam Freier tries; Stirling Mortlock 7 conversions, 2 penalty goals; Matt Giteau 3 conversions

JAPAN 3

Kosei Ono penalty goal

AUSTRALIA V WALES RUGBY WORLD CUP SATURDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2007 Millennium Stadium Cardiff

Matt Dunning	NSW, Eastwood
Daniel Vickerman	NSW, Sydney University
Rocky Elsom	NSW, Randwick
George Smith [vc]	ACT, Manly
Wycliff Palu	NSW, Warringah
Lote Tuqiri	NSW, West Harbour
Sterling Mortlock [c]	ACT, Gordon

RESERVES

Adam Freier	NSW, Randwick
Alastair Baxter	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Stephen Hoiles	ACT, Randwick
Phil Waugh [vc]	NSW, Sydney University
Julian Huxley	ACT, Sydney University

AUSTRALIA 32

Chris Latham 2, Matt Giteau, Stirling Mortlock tries; Stirling Mortlock 2 conversions, penalty goal; Matt Giteau conversion; Berrick Barnes drop goal

WALES 20

Jonathon Thomas, Shane Williams tries; James Hook 2 conversions, penalty goal; Stephen Jones penalty goal

AUSTRALIA V FIJI RUGBY WORLD CUP SUNDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2007 Stade De La Mosson Montpellier

Matt Dunning	NSW, Eastwood
Daniel Vickerman	NSW, Sydney University
Rocky Elsom	NSW, Randwick
Phil Waugh [vc]	NSW, Sydney University
Wycliff Palu	NSW, Warringah

AUSTRALIA V FIJI RUGBY WORLD CUP

(Continued)

Lote Tuqiri	NSW, West Harbour
Adam Ashley-Cooper	ACT, Northern Suburbs

RESERVES

Adam Freier	NSW, Randwick
Stephen Hoiles	ACT, Randwick
Julian Huxley	ACT, Sydney University

AUSTRALIA 55

Drew Mitchell 3, Matt Giteau 2, Adam Ashley-Cooper; Stephen Hoiles tries; Matt Giteau 4 conversions, 3 penalty goals; Berrick Barnes drop goal

FIJI 12

Aca Ratuva, Isoa Neivua tries; Seremaia Bai conversion

AUSTRALIA V CANADA RUGBY WORLD CUP SATURDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2007 Stade Chaban-Delmas Bordeaux

Adam Freier	NSW, Randwick
Alastair Baxter	NSW, Northern Suburbs
George Smith [c]	ACT, Manly
David Lyons	NSW, Sydney University
Julian Huxley	ACT, Sydney University
Adam Ashley-Cooper	ACT, Northern Suburbs
Lote Tuqiri [vc]	NSW, West Harbour

RESERVES

Rocky Elsom dnp	NSW, Randwick
Phil Waugh	NSW, Sydney University
Stephen Hoiles	ACT, Randwick

AUSTRALIA 37

Drew Mitchell 2, Adam Freier, Alastair Baxter; George Smith, Chris Latham tries; Cameron Shepherd 2 conversions; Julian Huxley penalty goal

CANADA 6

James Pritchard 2 penalty goals
dnp Did Not Play

AUSTRALIA V ENGLAND RUGBY WORLD CUP QUARTER FINAL SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER 2007 Stade Velodrome Marseille

Matt Dunning	NSW, Eastwood
Daniel Vickerman	NSW, Sydney University
Rocky Elsom	NSW, Randwick
George Smith	ACT, Manly
Wycliff Palu	NSW, Warringah
Lote Tuqiri	NSW, West Harbour
Sterling Mortlock [c]	ACT, Gordon
Adam Ashley-Cooper	ACT, Northern Suburbs

RESERVES

Adam Freier	NSW, Randwick
Alastair Baxter	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Stephen Hoiles	ACT, Randwick
Phil Waugh [vc]	NSW, Sydney University
Julian Huxley dnp	ACT, Sydney University

ENGLAND 12

Jonny Wilkinson 4 penalty goals

AUSTRALIA 10

Lote Tuqiri try; Stirling Mortlock conversion, penalty goal
dnp Did Not Play

2007 Results

AUSTRALIA A REPRESENTATIVES 2007

Kurtley Beale	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Alastair Baxter	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Will Caldwell	NSW, Sydney University
Alister Campbell	ACT, Sydney University
Peter Hewat	NSW, Manly
Josh Holmes	NSW, Eastwood
David Lyons	NSW, Sydney University
Salesi Ma'afu	ACT, Warringah
Dean Mumm	NSW, Sydney University
Sam Norton-Knight	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Tatafu Polota-Nau	NSW, Parramatta
Jone Tawake	ACT, Sydney University
Lachie Turner	NSW, Eastwood
Josh Valentine	NSW, Manly

AUSTRALIA A V TONGA PACIFIC NATIONS CUP FRIDAY 25 MAY 2007 Sydney Football Stadium

Tatafu Polota-Nau	NSW, Parramatta
Will Caldwell	NSW, Sydney University
Alister Campbell [c]	ACT, Sydney University
Dean Mumm	NSW, Sydney University
Jone Tawake	ACT, Sydney University
Lachie Turner	NSW, Eastwood
Peter Hewat	NSW, Manly

RESERVES

Josh Holmes	NSW, Eastwood
Kurtley Beale	NSW, Northern Suburbs

AUSTRALIA A 60

Lachie Turner 3, Ryan Cross 2, Tatafu Polota-Nau, Peter Hewat, Clinton Schifcofske tries; Clinton Schifcofske 6 conversions, 2 penalty goals; Peter Hewat 1 conversion

TONGA 15

Seti Kiole, Isileli Tupou tries; Fangatapu Apikotoa 1 conversion, 1 penalty goal

AUSTRALIA A V SAMOA PACIFIC NATIONS CUP SATURDAY 2 JUNE 2007 BCU International Stadium Coffs Harbour

Tatafu Polota-Nau	NSW, Parramatta
Alastair Baxter	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Alister Campbell [c]	ACT, Sydney University
Jone Tawake	ACT, Sydney University
Lachie Turner	NSW, Eastwood
Peter Hewat	NSW, Manly

RESERVES

Will Caldwell	NSW, Sydney University
Dean Mumm	NSW, Sydney University
Josh Holmes	NSW, Eastwood
Kurtley Beale	NSW, Northern Suburbs

AUSTRALIA A 27

Tatafu Polota-Nau, Dean Mumm, Kurtley Beale tries; Clinton Schifcofske 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals; Peter Hewat 1 conversion

SAMOA 15

Justin Vaa, Kane Thompson tries; Gavin Williams conversion, penalty goal

AUSTRALIA A V JAPAN PACIFIC NATIONS CUP SATURDAY 9 JUNE 2007 Dairy Farmers Stadium Townsville

Tatafu Polota-Nau	NSW, Parramatta
Alister Campbell [c]	ACT, Sydney University
Will Caldwell	NSW, Sydney University
Dean Mumm	NSW, Sydney University
Jone Tawake	ACT, Sydney University
Josh Holmes	NSW, Eastwood
Peter Hewat	NSW, Manly

RESERVES

Salesi Ma'afu	ACT, Warringah
Josh Valentine	NSW, Manly
Kurtley Beale	NSW, Northern Suburbs

AUSTRALIA A 71

Josh Holmes 3, Ryan Cross 2, Clinton Schifcofske, Haig Sare, Gareth Hardy, Salesi Ma'afu, Kurtley Beale tries; Clinton Schifcofske 9 conversions, penalty goal

JAPAN 10

Bryce Robins try; Kosei Ono conversion, penalty goal

AUSTRALIA A V JUNIOR ALL BLACKS PACIFIC NATIONS CUP SATURDAY 16 JUNE 2007 Carisbrook Dunedin

Tatafu Polota-Nau	NSW, Parramatta
Alister Campbell [c]	ACT, Sydney University
David Lyons	NSW, Sydney University
Josh Holmes	NSW, Eastwood
Sam Norton-Knight	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Peter Hewat	NSW, Manly

RESERVES

Dean Mumm	NSW, Sydney University
Jone Tawake	ACT, Sydney University
Josh Valentine	NSW, Manly
Lachie Turner	NSW, Eastwood

JUNIOR ALL BLACKS 50

Sione Lauaki 2, Stephen Donald, Tom Donnelly, Scott Hamilton, Ma'a Nonu, Daniel Braid tries; Stephen Donald 6 conversions, penalty goal

AUSTRALIA A 0

AUSTRALIA A V FIJI PACIFIC NATIONS CUP SATURDAY 23 JUNE 2007 National Stadium Suva

Tatafu Polota-Nau	NSW, Parramatta
Alister Campbell [c]	ACT, Sydney University
David Lyons	NSW, Sydney University
Josh Valentine	NSW, Manly
Lachie Turner	NSW, Eastwood

RESERVES

Dean Mumm	NSW, Sydney University
Jone Tawake	ACT, Sydney University
Josh Holmes	NSW, Eastwood
Sam Norton-Knight	NSW, Northern Suburbs

AUSTRALIA A 14

Lachie Turner try; Cameron Shepherd 2 penalty goals; Clinton Schifcofske penalty goal

FIJI 14

Filimone Bolavucu 2 tries; Waisea Luveniylali 2 conversions



Lachie Turner scores for Australia A against Tonga.



Dean Mumm takes on the Samoan defence in Coffs Harbour.



Kurtley Beale kicks for the corner in Townsville.



Andrew Barrett scores for the Australian U19's in Belfast.



Alfi Mafi takes on the South African defence.



Parramatta's Sam Wykes claims a lineout against Wales.

AUSTRALIA UNDER 19 REPRESENTATIVES

Andrew Barrett	NSW, Southern Districts
Peter Betham	NSW, Sydney University
Adam Campbell	NSW, Sydney University
Chris Harkins	ACT, Sydney University
Mitchell Inman	NSW, Sydney University
Rowan Kellam	ACT, Eastwood
Patrick McCabe	NSW, Warringah
Ben McCalman	NSW, Sydney University
Rodney Ma'a	NSW, Eastwood
Alfi Mafi	NSW, Sydney University
Daniel Palmer	NSW, Southern Districts
Jason Ryan	NSW, Eastwood
Jeremy Su'a	NSW, Sydney University
Jared Waerea-Hargreaves	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Sam Wykes	NSW, Parramatta

AUSTRALIA V IRELAND IRB UNDER 19 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP POOL A GAME 1 THURSDAY 5 APRIL 2007 Ravenhill Belfast

Daniel Palmer	NSW, Southern Districts
Sam Wykes	NSW, Parramatta
Ben McCalman	NSW, Sydney University
Rodney Ma'a	NSW, Eastwood
Jeremy Su'a	NSW, Sydney University
Patrick McCabe	NSW, Warringah
Andrew Barrett	NSW, Southern Districts
Rowan Kellam	ACT, Eastwood
Alfi Mafi	NSW, Sydney University
Peter Betham	NSW, Sydney University

RESERVES

Jason Ryan	NSW, Eastwood
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AUSTRALIA 15

Andrew Barrett 2 tries; Rowan Kellam conversion, penalty goal

IRELAND 10

Niall Morris, Adam Craig tries

AUSTRALIA V FIJI IRB UNDER 19 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP POOL A GAME 2 MONDAY 9 APRIL 2007 Shaw's Bridge Belfast

Sam Wykes	NSW, Parramatta
Jared Waerea-Hargreaves	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Rodney Ma'a	NSW, Eastwood
Ben McCalman	NSW, Sydney University
Jeremy Su'a	NSW, Sydney University
Patrick McCabe	NSW, Warringah
Andrew Barrett	NSW, Southern Districts
Mitchell Inman	NSW, Sydney University
Peter Betham	NSW, Sydney University

RESERVES

Adam Campbell	NSW, Sydney University
Chris Harkins	ACT, Sydney University
Alfi Mafi	NSW, Sydney University

AUSTRALIA 23

Andrew Barrett 2, Blair Connor 2 tries; Jeremy Su'a penalty goal

FIJI 12

Henry Speight, Peni Rokodiva tries; Kini Murimurivalu conversion

AUSTRALIA V FRANCE IRB UNDER 19 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP POOL A GAME 3 FRIDAY 13 APRIL 2007 Deramore Park Belfast

Daniel Palmer	NSW, Southern Districts
Sam Wykes	NSW, Parramatta
Ben McCalman	NSW, Sydney University
Rodney Ma'a	NSW, Eastwood
Jeremy Su'a	NSW, Sydney University
Mitchell Inman	NSW, Sydney University
Rowan Kellam	ACT, Eastwood
Alfi Mafi	NSW, Sydney University
Andrew Barrett	NSW, Southern Districts

RESERVES

Adam Campbell	NSW, Sydney University
Patrick McCabe	NSW, Warringah
Peter Betham	NSW, Sydney University

AUSTRALIA 30

Blair Connor 2, Alfi Mafi, Peter Betham tries; Rowan Kellam 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

FRANCE 11

Raphael Olive try; Morgan Parra penalty goal, drop goal

AUSTRALIA V SOUTH AFRICA IRB UNDER 19 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION 1 2 v 3 PLAYOFF Ravenhill Belfast

Daniel Palmer	NSW, Southern Districts
Sam Wykes	NSW, Parramatta
Ben McCalman	NSW, Sydney University
Rodney Ma'a	NSW, Eastwood
Jeremy Su'a	NSW, Sydney University
Mitchell Inman	NSW, Sydney University
Rowan Kellam	ACT, Eastwood
Alfi Mafi	NSW, Sydney University
Andrew Barrett	NSW, Southern Districts

RESERVES

Peter Betham	NSW, Sydney University
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SOUTH AFRICA 32

Henri Bantjes, Wilton Pietersen, Corne Fourie, Francois Brummer; Stephan Dippenaar tries; Stefan Watermeyer 2 conversions, penalty goals

AUSTRALIA 18

Rob Simmons 2, Alfi Mafi tries; Rowan Kellam penalty goal

AUSTRALIA V WALES IRB UNDER 19 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION 1 3RD PLACE PLAYOFF Ravenhill Belfast

Sam Wykes	NSW, Parramatta
Ben McCalman	NSW, Sydney University
Rodney Ma'a	NSW, Eastwood
Jason Ryan	NSW, Eastwood
Andrew Barrett	NSW, Southern Districts
Mitchell Inman	NSW, Sydney University
Rowan Kellam	ACT, Eastwood
Alfi Mafi	NSW, Sydney University
Patrick McCabe	NSW, Warringah

RESERVES

Jared Waerea-Hargreaves	NSW, Northern Suburbs
Chris Harkins	ACT, Sydney University
Peter Betham	NSW, Sydney University

AUSTRALIA 25

Andrew Barrett, Alfi Mafi, James Hanson tries; Jason Ryan 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

WALES 21

Tom Williams, Gareth Owen, Jimmy Norris tries; Leigh Halfpenny 3 conversions

2007 Results

MAZDA AUSTRALIAN RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

ROUND 1

SYDNEY FLEET 25

Adam Byrnes, Daniel Halangahu, Chris Houston tries; Daniel Halangahu 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

IMAGETEC CENTRAL COAST RAYS 19

Jordan Macey, Ross Duncan tries; Brett Sheehan 3 conversions

At North Sydney Oval

WESTERN SYDNEY RAMS 13

Chris Siale try; Ben Martin conversion, 2 penalty goals

PERTH SPIRIT 21

Cameron Shepherd, Nick Cummins tries; Cameron Shepherd conversion, 3 penalty goals

At Members Equity Stadium, Perth

ROUND 2

WESTERN SYDNEY RAMS 39

Kurtley Beale 2, Ben Martin, Lachlan Mitchell, Chris Siale tries; Ben Martin 4 conversions, 2 penalty goals

IMAGETEC CENTRAL COAST RAYS 30

Andrew Smith 2, Beau Robinson, Brett Sheehan tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

At Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium

SYDNEY FLEET 20

Morgan Turinui, Matt Whittleston, Daniel Halangahu tries; Daniel Halangahu conversion, penalty goal

BALLYMORE TORNADOES 26

Berrick Barnes, Josh Mann-Rae tries; Clinton Schifcofske 2 conversions, 4 penalty goals

At Ballymore, Brisbane

ROUND 3

SYDNEY FLEET 35

Gavin Debartolo, Jeremy Tilse, Anton La Vin, Andrew Barrett, Daniel Halangahu tries; Daniel Halangahu conversion, penalty goal; Gavin Debartolo conversion, drop goal

PERTH SPIRIT 25

Nick Cummins, Junior Pelesasa, Cameron Shepherd tries; Cameron Shepherd 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

At North Sydney Oval

IMAGETEC CENTRAL COAST RAYS 44

David Harvey 2, Jason Peseta, Sam Norton-Knight, Jordan Macey, Peter Hewat tries; Peter Hewat 4 conversions, 2 penalty goals

EAST COAST ACES 15

Tama Tuirangi, Rob Simmons; Andrew Walker conversion, penalty goals

At Gold Coast Stadium

WESTERN SYDNEY RAMS 31

Ben Alexander 2, Kurtley Beale, Fa'atonu Fili tries; Ben Martin 4 conversions; Kurtley Beale drop goal

MELBOURNE REBELS 10

James Hanson try; Nathan Trist conversion, penalty goal

At Parramatta Stadium

ROUND 4

SYDNEY FLEET 20

Gavin Debartolo, Alfi Mafi, Chris Houston tries; Gavin Debartolo conversion; Daniel Halangahu penalty goal

MELBOURNE REBELS 39

Luke Burgess 2, James Lew 2, Heamani Levaka, Damon Murphy tries; Nathan Trist 3 conversions, penalty goal

At Olympic Park, Melbourne

WESTERN SYDNEY RAMS 25

Kurtley Beale, Chris Siale, Ben Martin, Rory Sidey tries; Ben Martin conversion, penalty goal

BALLYMORE TORNADOES 7

Clinton Schifcofske try; Clinton Schifcofske conversion

At Parramatta Stadium

IMAGETEC CENTRAL COAST RAYS 19

Sam Norton-Knight, Brett Sheehan, Nifo Nifo tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions

PERTH SPIRIT 31

Ryan Cross 2 tries; Cameron Shepherd 7 penalty goals

At Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium

ROUND 5

IMAGETEC CENTRAL COAST RAYS 29

Sam Norton-Knight, Al Manning, Ross Duncan, Peter Hewat tries; Peter Hewat 3 conversions, penalty goal

BALLYMORE TORNADOES 10

Ray Stowers try; Clinton Schifcofske conversion, penalty goal

At Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium

SYDNEY FLEET 29

Dean Mumm, Morgan Turinui, Tom Azar, Alfi Mafi tries; Daniel Halangahu 3 conversions, penalty goal

CANBERRA VIKINGS 56

Francis Fainifo 3, Eddie McLaughlin 2, John Ulugia, Alister Campbell, Peter Kimlin tries; Matt Carraro 5 conversions; Anthony Faingaa 3 conversions

At Canberra Stadium

WESTERN SYDNEY RAMS 44

Lachie Turner 3, Wil Brame, Tom Egan, Luke Johnson tries; Ben Martin 4 conversions, 2 penalty goals

EAST COAST ACES 20

Jade Ingham, Ben Lucas tries; Andrew Walker 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

At Gold Coast Stadium

ROUND 6

SYDNEY FLEET 24

Alfi Mafi, Morgan Turinui, Tim Davidson tries; Gavin Debartolo 3 conversions; Daniel Halangahu penalty goal

WESTERN SYDNEY RAMS 17

Lachie Turner, Kurtley Beale tries; Ben Martin 2 conversions, penalty goal

At North Sydney Oval

IMAGETEC CENTRAL COAST RAYS 17

Sam Norton-Knight, Brett Sheehan tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, penalty goal

CANBERRA VIKINGS 13

Patrick Pibbs try; Anthony Faingaa conversion, 2 penalty goals

At Manuka Oval, Canberra



Wallaby Wycliff Palu in Rays colours.



Waratah David Dennis claims a lineout for the Melbourne Rebels.



ARC player of the series Kurtley Beale.



Gavin Debartolo of the Sydney Fleet soars high.



ARC Champions Central Coast celebrate.



Series top pointscorer Peter Hewat says goodbye to Australian Rugby.

ROUND 7

IMAGETEC CENTRAL COAST RAYS 55

Beau Robinson 2, Jye Mullane 2, Ben Jacobs, Sam Norton-Knight, Ofa Fainga'anuku, Patrick McCabe tries; Peter Hewat 6 conversions, penalty goal

MELBOURNE REBELS 7

Richard Stanford try; Jack Farrer conversion
At Olympic Park, Melbourne

WESTERN SYDNEY RAMS 51

Rory Sidey 2, Ben Alexander 2, Lachlan Turner, Hugh Perrett, Luke Johnson tries; Ben Martin 5 conversions, 2 penalty goals

CANBERRA VIKINGS 17

Anthony Faingaa, Eddie McLaughlin, Jone Tawake tries; Anthony Faingaa conversion

At Parramatta Stadium

SYDNEY FLEET 40

Alfi Mafi, Junior Puroku, Tom Azar, Gavin Debartolo, Morgan Turinui, Arthur Little tries; Gavin Debartolo 5 conversions

EAST COAST ACES 7

Ben Mowen try; Andrew Walker conversion
At North Sydney Oval

ROUND 8

WESTERN SYDNEY RAMS 19

Josh Holmes 2, Hugh Perrett tries; Ben Martin 2 conversions

PERTH SPIRIT 20

Jackson Mullane, Ed Jenkins tries; Scott Daruda 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

At Parramatta Stadium

IMAGETEC CENTRAL COAST RAYS 55

Sam Norton-Knight 2, Ben Jacobs 2, Beau Robinson, Andrew Smith, Jye Mullane, Peter Hewat tries; Peter Hewat 6 conversions, penalty goal

SYDNEY FLEET 19

Daniel Halangahu, Morgan Turinui, Laurie Weeks tries; Gavin Debartolo conversion; Daniel Halangahu conversion

At Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium

SEMI FINAL ONE

IMAGETEC CENTRAL COAST RAYS 27

Peter Hewat, Ben Jacobs, Sam Norton-Knight tries; Peter Hewat 3 conversions, 2 penalty goals

PERTH SPIRIT 19

Sitaleki Timani try; Luke McLean conversion, 2 penalty goals; Scott Daruda penalty goal

At Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium

SEMI FINAL TWO

WESTERN SYDNEY RAMS 3

Ben Martin penalty goal

MELBOURNE REBELS 23

Richard Stanford, James Lew, Digby Ioane tries; Jack Farrer conversion, 2 penalty goals

At Parramatta Stadium

FINAL

IMAGETEC CENTRAL COAST RAYS 20

Beau Robinson, Peter Hewat tries; Peter Hewat 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

MELBOURNE REBELS 12

James Hanson, David Croft tries; Jack Farrer conversion

At Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium

TOOHEYS NEW SHUTE SHIELD

ELIMINATION SEMIFINALS

SHIELD ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL B

SATURDAY 7 JULY 2007 – NORTH SYDNEY OVAL

RANDWICK 29

Patrick Phibbs, Dayna Edwards, Morgan Turinui tries; Penalty try; Matt Nethery 3 conversions, penalty goal

NORTHERN SUBURBS 20

Andrew Smith, Sam Norton-Knight, Jordan Macey tries; Kurtley Beale conversion, penalty goal

PLATE ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL A

SATURDAY 7 JULY 2007 – TWO BLUES PARK

PARRAMATTA 51

Roland Herea 3, Winney Paulo 2, David Alo, Tito Mua, John Natadra, Kris Zvirbulis tries; Tom Woods 2 conversions; Winney Paulo conversion

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS 5

David Smith try

SHIELD ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL A

SUNDAY 8 JULY 2007 – TG MILLNER FIELD

WARRINGAH 18

Ben Jacobs, Ross Duncan tries; Clint Eadie conversion, penalty goal

EASTWOOD 8

Tim Corcoran try; Ben Ward penalty goal

PLATE ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL B

SUNDAY 8 JULY 2007 – TG MILLNER FIELD

PENRITH 12

Henele Schaaf, Peter Niumata tries; Aidan Porth conversion

WEST HARBOUR 5

Rory Sidey try

ELIMINATION & QUALIFYING FINALS

SHIELD ELIMINATION FINAL

FRIDAY 13 JULY 2007 – NORTH SYDNEY OVAL

WARRINGAH 33

Ben Jacobs 2, Michael Ruthven, Brett Sheehan tries; Josh Kiel 2 conversions, 3 penalty goals

RANDWICK 10

Morgan Turinui, Arthur Little tries

SHIELD QUALIFYING FINAL

SATURDAY 14 JULY 2007 – UNIVERSITY OVAL NO.1

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 22

Dean Mumm, Daniel Halangahu, Pauliasi Taumoepeau, Peter Playford tries; Dan Kelly conversion

EASTERN SUBURBS 6

Anthony Faingaa 2 penalty goals

2007 Results

ELIMINATION & QUALIFYING FINALS (Continued)

PLATE QUALIFYING FINAL

SUNDAY 15 JULY 2007 – TG MILLNER FIELD

MANLY 38

Sam Harris 2, Chris Siale, Luke Johnson, Adam Smith tries; Peter Hewat 5 conversions, penalty goal

GORDON 35

David Harvey 2, Vinnie Byrne, Donny Nepia, Mark Preston tries; David Harvey 2 conversions, 2 penalty goals

PLATE ELIMINATION FINAL

SUNDAY 15 JULY 2007 – TG MILLNER FIELD

PARRAMATTA 45

Tito Mua 2, Roland Herea, Dave Alo, Tom Woods, Pelea Afu, John Natadra tries; Josh Weeks 5 conversions

PENRITH 14

Rob Carlson, Michael Paulo tries; Aidan Porth 2 conversions

PRELIMINARY FINALS

SHIELD PRELIMINARY FINAL

SATURDAY 21 JULY 2007 –
WOOLLAHRA OVAL

EASTERN SUBURBS 41

Junior Puroku 2, Matt McGann, Anton La Vin, Ben Hopkins, Tom Azar tries; Anthony Faingaa 4 conversions, penalty goal

WARRINGAH 12

Scott Fardy, Matt Clarke tries; Brett Sheehan conversion

PLATE PRELIMINARY FINAL

SATURDAY 21 JULY 2007 –
CHATSWOOD OVAL

GORDON 39

Vili Napa'a, Gordon Kome, Billy Rainima, Mark Preston, John Dyason tries; David Harvey 4 conversions, 2 penalty goals

PARRAMATTA 26

John Natadra, Dave Alo, Paula Kaveinga, Richard Penisini tries; Tom Woods 2 conversions; Paula Kaveinga conversion

TOOHEYS NEW PLATE FINAL

SATURDAY 28 JULY 2007

Sydney Football Stadium

GORDON 28

Josh Whittaker, Vili Ratu, Mark Preston, Greg Wade tries; David Harvey conversion, 2 penalty goals

MANLY 20

David Collis, Peter Hewat, Bruce Rauqe tries; Peter Hewat conversion, penalty goal

TOOHEYS NEW SHUTE SHIELD GRAND FINAL

SATURDAY 28 JULY 2007

Sydney Football Stadium

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 34

Daniel Halangahu 2, Tim Davidson, Nick Haydon, Alfi Mafi tries; Daniel Halangahu 3 conversions, penalty goal

EASTERN SUBURBS 11

Junior Puroku try; Anthony Faingaa 2 penalty goals

TREVOR ALLAN CUP FINAL

SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2007

Concord Oval

GORDON 34

Gordon Kome, Mark Preston, Craig Thomas, Greg Wade, Ed Gower tries; Donny Nepia 3 conversions, penalty goal

WEST HARBOUR 7

Sam Raymond try; Steve Massey conversion

COLIN CAIRD SHIELD

ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL A

SATURDAY 18 AUGUST

CONCORD OVAL

NORTHERN SUBURBS 42

EASTWOOD 12

ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL B

SUNDAY 19 AUGUST

WOOLLAHRA OVAL

GORDON 5

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 3

QUALIFYING FINAL

SATURDAY 25 AUGUST

COOGEE OVAL

MANLY 13

WEST HARBOUR 12

ELIMINATION FINAL

SUNDAY 26 AUGUST

FORSHAW RUGBY PARK

NORTHERN SUBURBS 23

GORDON 17

PRELIMINARY FINAL

SATURDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2007

MANLY OVAL

NORTHERN SUBURBS 24

WEST HARBOUR 10

GRAND FINAL

SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2007

CONCORD OVAL

MANLY 27

NORTHERN SUBURBS 10

JR HENDERSON SHIELD

ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL A

SATURDAY 18 AUGUST

CONCORD OVAL

MANLY 9

EASTERN SUBURBS 7

ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL B

SUNDAY 19 AUGUST

WOOLLAHRA OVAL

GORDON 19

PARRAMATTA 3

QUALIFYING FINAL

SATURDAY 25 AUGUST

COOGEE OVAL

NORTHERN SUBURBS 27

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 13



Tim Davidson lifts the Shute Shield for Sydney University.



Sydney University players and supporters celebrate.



Ed Gower accepts the Trevor Allan Cup from Glenn Allan.

JR HENDERSON SHIELD

(Continued)

ELIMINATION FINAL
SUNDAY 26 AUGUST
FORSHAW RUGBY PARK
 GORDON 27
 MANLY 0
PRELIMINARY FINAL
SATURDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2007
MANLY OVAL
 SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 19
 GORDON 14
GRAND FINAL
SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2007
CONCORD OVAL
 SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 16
 NORTHERN SUBURBS 3

HENDERSON CUP

ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL A
SATURDAY 18 AUGUST
CONCORD OVAL
 EASTWOOD 26
 SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 12
ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL B
SUNDAY 19 AUGUST
WOOLLAHRA OVAL
 SOUTHERN DISTRICTS 9
 PARRAMATTA 6
QUALIFYING FINAL
SATURDAY 25 AUGUST
COOGEE OVAL
 GORDON 27
 RANDWICK 17
ELIMINATION FINAL
SUNDAY 26 AUGUST
FORSHAW RUGBY PARK
 SOUTHERN DISTRICTS 18
 EASTWOOD 0
PRELIMINARY FINAL
SATURDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2007
MANLY OVAL
 SOUTHERN DISTRICTS 11
 RANDWICK 7
GRAND FINAL
SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2007
CONCORD OVAL
 GORDON 15
 SOUTHERN DISTRICTS 8



Matt Mitchell celebrates Gordon's Henderson Cup win.

COLTS I

ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL A
SATURDAY 18 AUGUST 2007
FORSHAW RUGBY PARK
 WEST HARBOUR 23
 GORDON 18
ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL B
SUNDAY 19 AUGUST 2007
PITTWATER RUGBY PARK
 EASTERN SUBURBS 37
 RANDWICK 7
QUALIFYING FINAL
SATURDAY 25 AUGUST 2007
WOOLLAHRA OVAL
 SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 20
 EASTWOOD 16
ELIMINATION FINAL
SUNDAY 26 AUGUST 2007
WOOLLAHRA OVAL
 EASTERN SUBURBS 27
 WEST HARBOUR 17
PRELIMINARY FINAL
SUNDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2007
FORSHAW RUGBY PARK
 EASTWOOD 32
 EASTERN SUBURBS 26
GRAND FINAL
SUNDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2007
CONCORD OVAL
 SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 41
 EASTWOOD 13

COLTS II

ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL A
SATURDAY 18 AUGUST 2007
FORSHAW RUGBY PARK
 EASTWOOD 17
 RANDWICK 12
ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL B
SUNDAY 19 AUGUST 2007
PITTWATER RUGBY PARK
 WARRINGAH 9
 GORDON 9
Warringah progress – higher ladder position
QUALIFYING FINAL
SATURDAY 25 AUGUST 2007
WOOLLAHRA OVAL
 WEST HARBOUR 17
 SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 8
ELIMINATION FINAL
SUNDAY 26 AUGUST 2007
WOOLLAHRA OVAL
 WARRINGAH 26
 EASTWOOD 20
PRELIMINARY FINAL
SUNDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2007
FORSHAW RUGBY PARK
 SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 41
 WARRINGAH 0
GRAND FINAL
SUNDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2007
CONCORD OVAL
 SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 13
 WEST HARBOUR 10

COLTS UNDER 19

ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL A
SATURDAY 18 AUGUST 2007
FORSHAW RUGBY PARK
 EASTERN SUBURBS 22
 NORTHERN SUBURBS 3
ELIMINATION SEMIFINAL B
SUNDAY 19 AUGUST 2007
PITTWATER RUGBY PARK
 WARRINGAH 6
 RANDWICK 3
QUALIFYING FINAL
SATURDAY 25 AUGUST 2007
WOOLLAHRA OVAL
 EASTWOOD 15
 SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 9
ELIMINATION FINAL
SUNDAY 26 AUGUST 2007
WOOLLAHRA OVAL
 EASTERN SUBURBS 14
 WARRINGAH 9
PRELIMINARY FINAL
SUNDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2007
FORSHAW RUGBY PARK
 SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 32
 EASTERN SUBURBS 9
GRAND FINAL
SUNDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2007
CONCORD OVAL
 SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 25
 EASTWOOD 18



Celebrations begin for Colts I champs Sydney University.



Uni swept the grades, winning Colts II & Under 19's.

2007 Results

NSW RUGBY UNION COMPETITION LADDERS 2007

INVESTEC SUPER 14

Team	P	W	D	L	Bye	PF	PA	BP	PTS
Sharks	13	10	0	3	1	355	214	5	45
Bulls	13	9	0	4	1	388	223	6	42
Crusaders	13	8	0	5	1	382	235	10	42
Blues	13	9	0	4	2	355	235	6	42
Brumbies	13	9	0	4	1	234	173	4	40
Chiefs	13	7	1	5	1	373	321	10	40
Western Force	13	6	1	6	1	276	292	6	32
Hurricanes	13	6	0	7	1	247	300	3	27
Highlanders	13	5	0	8	1	245	301	7	27
Stormers	13	6	0	7	3	249	326	3	27
Cheetahs	13	4	1	8	1	265	342	4	22
Lions	13	5	0	8	1	175	284	2	22
HSBC Waratahs	13	3	1	9	1	266	317	7	21
Reds	13	2	0	11	2	201	438	3	11

MAZDA AUSTRALIAN RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	BP	PTS
Western Sydney Rams	8	5	0	3	239	149	90	7	27
Central Coast Rays	8	5	0	3	268	159	109	6	26
Perth Spirit	8	6	0	2	210	138	72	1	25
Melbourne Rebels	8	5	0	3	170	206	-36	4	24
Sydney Fleet	8	4	0	4	212	244	-32	4	20
Canberra Vikings	8	3	0	5	217	191	26	7	19
Ballymore Tornadoes	8	2	0	6	180	229	-49	3	11
East Coast Aces	8	2	0	6	163	343	-180	3	11

TOOHEYS NEW SHUTE SHIELD - FIRST GRADE

Team	P	W	Bye	D	L	F	A	%	PTS
Sydney University	13	11	1	0	1	536	156	344%	57
Eastern Suburbs	13	10	1	0	2	462	214	216%	55
Warringah	13	9	1	0	3	401	288	139%	48
Northern Suburbs	13	9	1	0	3	416	192	217%	46
Randwick	13	8	1	0	4	364	222	164%	45
Eastwood	13	7	1	1	4	429	302	142%	41
Gordon	13	6	1	1	5	428	257	167%	40
Manly	13	6	1	0	6	370	254	146%	38
Parramatta	13	5	1	0	7	333	376	89%	33
West Harbour	13	3	1	0	9	234	393	60%	20
Penrith	13	2	1	0	10	153	581	26%	16
Southern Districts	13	0	1	0	12	199	540	37%	9
Illawarra	13	1	1	0	11	134	684	20%	8

TREVOR ALLAN CUP - SOUTH - FIRST GRADE

Team	P	W	Bye	D	L	F	A	%	PTS
West Harbour	5	4	0	1	1	54	107	144%	19
Randwick	5	3	0	0	2	159	132	120%	19
Eastern Suburbs	5	3	0	0	2	183	99	185%	18
Parramatta	5	3	0	0	2	183	128	143%	18
Sydney University	5	2	0	0	3	137	191	72%	10
Southern Districts	5	0	0	0	5	75	234	32%	0

TREVOR ALLAN CUP - NORTH - FIRST GRADE

Team	P	W	Bye	D	L	F	A	%	PTS
Gordon	5	5	0	0	0	217	79	275%	24
Manly	5	4	0	0	1	144	88	164%	19
Eastwood	5	3	0	0	2	201	159	126%	16
Penrith	5	2	0	0	3	104	182	57%	10
Northern Suburbs	5	1	0	0	4	104	144	72%	7
Warringah	5	0	0	0	5	92	210	44%	3

COLIN CAIRD SHIELD - SECOND GRADE

Team	P	W	Bye	D	L	F	A	%	PTS
Manly	18	13	2	1	2	486	338	204%	72
West Harbour	18	13	2	0	3	559	300	186%	72
Northern Suburbs	18	12	2	1	3	589	209	282%	68
Sydney University	18	11	2	0	5	539	297	181%	64
Gordon	18	10	2	0	6	480	262	183%	61
Eastwood	18	10	2	0	6	526	267	197%	59
Eastern Suburbs	18	9	2	0	7	452	357	127%	56
Randwick	18	7	2	0	9	433	401	108%	45
Parramatta	18	5	2	0	11	402	403	100%	41
Warringah	18	3	2	0	13	222	534	42%	23
Southern Districts	18	2	2	0	14	158	754	21%	17
Penrith	18	0	2	0	16	167	991	17%	9

JR HENDERSON SHIELD - THIRD GRADE

Team	P	W	Bye	D	L	F	A	%	PTS
Sydney University	18	12	2	0	4	571	165	346%	69
Northern Suburbs	18	12	2	0	4	464	146	318%	64
Manly	18	11	2	0	5	509	151	337%	61
Gordon	18	11	2	0	5	532	232	229%	60
Parramatta	18	10	2	1	5	477	227	210%	59
Eastern Suburbs	18	10	2	0	6	472	238	198%	59
Randwick	18	10	2	0	6	506	271	187%	58
West Harbour	18	7	2	1	8	362	296	122%	44
Eastwood	18	7	2	0	9	434	375	116%	44
Southern Districts	18	3	2	0	13	286	564	33%	24
Warringah	18	2	2	0	14	130	612	21%	18
Penrith	18	0	2	0	16	33	1399	2%	8

HENDERSON CUP - FOURTH GRADE

Team	P	W	Bye	D	L	F	A	%	PTS
Gordon	18	13	2	0	3	543	140	388%	75
Randwick	18	12	2	1	3	377	173	218%	66
Sydney University	18	12	2	0	4	393	150	262%	65
Southern Districts	18	11	2	1	4	305	173	176%	59
Parramatta	18	10	2	0	6	472	195	242%	58
Eastwood	18	9	2	2	5	394	213	185%	56
Manly	18	8	2	1	7	358	198	181%	49
Northern Suburbs	18	7	2	1	8	303	262	116%	45
Eastern Suburbs	18	6	2	0	10	207	373	55%	38
West Harbour	18	3	2	0	13	207	426	49%	24
Penrith	18	2	2	0	14	125	937	13%	20
Warringah (Withdrawn)	16	0	0	0	16	8	452	2%	0



Tim Donnan seals Manly's Colin Caird Shield win with a kiss.

COLTS I

Team	P	W	Bye	D	L	F	A	%	PTS
Sydney University	18	14	2	1	1	651	228	286%	78
Eastwood	18	13	2	0	3	533	237	225%	74
West Harbour	18	12	2	0	4	469	242	194%	69
Eastern Suburbs	18	12	2	0	4	455	261	174%	67
Randwick	18	11	2	0	5	379	313	121%	59
Gordon	18	8	2	1	7	344	313	110%	51
Warringah	18	8	2	0	8	377	314	120%	49
Manly	18	5	2	1	10	356	385	92%	38
Northern Suburbs	18	6	2	0	10	259	404	64%	36
Southern Districts	18	4	2	1	11	313	342	92%	35
Parramatta	18	1	2	0	15	187	836	22%	16
Penrith (Withdrawn)	17	0	1	0	16	0	448	0%	4

COLTS II

Team	P	W	Bye	D	L	F	A	%	PTS
Sydney University	18	15	2	0	1	580	83	699%	79
West Harbour	18	11	2	1	4	458	225	204%	66
Randwick	18	12	2	0	4	479	194	247%	65
Warringah	18	12	2	0	4	334	185	181%	63
Gordon	18	11	2	1	4	309	158	196%	63
Eastwood	18	9	2	2	5	312	230	136%	55
Southern Districts	18	6	2	2	8	255	290	88%	42
Northern Suburbs	18	6	2	0	10	254	335	76%	40
Eastern Suburbs	18	6	2	0	10	275	264	104%	37
Manly	18	4	2	0	12	198	374	53%	30
Parramatta	18	1	2	0	15	179	847	21%	19
Penrith (Withdrawn)	18	0	2	0	16	0	448	0%	8

COLTS UNDER 19

Team	P	W	Bye	D	L	F	A	%	PTS
Sydney University	18	15	1	0	2	489	161	304%	75
Eastwood	18	13	1	1	3	501	139	360%	69
Eastern Suburbs	18	14	1	0	3	385	190	203%	68
Warringah	18	12	1	1	4	323	174	186%	61
Randwick	18	10	1	1	6	314	212	148%	53
Northern Suburbs	18	8	1	1	8	223	165	135%	47
Southern Districts	18	10	1	0	7	247	236	105%	46
Manly	18	5	1	0	12	198	306	65%	31
West Harbour	18	5	1	0	12	213	341	62%	29
Penrith	18	4	1	1	12	190	338	56%	28
Illawarra	13	5	1	0	7	143	352	41%	27
Parramatta	18	2	1	1	14	204	446	46%	18
Gordon	18	2	1	0	15	95	465	20%	14



Sydney University's victorious Henderson Shield team.

NSW SUBURBAN RUGBY UNION GRAND FINALS 2007

DIVISION ONE

KENTWELL CUP

Drummoyne	24
Colleagues	16

BURKE CUP

Knox Old Boys	30
Mosman	13

WHIDDON CUP

Mosman	10
St Patricks	3

JUDD CUP

Mosman	10
Colleagues	3

SUTHERLAND CUP

St Patricks	10
Knox Old Boys	9

BARBOUR CUP

Mosman	20
Knox Old Boys	14

DIVISION TWO

BARRACLOUGH CUP

Beecroft	30
Newport	27

STOCKDALE CUP

Kings Old Boys	17
Lindfield	7

BLUNT CUP

Kings Old Boys	25
Blacktown	12

RICHARDSON CUP

Beecroft	15
Briars	10

ROBERTSON CUP

Hornsby	20
Lindfield	18

DIVISION THREE

CLARK CUP

Waverley	22
Hawkesbury	14

FARRANT CUP

Petersham	18
Waverley	10

CAMPBELL CUP

Hawkesbury	20
Blue Mountains	15

NICHOLSON CUP

Petersham	11
Blue Mountains	10

DIVISION FOUR

McLEAN CUP

Canterbury	24
UWSH	5

GROSE CUP

Merrylands	26
UWSH	8

WALKER CUP

Sydney Harlequins	29
Merrylands	13

DIVISION FIVE

JEFFREY CUP

Rouse Hill	19
Bankstown	13

NOICE CUP

Bankstown	33
Rouse Hill	5

DIVISION SIX

MELDRUM CUP

Roseville	29
Dee Why	23

UNDER 19

UNDER 19 CUP

Canterbury	27
Epping	13

UNDER 85 KILOGRAMS

UNDER 85KG CUP

Mosman	3
Beecroft	0

NSW COUNTRY RUGBY UNION GRAND FINALS 2007

CENTRAL COAST

FIRST GRADE

Avoca Beach	20
Terrigal	7

SECOND GRADE

Avoca Beach	8
Terrigal	6

THIRD GRADE

Ourimbah	12
Terrigal	11

COLTS

The Entrance	12
Avoca Beach	3

CENTRAL NORTH

FIRST GRADE

Moree	23
Inverell	11

SECOND GRADE

Pirates	32
Narrabri	13

COLTS

Tamworth	28
Inverell	24

UNDER 17

Tamworth	23
Pirates	6

CENTRAL WEST

FIRST GRADE

Dubbo Roos	26
Orange City	23

SECOND GRADE

Narromine	30
Dubbo Roos	3

THIRD GRADE

Dubbo Roos	13
CSU Bathurst	9

COLTS

Cowra	20
Orange Emus	15

PRESIDENTS CUP

Blayney	19
Molong	7

WOMEN

Dubbo Rhinos	20
CSU Bathurst	5

FAR NORTH COAST

FIRST GRADE

Ballina	28
Grafton	19

SECOND GRADE

Ballina	33
Lismore	7

THIRD GRADE

Ballina	22
Lismore	7

COLTS

Grafton	25
Wollongbar/Alstonville	10

PRESIDENTS CUP

Bangalow	27
Evans River	0

ILLAWARRA

FIRST GRADE

Shamrocks	27
Kiama	25

SECOND GRADE

Shamrocks	15
Shoalhaven	14

THIRD GRADE

Vincentia	18
Engadine/Heathcote	5

MID NORTH COAST

FIRST GRADE

Port Macquarie	39
Coffs Harbour	6

SECOND GRADE

South West Rocks	17
Coffs Harbour B	9

COLTS

Hastings Valley	36
Coffs Harbour	0

NEW ENGLAND

FIRST GRADE

St Albert's College	40
Armidale	17

SECOND GRADE

St Albert's College	24
Armidale	10

COLTS

Scone	14
St Albert's College	3

NEWCASTLE HUNTER

FIRST GRADE

Merewether/Carlton	24
Hamilton	23

SECOND GRADE

Merewether/Carlton	20
Singleton	13

A GRADE

Wanderers	31
Merewether/Carlton	7

B GRADE

Merewether/Carlton	32
Wanderers	0

C GRADE

Singleton	13
Pokolbin	10

COLTS

University	22
Southern Beaches	5

WOMENS

University	6
Wanderers	3

WESTERN PLAINS

FIRST GRADE

Walgett	14
Bourke	13

SECOND GRADE

Bourke	17
Walgett	3

DIRECTORS' REPORT

31 OCTOBER 2007

Your directors present their report on the consolidated entity consisting of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited and the entities it controlled at the end of, or during, the year ended 31 October 2007.

Directors

The following persons were directors of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report:

Arvid Petersen (Chairman)
Laurie Maher
Jim L'Estrange (Appointed 17 July 2007)
Ian Ross
Fraser Neill (Resigned 16 July 2007)
Edwin Zemancheff
Will Jephcott
Dan Vickerman
Alan Williamson
Barry Killham

Principal activities

The principal continuing activities of the consolidated entity during the course of the year ended 31 October 2007 were the organisation and promotion of the game of rugby union in the State of New South Wales and the management of a professional rugby union team.

Review of operations

The surplus from continuing operations of the consolidated entity was:

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Surplus from continuing operations	201,110	1,595,604

The continuing viability of the Company and the consolidated entity and their ability to continue as a going concern and meet their debts and commitments as they fall due are dependent upon the Company and the consolidated entity being successful in:

- receiving the continuing support of their members and the constituent bodies;
- achieving sufficient future cash flows to enable their obligations to be met;
- success in retaining and attracting new sponsorship and hospitality revenues and;
- indirectly, the performance of the Waratahs in the Super 14 competition.

The Board is committed to continuous monitoring of these factors and any impacts on the future projected cash flows. The Board is also committed to a long term strategy to effectively manage the Company's debt levels, and to effectively manage and maintain a sustainable working capital balance.

Significant changes in the state of affairs

During the year the company entered three professional rugby teams into the inaugural Australian Rugby Championships. The competition was a major new initiative entered into with the Australian Rugby Union and other State Unions for the purpose of developing and strengthening the elite player ranks within the country. A review of the inaugural competition has been performed by all participating unions to assess the future structure of the competition.

Except for the matter above, there were no other significant changes in the state of affairs of the Company and the consolidated entity during the financial year.

Matters subsequent to the end of the financial year

No matters or circumstances have arisen since 31 October 2007 that have significantly affected, or may significantly affect:

- the consolidated entity's operations in future financial years, or
- the results of those operations in future financial years, or
- the consolidated entity's state of affairs in future financial years.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

31 OCTOBER 2007

Likely developments and expected results of operations

The company and consolidated entity will continue in its activities of organising and promoting the game of rugby union in New South Wales as well as management of a professional rugby union team. Through performance improvements and stronger fiscal controls, the Company and consolidated entity will be seeking to steadily improve their financial positions.

Further information on likely developments in the operations of the Company and the expected results of operations have not been included in this annual report because the directors believe it would be likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the Company.

Background information

Arvid Petersen - Chairman

Non-aligned director. Appointed to the Board in October 2003. Director of Petersen Investments, a private investment business and the Executive Chairman of Study Group, a global education and training company with 49 locations around the world.

Laurie Maher

New South Wales Country Rugby Union appointed director. Appointed to the Board in October 2003.

Director of Business Central Coast, Mayor of Gosford City Council, Executive Officer of Central Coast Emergency Accommodation Services.

Ian Ross

New South Wales Suburban Rugby Union appointed director. Appointed to the Board in October 2003. Chairman of NSWSRU since 1995 and Life Member. Involved in the metal industry for many years and subsequent interests have included the transport, property and fast food industries.

Barry Killham

Youth Rugby appointed director. Appointed to the Board in February 2006. Thirty seven years in insurance industry, current practising general insurance broker specialising in sports insurance.

Alan Williamson

New South Wales Championship Clubs appointed Director. Appointed to the Board in July 2006. Chairman of the NSW Premiership Clubs, former President ESDRUFC, former committee member Bondi Surf Live Saving Club. Currently CEO Bruck Group with several other Board positions. Member of NSWRU Board human Resources Committee.

Jim L'Estrange

Executive Director & CEO. Appointed to the Board July 2007. Formerly CEO for 3 years of Star City Casino and hotel, and prior to those 7 years in senior management positions at Westpac.

Daniel Vickerman

Rugby Union Players Association appointed director. Appointed to the Board in September 2005. Professional rugby player for eight years. Waratah player since 2004 and Wallaby player since 2002. Has been Waratah and Wallaby Vice-Captain.

Edwin Zemancheff

Non-aligned director. Appointed to the Board in March 2005. Partner, Baker & McKenzie Solicitors. Former Waratah team manager. Foundation Board member Australian Rugby Football Schools Union.

Will Jephcott

Non-aligned director. Appointed to the Board in June 2005. Played rugby for the Gordon Rugby Club and represented Sydney and NSW. Investment banker with Gresham Partners Limited and deputy Chairman of ROC Oil Company Limited. Previously, Vice Chairman, Investment Banking Group for Merrill Lynch International (Australia) Limited, non-executive Chairman of Engin Limited and a director of Parbury Limited.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

31 OCTOBER 2007

Meetings of directors

The number of meetings of the company's board of directors held during the year ended 31 October 2007, and the numbers of meetings attended by each director were:

	Full meetings of directors	
	A	B
Arvid Petersen (Chairman)	7	7
Laurie Maher	5	7
Jim L'Estrange (Appointed 17 July 2007)	3	3
Ian Ross	7	7
Fraser Neill (Resigned 16 July 2007)	5	5
Edwin Zemancheff	7	7
Will Jephcott	7	7
Dan Vickerman	3	7
Alan Williamson	6	7
Barry Killham	7	7

A = Number of meetings attended

B = Number of meetings held during the time the director held office

Insurance of officers

During the financial year, New South Wales Rugby Union Limited paid a premium of \$27,500 to insure the directors and officers of the company and related entities.

Proceedings on behalf of the company

No proceedings have been brought or intervened in on behalf of the company with leave of the Court under section 237 of the Corporations Act 2001.

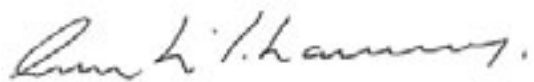
Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out on page 3.

Auditor

PricewaterhouseCoopers continues in office in accordance with section 327 of the Corporations Act 2001.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of directors.



Jim L'Estrange
Director

Sydney
11 December 2007

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

31 OCTOBER 2007

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS

PricewaterhouseCoopers
ABN 52 780 433 757
Darling Park Tower 2
201 Sussex Street
GPO BOX 2650
SYDNEY NSW 1171
DX 77 Sydney
Australia
www.pwc.com/au
Telephone +61 2 8266 0000
Facsimile +61 2 8266 9999

Auditor's Independence Declaration

As lead auditor for the audit of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited for the year ended 31 October 2007, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- (b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

This declaration is in respect of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited and the entities it controlled during the year.



S Bosiljevac
Partner
PricewaterhouseCoopers

Sydney
11 December 2007

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

31 OCTOBER 2007

New South Rugby Union Ltd is committed to achieving and demonstrating the highest standards of corporate governance. The board continues to develop best practice corporate governance practices under which the board and senior management will operate. A summary of those practices now in place is set out below.

Corporate reporting

The Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer have certified to the board that the company's and consolidated entity's financial reports are complete and present a true and fair view, in all material respects, of the financial condition and operational results of the company and consolidated entity and are in accordance with relevant accounting standards.

Audit and Finance Committee

The Audit and Finance Committee consists of the following:

Will Jephcott (Chairman)
Laurie Maher
Barry Killham

The Audit & Finance Committee operates in accordance with a charter. Its primary function is to oversee, enhance and strengthen the finance and risk management processes of NSWRU. The main duties and responsibilities of the Audit and Finance Committee are:

- monitor the operational and financial aspects of the Company's and consolidated entity's activities and make appropriate recommendations to the Board;
- evaluate the adequacy of the Company's and consolidated entity's accounting control system;
- review all insurance coverage including Director's and Officer's Liability
- require reports from Management and/or external advisors on any significant proposed regulatory, insurance or reporting issue, to assess the potential impact upon the Company's finance or risk reporting processes;
- recommend to the Board the appointment and terms of engagement of the external auditors;
- review the annual financial statements with the Chief Financial Officer and the external auditors;
- monitor the standard of corporate conduct in areas such as arm's length dealings and likely conflicts of interest;
- establish and review the investment policies for reserve funds;
- establish and review the policies for debt financing.

Human Resources Committee

The Human Resources Committee consists of the following:

Arvid Petersen (Chairman)
Edwin Zemancheff (resigned 31 December 2006)
Alan Williamson
Ian Ross

The Remuneration Committee advises the board on human resource and remuneration policies and practices generally.

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This financial report covers both New South Wales Rugby Union Limited as an individual entity and the consolidated entity consisting of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited and its subsidiaries. The financial report is presented in the Australian currency.

New South Wales Rugby Union Limited is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is:

New South Wales Rugby Union Limited
Gold Members Car Park
Aussie Stadium
Driver Avenue
MOORE PARK NSW 2021

A description of the nature of the consolidated entity's operations and its principal activities is included in the directors' report on pages 54-56, which is not part of this financial report.

The financial report was authorised for issue by the directors on 11 December 2007. The company has the power to amend and reissue the financial report.

INCOME STATEMENTS

31 OCTOBER 2007

		Consolidated		Parent	
		2007	2006	2007	2006
	Notes	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue from continuing operations	6	26,576,541	26,167,789	26,576,541	26,167,789
Other income	7	6,789	1,625	6,789	1,625
Professional rugby costs – Waratahs					
- Waratahs team costs		(10,984,773)	(10,915,701)	(10,984,773)	(10,915,701)
- Match day costs		(2,263,083)	(1,978,098)	(2,263,083)	(1,978,098)
- Sponsor costs		(1,351,921)	(1,053,219)	(1,351,921)	(1,053,219)
- Marketing costs		(900,216)	(1,195,077)	(900,216)	(1,195,077)
- Membership costs		(481,971)	(337,255)	(481,971)	(337,255)
Professional rugby costs – ARC		(1,594,006)	-	(1,594,006)	-
Premiership Rugby		(1,728,264)	(1,370,647)	(1,728,264)	(1,370,647)
Community Rugby		(3,183,525)	(3,525,345)	(3,183,525)	(3,525,345)
Media operations		(483,357)	(375,399)	(483,357)	(375,399)
Finance and administration		(3,393,542)	(3,903,191)	(3,693,542)	(4,063,091)
Finance costs	8	(17,562)	80,022	(85,829)	(16,217)
Surplus before income tax		201,110	1,595,504	(167,157)	1,339,365
Income tax expense		-	-	-	-
Net surplus		201,110	1,595,504	(167,157)	1,339,365

The above income statements should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

BALANCE SHEETS

31 OCTOBER 2007

		Consolidated		Parent	
	Notes	2007 \$	2006 \$	2007 \$	2006 \$
ASSETS					
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	9	2,602,406	6,160,346	2,602,406	6,160,346
Trade and other receivables	10	3,433,106	2,310,169	3,433,106	2,310,169
Total current assets		6,035,512	8,470,515	6,035,512	8,470,515
Non current assets					
Other financial assets	11	-	-	18	18
Property, plant and equipment	12	4,148,086	303,010	4,148,086	303,010
Intangible assets	13	24,670	61,926	24,670	61,926
Total non current assets		4,172,756	364,936	4,172,774	364,954
Total assets		10,208,267	8,835,451	10,208,285	8,835,469
LIABILITIES					
Current liabilities					
Trade and other payables	14	3,877,071	2,983,169	3,877,071	2,914,902
Borrowings	15	171,341	369,874	171,341	69,874
Provisions	16	56,142	82,950	56,142	82,950
Deferred income	17	1,636,539	1,527,663	1,636,539	1,527,663
Total current liabilities		5,741,093	4,963,656	5,741,093	4,595,389
Non current liabilities					
Borrowings	18	499,354	74,539	499,354	74,539
Deferred income	19	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Provisions	20	87,170	117,716	87,170	117,716
Total non current liabilities		1,586,524	1,192,255	1,586,524	1,192,255
Total liabilities		7,327,617	6,155,911	7,327,617	5,787,644
Net assets		2,880,650	2,679,540	2,880,668	3,047,825
EQUITY					
Members' funds	4	-	-	-	-
Accumulated surplus	21	2,880,650	2,679,540	2,880,668	3,047,825
Total equity		2,880,650	2,679,540	2,880,668	3,047,825

The above balance sheets should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENTS OF RECOGNISED INCOME AND EXPENSE

31 OCTOBER 2007

		Consolidated		Parent	
		2007	2006	2007	2006
	Notes	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total equity at the beginning of the financial year		2,679,540	1,083,936	3,047,825	1,708,460
Surplus/(loss) for the year	21	201,110	1,595,604	(167,157)	1,339,365
Total equity at the end of the financial year		2,880,650	2,679,540	2,880,668	3,047,825

The above statements of recognised income and expense should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

CASH FLOW STATEMENTS

31 OCTOBER 2007

	Notes	Consolidated		Parent	
		2007 \$	2006 \$	2007 \$	2006 \$
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash receipts from matches, supporters, sponsors, members, etc (inclusive of GST)		27,932,918	28,753,560	27,932,918	28,753,540
Cash payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		(27,890,232)	(28,363,520)	(28,121,965)	(28,427,257)
		42,686	390,040	(189,047)	326,283
Interest received / (paid)		286,836	326,136	218,569	229,897
Net cash inflow from operating activities	27	329,522	716,176	29,522	556,180
Cash flows from investing activities					
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(4,121,744)	(263,241)	(4,121,744)	(263,241)
Payments for intangibles		-	(42,797)	-	(42,797)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		8,000	1,740	8,000	1,740
Net cash outflow from investing activities		(4,113,744)	(304,298)	(4,113,744)	(304,298)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Loan repayment to related parties ARU		(67,927)	(62,843)	(67,927)	(62,843)
Repayment of lease liability		(6,876)	(27,116)	(6,876)	(27,116)
Proceeds from borrowings		601,085	-	601,085	-
Repayment of bond holders		(300,000)	(160,000)	-	-
Net cash outflow from financing activities		226,282	(249,959)	526,282	(89,959)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(3,557,940)	161,919	(3,557,940)	161,923
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		6,160,346	5,998,427	6,160,346	5,998,423
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	9	2,602,406	6,160,346	2,602,406	6,160,346

The above cash flow statements should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 OCTOBER 2007

1 Summary of significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial report are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated. The financial report includes separate financial statements for New South Wales Rugby Union Limited as an individual entity and the consolidated entity consisting of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited and its subsidiaries.

(a) Basis of preparation

This general purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRSs), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, Urgent Issues Group Interpretations and the Corporations Act 2001.

Compliance with IFRSs

Australian Accounting Standards include AIFRSs. Compliance with AIFRSs ensures that the consolidated financial statements and notes of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs). The parent entity financial statements and notes also comply with IFRSs.

Going concern

The continuing viability of the Company and the consolidated entity and their ability to continue as a going concern and meet their debts and commitments as they fall due are dependent upon the Company and the consolidated entity being successful in:

- a) receiving the continuing support of their members and the constituent bodies; and
- b) achieving sufficient future cash flows to enable their obligations to be met; and
- c) success in retaining and attracting new sponsorship and hospitality revenues and;
- d) indirectly, the performance of the Waratahs in the Super 14 competition.

The Board is committed to continuous monitoring of these factors and any impacts on the projected cash flows for 2008 and 2009. The Board is also committed to a long term strategy to effectively manage the Company's debt levels, and to establish a sustainable working capital position.

Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The expenditure in income statement has been reclassified to better present the functional nature of the company's activities. The comparative results have also been reclassified to ensure consistency.

Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with AIFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Company's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in note 3.

(b) Principles of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of all subsidiaries of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited "company" as at 31 October 2007 and the results of all subsidiaries for the year then ended. New South Wales Rugby Union Limited and its subsidiaries together are referred to in this financial report as the consolidated entity.

Intercompany transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between entities in the consolidated entity are eliminated. Accounting policies of subsidiaries have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the Company.

Investments in subsidiaries are accounted for at cost in the individual financial statements of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited.

(c) Revenue recognition

Revenue from memberships, match day tickets and grants is measured at fair value and taken to income in the period to which it relates.

Revenue from sponsorship is measured at the present value on a straight line basis over the life of the contract.

Interest income is recognised on a time proportion basis using the effective interest method,

(d) Income tax

The company and its controlled entities are exempt from income tax in accordance with the provisions of section 23(g) of the Income Tax Assessment Act.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(e) Leases

Leases of property, plant and equipment where the Company has substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as finance leases (note 13). Finance leases are capitalised at the lease's inception at the lower of the fair value of the leased property and the present value of the minimum lease payments. The corresponding rental obligations, net of finance charges, are included in other long term payables. Each lease payment is allocated between the liability and finance cost. The finance cost is charged to the income statement over the lease period so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. The property, plant and equipment acquired under finance leases is depreciated over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term.

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases (note 23). Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to the income statement on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

(f) Property, plant and equipment

All property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less depreciation. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

Depreciation is calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost or revalued amounts, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

- Leasehold improvements	Over the lease term (a)
- Office equipment	4 years
- Leased motor vehicles	5 years
- Plant and equipment	4 years

(a) The cost of other leasehold improvements to or on leasehold properties is amortised over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the improvement to the consolidated entity, whichever is the shorter. Leasehold improvements held at the reporting date are being amortised over 10 years.

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

(g) Intangible assets

(i) Trademarks, licences and website costs

Trademarks, licences and website costs have a finite useful life and are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and impaired losses. Amortisation is calculated using the straight line method to allocate the cost of trademarks, licences and website costs over their estimated useful lives, which vary from 3 to 5 years.

(h) Impairment of assets

Intangible assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that they might be impaired. Other assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. Inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash generating units). Non financial assets other than goodwill that suffered an impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

(i) Trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the consolidated entity prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured.

(j) Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Company has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the balance sheet date.

(k) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs incurred for the construction of any qualifying asset are capitalised during the period of time that is required to complete and prepare the asset for its intended use or sale. Other borrowing costs are expensed.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 OCTOBER 2007

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**(l) Provisions**

Provisions for legal claims are recognised when: the Company has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events; it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation; and the amount has been reliably estimated. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the balance sheet date. The discount rate used to determine the present value reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability.

(m) Employee benefits**(i) Wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave**

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulating sick leave expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in other payables in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

(ii) Long service leave

The liability for long service leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

(iii) Retirement benefit obligations

All employees of the consolidated entity are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death from BT Lifetime Super Employer Plan or other nominated funds of those employees. The BT Lifetime Super Employer Plan is an accumulation fund, contributions being made by the economic entity at a rate of 9% (up to the maximum contribution base) of wages and salaries on behalf of the employees. The entities contributions are legally enforceable.

(n) Cash and cash equivalents

For cash flow statement presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the balance sheet.

(o) Trade receivables

Trade receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost, less provision for doubtful debts. Trade receivables are due for settlement no more than 30 days from the date of recognition.

Collectibility of trade receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off. A provision for doubtful receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the Company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate. The amount of the provision is recognised in the income statement.

(p) Inventories**(i) Consumables**

Consumables are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost comprises purchase cost and delivery cost. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(q) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the taxation authority, are presented as operating cash flow.

(r) New accounting standards and interpretations

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for 31 October 2007 reporting periods. The Company has not assessed the possible impact of the application of the new Accounting Standards on the entity's financial report in the period of initial application.

(s) Deferred income

Income is deferred on the balance sheet until it has been earned, at which point the deferred income is recognised as income.

(t) Deferred expenditure

A significant portion of the Centre of Excellence expenditure relates to a contribution made by the company to the SCG Trust to the construction and base fitout of the new premises. This base build contribution amount is being amortised over the life of the rental lease (10 years). The amortisation charge is classified within the rental expense.

2 Financial risk management

The Company's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks; credit risk, liquidity risk and cash flow interest rate risk. The Company's overall risk management program focuses to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Company.

Risk management is carried under policies approved by the Board of Directors.

(a) Credit risk

The Company has no significant concentrations of credit risk. The Company has policies in place to ensure that sales of products and services are made to customers with an appropriate credit history.

(b) Liquidity risk

Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash and the availability of funding through an adequate amount of committed credit facilities. The Board manages its liquidity risk through rigorous budget setting and review of performance procedures.

(c) Cash flow and fair value interest rate risk

As the Company has no significant interest bearing assets, the Company's income and operating cash flows are not materially exposed to changes in market interest rates.

The Company's interest rate risk arises from long term borrowings but the current borrowing structure is such that only fixed interest rates apply thus minimising the interest rate risk.

3 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the entity and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

4 Members' liability

In the event of the winding up of the Company, members may be required to contribute a maximum of \$100 each. Currently there are 15 members of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited.

5 Segment information

The Company and consolidated entity operate in one industry being the organisation and promotion of the game of rugby union in New South Wales. This activity is completed in one geographical location, that being Australia.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 OCTOBER 2007

6 Revenue

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
From continuing operations				
Sponsorship	5,468,946	4,722,777	5,468,946	4,722,777
Corporate hospitality	685,550	747,831	685,550	747,831
Match day proceeds	5,255,615	6,036,910	5,255,615	6,036,910
Aussie stadium rebate	1,500,000	1,225,000	1,500,000	1,225,000
Premier rugby	276,418	351,291	276,418	351,291
ARC Rugby Competition	347,367	-	347,367	-
Memberships	592,480	823,162	592,480	823,162
Licensing	151,321	156,785	151,321	156,785
Coaching and development	166,870	160,094	166,870	160,094
ARU Funding	10,979,491	10,114,213	10,979,491	10,114,213
Other grants	80,000	79,091	80,000	79,091
Affiliation fees	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
Other income	266,388	123,003	266,388	123,003
Rugby World Cup distribution (non recurring)	440,274	1,321,518	440,274	1,321,518
	26,270,720	25,921,675	26,270,720	25,921,675
<i>Other revenue</i>				
Interest	305,821	246,114	305,821	246,114
	26,576,541	26,167,789	26,576,541	26,167,789

7 Other income

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	6,789	1,625	6,789	1,625

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 OCTOBER 2007

8 Expenses

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Surplus from continuing operations includes the following specific expenses:				
<i>Depreciation</i>				
Buildings	102,515	1,587	102,515	1,587
Plant and equipment	172,939	149,848	172,939	149,848
Leasehold improvements	-	174,736	-	174,736
Total depreciation	275,454	326,171	275,454	326,171
<i>Amortisation</i>				
Trademarks, licenses and website costs	37,256	31,214	37,256	31,214
Total amortisation	37,256	31,214	37,256	31,214
<i>Finance costs</i>				
Interest and finance charges paid/payable	17,562	(80,022)	85,829	16,217
Finance costs expensed	17,562	(80,022)	85,829	16,217
<i>Rental expense relating to operating leases</i>				
Minimum lease payments	422,571	324,228	422,571	324,228
Total rental expense relating to operating leases	422,571	324,228	422,571	324,228
<i>Debt forgiveness of bondholder loans on behalf of NSWRU Finance Ltd</i>	-	-	300,000	160,000
<i>Defined contribution superannuation expense</i>	803,051	630,000	803,051	630,000

9 Current assets - Cash and cash equivalents

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash at bank and in hand	2,437,342	2,544,806	2,437,342	2,544,806
Deposits at call	165,064	3,615,540	165,064	3,615,540
	2,602,406	6,160,346	2,602,406	6,160,346

10 Current assets - Trade and other receivables

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade receivables	3,124,020	1,853,567	3,124,020	1,853,567
Provision for doubtful receivables	(131,334)	(86,834)	(131,334)	(86,834)
	2,992,686	1,766,733	2,992,686	1,766,733
Other receivables	152,201	304,405	152,201	304,405
Prepayments	288,219	239,031	288,219	239,031
	3,433,106	2,310,169	3,433,106	2,310,169

11 Non current assets - Other financial assets

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Shares in subsidiaries (note 25)	-	-	18	18

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 OCTOBER 2007

12 Non current assets - Property, plant and equipment

Consolidated and parent	Centre of Excellence capital work-in-progress	Plant and equipment	Sydney Football Stadium leasehold improvements	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
At 1 November 2005				
- Cost	23,284	826,126	686,741	1,536,151
Accumulated depreciation	-	(658,091)	(512,002)	(1,170,096)
Net book amount	23,284	168,035	174,736	366,055
Year ended 31 October 2006				
Opening net book amount	23,284	168,035	174,736	366,055
Additions	167,406	95,835	-	263,241
Disposals	-	(115)	-	(115)
Depreciation charge	(1,587)	(149,848)	(174,736)	(326,171)
Closing net book amount	189,103	113,907	-	303,010
At 31 October 2006				
- Cost	190,690	921,253	686,741	1,798,684
Accumulated depreciation	(1,587)	(807,346)	(686,741)	(1,495,674)
Net book amount	189,103	113,907	-	303,010
Consolidated and parent	Centre of Excellence capital work-in-progress	Plant and equipment	Aussie Stadium leasehold improvements	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Year ended 31 October 2007				
Opening net book amount	189,103	113,907	-	303,010
Additions	3,357,861	763,883	-	4,121,744
Written down value of disposals	-	(1,214)	-	(1,214)
Depreciation charge	(102,515)	(172,939)	-	(275,454)
Closing net book amount	3,444,449	703,637	-	4,148,086
At 31 October 2007				
- Cost	3,548,551	926,535	-	4,475,086
Accumulated depreciation	(104,102)	(222,898)	-	(327,000)
Net book amount	3,444,449	703,637	-	4,148,086

a) Non-current assets subject to a charge

\$601,085 of the plant and equipment above is subject to an equitable mortgage under a financial agreement - refer to notes 15 and 18.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 OCTOBER 2007

13 Non current assets - Intangible assets

Consolidated and parent	Trademarks, licenses and website costs	Total
At 1 November 2005	\$	\$
Cost	121,945	121,945
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(71,602)	(71,602)
Net book amount	50,343	50,343
Year ended 31 October 2006		
Opening net book amount	50,343	50,343
Additions	42,797	42,797
Amortisation charge	(31,214)	(31,214)
Closing net book amount	61,926	61,926
At 31 October 2006		
Cost	164,742	164,742
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(102,816)	(102,816)
Net book amount	61,926	61,926
Consolidated and parent	Trademarks, licenses and website costs	Total
	\$	\$
Year ended 31 October 2007		
Opening net book amount	61,926	61,926
Additions	-	-
Amortisation charge	(37,256)	(37,256)
Closing net book amount	24,670	24,670
At 31 October 2007		
Cost	164,742	164,742
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(140,072)	(140,072)
Net book amount	24,670	24,670

14 Current liabilities - Trade and other payables

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade payables	1,006,895	699,557	1,006,895	699,557
Other payables	2,870,176	2,283,612	2,525,136	2,215,345
	3,877,071	2,983,169	3,877,071	2,914,902

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 OCTOBER 2007

15 Current liabilities - Borrowings

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007 \$	2006 \$	2007 \$	2006 \$
Secured				
Lease liabilities (note 23)	7,682	7,682	7,682	7,682
Plant & equipment loans (c) (note 18)	114,841	-	114,841	-
	122,523	7,682	122,523	7,682
Unsecured				
Australian Rugby Union (a)	48,818	62,192	48,818	62,192
"B" series notes (b)	-	300,000	-	-
Total unsecured current borrowings	48,818	362,192	48,818	62,192
Total current borrowings	171,341	369,874	171,341	69,874

(a) The ARU loan was established to provide funding for the fit out of the NSWRU office at Sydney Football Stadium. The loan is repayable over six years. Interest is charged on the outstanding balance at 9.03%.

(b) The 'B' series notes are repayable with 12 months notice by the note holder. They attract an annual interest rate of 4% and entitle the holder to a preferable rate to purchase corporate hospitality at NSWRU fixtures. During 2007, these notes have been fully repaid.

(c) The plant and equipment loans were utilised to equip the new Centre of Excellence premises. The interest rates range from 4.54% to 5.85% and are repayable in monthly instalments over a period of 5 years.

16 Current liabilities – Provisions

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007 \$	2006 \$	2007 \$	2006 \$
Employee benefits (a)	56,142	82,950	56,142	82,950
	56,142	82,950	56,142	82,950

(a) Superannuation

All employees of the consolidated entity are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death from BT Lifetime Super Employer Plan or other nominated funds of those employees. The BT Lifetime Super Employer Plan is an accumulation fund, contributions being made by the consolidated entity at a rate of 9% (up to the maximum contribution base) of wages and salaries on behalf of the employees. The entities contributions are legally enforceable.

17 Current liabilities – Deferred income

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007 \$	2006 \$	2007 \$	2006 \$
Income in advance	1,636,539	1,527,663	1,636,539	1,527,663
	1,636,539	1,527,663	1,636,539	1,527,663

18 Non current liabilities – Borrowings

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007 \$	2006 \$	2007 \$	2006 \$
Secured				
Lease liabilities (note 23)	13,110	19,986	13,110	19,986
Plant & equipment loans (note 15)	486,244	-	486,244	-
Total secured non current borrowings	499,354	19,986	499,354	19,986
Unsecured				
Australian Rugby Union	-	54,553	-	54,553
Total unsecured non current borrowings	-	54,553	-	54,553
Total non current borrowings	499,354	74,539	499,354	74,539

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 OCTOBER 2007

19 Non current liabilities - Deferred income

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Income in advance	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000

Income in advance relates to an upfront payment of \$1,000,000 received in 2006 in relation to the contractual arrangements with Telstra Stadium. The amount will be released as it is earned from 2014.

20 Non-current liabilities - Provisions

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Employee benefits	87,170	117,716	87,170	117,716
	87,170	117,716	87,170	117,716

21 Reserves and accumulated funds

(a) Reserves

Accumulated surplus

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Opening accumulated surplus	2,679,540	1,083,936	3,047,825	1,708,460
Net surplus for the year	201,110	1,595,604	(167,157)	1,339,365
Balance 31 October	2,880,650	2,679,540	2,880,668	3,047,825

22 Remuneration of auditors

During the year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by the auditor of the parent entity, its related practices and non related audit firms:

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
PricewaterhouseCoopers Australian firm				
Audit of financial reports and other audit work under the Corporations Act 2001	57,500	46,500	57,500	46,500
Other assurance services				
PricewaterhouseCoopers Australian firm				
AIFRS transition		12,500	-	12,500
Other assurance services	-	5,500	-	5,500
Related practices of PricewaterhouseCoopers Australian firm				
Liquidation services	27,565	10,000	27,565	10,000
Total remuneration for other assurance services	27,565	28,000	27,565	28,000
Total remuneration	85,065	74,500	85,065	74,500

23 Commitments

(a) Capital commitments

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Property, plant and equipment				
Payable:				
Within one year	-	4,019,650	-	4,019,650

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 OCTOBER 2007

23 Commitments (continued)

(b) Lease commitments

(i) Operating leases

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Commitments for minimum lease payments in relation to non cancellable operating leases are payable as follows:				
Within one year	732,581	505,037	732,581	505,037
Later than one year but not later than five years	3,068,120	2,544,757	3,068,120	2,544,757
Commitments not recognised in the financial statements	3,800,701	3,049,794	3,800,701	3,049,794

In 2006, the company entered into an agreement with the Sydney Cricket & Sports Ground Trust for the construction and occupation of new premises within the Aussie Football Stadium precinct. The construction was completed during 2007 and the company now occupies the premises.

The term of this agreement for the lease of the premises is 10 years with an option for a further 5 years.

Included within operating lease commitments above is the obligation for rental payable under the agreement.

(ii) Finance leases

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Commitments in relation to finance leases are payable as follows:				
Within one year	8,479	8,495	8,479	8,495
Later than one year but not later than five years	13,811	21,996	13,811	21,996
Minimum lease payments	22,290	30,491	22,290	30,491
Future finance charges	(1,498)	(2,823)	(1,498)	(2,823)
Recognised as a liability	20,792	27,668	20,792	27,668
Representing lease liabilities:				
Current (note 15)	7,682	7,682	7,682	7,682
Non current (note 18)	13,110	19,986	13,110	19,986
	20,792	27,668	20,792	27,668

(c) Remuneration commitments

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Commitments for the payment of salaries and other remuneration under long term employment contracts in existence at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities, payable:				
Within one year	5,948,000	4,835,026	5,948,000	4,835,026
Later than one year and not later than five years	6,189,500	2,894,081	6,189,500	2,894,081
	12,137,500	7,729,107	12,137,500	7,729,107

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 OCTOBER 2007

24 Related party transactions

(a) Parent entities

The ultimate controlling entity in the wholly owned group is New South Wales Rugby Union Limited.

(b) Subsidiaries

Interests in subsidiaries are set out in note 25.

(c) Key management personnel – Directors

The following persons were directors of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited during the financial year:

i) Chairman

Arvid Petersen

ii) Members of the Board

Laurie Maher, Ian Ross, Edwin Zemancheff, Will Jephcott, Alan Williamson, Dan Vickerman,

Fraser Neill (resigned 16 July 2007), Barry Killham and Jim L'Estrange (appointed 17 July 2007).

During the year, New South Wales Rugby Union Limited paid \$7,706 to Baker McKenzie for legal services, of which one of the board members, Edwin Zemancheff, has a related party interest.

(d) Key management personnel – other

The following persons also had authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Group, directly or indirectly, during the financial year:

Jim L'Estrange (Chief Executive Officer from 17 July 2007)

Fraser Neill (Chief Executive Officer until 16 July 2007)

Todd Day (Chief Financial Officer)

Kym Aust-Howlett (General Manager Commercial and Operations from 30 July 2007)

Dave Gibson (General Manager Commercial and Operations until 22 May 2007)

Ewen McKenzie (Waratah Head Coach)

Tony D'Arcy (Waratah High Performance General Manager)

Michael Doyle (General Manager Training and Development)

Djuro Sen (Media and Communications Manager)

(d) Key management and personnel compensation

Key management personnel compensation for the years ended 31 October 2007 and 2006 is set out below. The key management personnel of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited includes the directors of the Company.

	Short term benefits	Post-employment benefits	Total
	\$	\$	\$
2007	1,567,223	83,612	1,650,835
2006	1,560,543	88,479	1,649,022

(e) Other transactions with key management personnel or entities related to them

There were no transactions with directors or director related entities during 2007 year.

(f) Transactions with related parties

Transactions between New South Wales Rugby Union Limited and its controlled entities consists of the advance of funds to finance operations. No interest is charged on intercompany indebtedness.

During the year, the intercompany debts with subsidiary entities were forgiven in accordance with a resolution passed by the Board. This was as a result of commencing a liquidation process of the subsidiary entities. Additionally, New South Wales Rugby Union Limited made a repayment of bonds totalling \$300,000 on behalf of New South Wales Finance Limited.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 OCTOBER 2007

24 Related party transactions (continued)

(g) Australian Rugby Union Limited ("ARU")

The company conducts numerous transactions with the ARU in the normal course of the administration of the game of Rugby Union in the State of New South Wales. Under an agreement with the ARU the annual grants and player subsidies to the company were \$10,979,491 in the year to 31 October 2007 (2006: \$10,114,213). The loans due to the ARU are detailed in notes 16 and 18.

During 2006 the company entered into an agreement with the Australian Rugby Union Limited (ARU) to establish a funding agreement in which the company could draw upon funds to offset anticipated losses from participating in a new national professional rugby competition, the Australian Rugby Championship (ARC).

The principal terms of the funding agreement are:

- ARU to provide an interest free loan facility of up to \$1,700,000 to be drawn against all first order losses by the company in participating in the ARC.
- Funding term of 8 years to 2014.
- The repayment of funds will be required on a 50/50 profit share basis between the company and ARU out of future team profits from the ARC.

At 31 October 2007, the company had drawn down \$1,133,215 under the facility. This drawn down has been recorded as grant income on the basis the directors are of the view that any profitability of the company's teams participating in the ARC is remote and accordingly, the drawn downs under the funding agreement will not be repayable.

25 Subsidiaries

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets, liabilities and results of the following subsidiaries in accordance with the accounting policy described in note 1(b):

Name of entity	Country of incorporation	Class of shares	Equity holding *	
			2007 %	2006 %
Rugby Ground Administration Pty Limited	Australia	Ordinary	78	78
Homan Pty Limited	Australia	Ordinary	100	100
NSWRU Finance Limited	Australia	Ordinary	100	100
Ranrub Pty Limited	Australia	Ordinary	100	100
NSW Foundation Pty Limited	Australia	Ordinary	100	100

* The proportion of ownership interest is equal to the proportion of voting power held.

These subsidiaries are currently in the process of being liquidated.

26 Economic dependency

New South Wales Rugby Union Limited depends for a significant volume of revenue on Australian Rugby Union Limited. During the year ended 31 October 2007, approximately 38% (2006: 37%) of the revenue came from Australian Rugby Union Limited. This is supported by a Memorandum of Understanding between the Australian Rugby Union and its Member Unions. The current Memorandum of Understanding runs to 31 December 2008.

27 Reconciliation of surplus from continuing operations to net cash inflow from operating activities

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2007 \$	2006 \$	2007 \$	2006 \$
Surplus/(loss) for the year	201,110	1,595,604	(167,157)	1,339,365
Depreciation and amortisation	312,713	357,385	312,713	357,385
Net gain on sale of non current assets	(6,789)	(1,625)	(6,789)	(1,625)
Change in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects from purchase of controlled entity and sale of discontinued operation				
Decrease (increase) in receivables	(1,122,937)	(31,008)	(1,122,937)	(31,028)
Decrease in inventories	-	31,749	-	31,749
Increase in other operating assets	-	(170,149)	-	(170,149)
Increase (decrease) in creditors & other borrowings	1,002,779	(92,222)	1,071,046	4,041
Increase (decrease) in other provisions	(57,354)	(973,558)	(57,354)	(973,558)
Net cash (outflow) inflow from operating activities	329,522	716,176	29,522	556,180

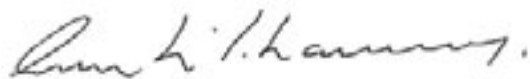
DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

31 OCTOBER 2007

In the directors' opinion:

- (a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 60 to 77 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:
 - (i) complying with Accounting Standards, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
 - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the company's and consolidated entity's financial position as at 31 October 2007 and of their performance, for the financial year ended on that date; and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors.



Jim L'Estrange
Director

Sydney
11 December 2007

AUDIT REPORT

31 OCTOBER 2007



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Independent audit report to the members of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited

Report on the financial report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited (the company) and the New South Wales Rugby Union Group (consolidated entity), which comprise the balance sheets as at 31 October 2007, and the income statements, statements of recognised income and expense and cash flow statements for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration for both New South Wales Rugby Union Limited and the New South Wales Rugby Union Group. The consolidated entity comprises the company and the entities it controlled at the year's end.

Directors' responsibility for the financial report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Corporations Act 2001. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances. In Note 1, the directors also state, in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements, that compliance with the Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards ensures that the financial report, comprising the financial statements and notes, complies with international Financial Reporting Standards.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

Our procedures include reading the other information in the Annual Report to determine whether it contains any material inconsistencies with the financial report.

For further explanation of an audit, visit our website <http://www.pwc.com/au/financialstatementaudit>.

Our audit did not involve an analysis of the prudence of business decisions made by directors or management.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

Independent audit report to the members of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited

Matters relating to the electronic presentation of the audited financial report

This audit report relates to the financial report of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited (the company) and the New South Wales Rugby Union Group (consolidated entity) for the financial year ended 31 October 2007 included on the New South Wales Rugby Union Limited website. The company's directors are responsible for the integrity of the New South Wales Rugby Union Limited website. We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of this website. The audit report refers only to the financial report identified above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial report. If users of this report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic data communications they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial report to confirm the information included in the audited financial report presented on this web site.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Auditor's opinion on the financial report

In our opinion:

- (a) the financial report of New South Wales Rugby Union Limited is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's and consolidated entity's financial position as at 31 October 2007 and of their performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Corporations Regulations 2001, and
- (b) the consolidated financial statements and parent entity financial statements and notes also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as disclosed in Note 1.



PricewaterhouseCoopers



Steve Bosiljevac
Partner

Sydney
11 December 2007

New South Wales Rugby Union would like to acknowledge the support of the following sponsors and partners for 2007.



The Sydney Morning Herald





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