



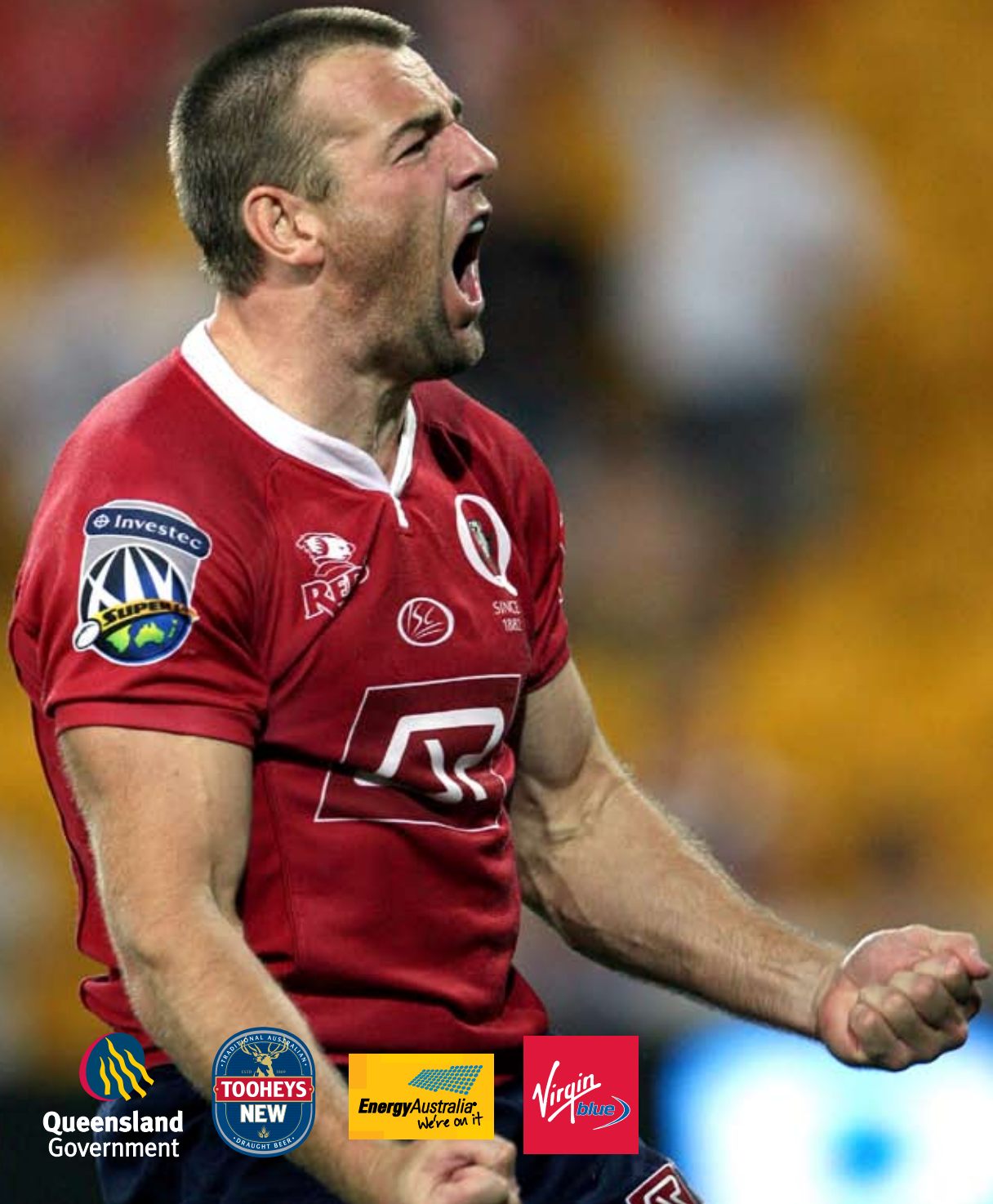
# 2008

Annual Report

KEY PARTICIPATION STATISTICS	2006	2007	2008
Junior Clubs	101	100	101
Senior Clubs	117	118	113
Junior Club Players	14,233	14,348	14,080
Senior Club Players	8,635	8,798	8,857
Regular School Players	20,482*	19,274*	18,282*
<b>TOTAL PLAYERS</b>	<b>43,350</b>	<b>42,420</b>	<b>42,219</b>

\*Players in regular competitions only (not including one-off 'carnival' days)

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE	2006	2007	2008
Sponsorship	4,800,163	5,011,588	5,400,933
Match Day Income	5,434,778	4,104,049	4,756,809
Grants - Ballymore	Nil	Nil	507,000
Gross Trading income	18,246,031	18,231,986	18,900,582
Net Trading Profit/(Loss)	(1,758,728)	(4,187,580)	(4,411,025)
Members' Equity	21,935,767	25,748,187	21,337,162



## SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

- John Roe earned his 100th Cap for Queensland
- David Croft played 94 consecutive Super Rugby games for Queensland before announcing his retirement after a total of 116 appearances
- David Croft wins the Pilecki Medal for the second year running
- Eight Reds represented the Wallabies, including new caps Peter Hynes and Quade Cooper
- Hynes was named Wallaby Rookie of the Year
- Reds Head Coach Phil Mooney and Forwards Coach Mark Bell selected to coach Australia A
- Both Qld U16 teams play in the final of the National U16 Championship, with Queensland Red victorious
- Queensland Schools win their third successive National Schoolboys title
- Qld Schools named the Outstanding Qld Junior Team of 2008 at the Queensland Sports Awards
- Easts win the 2008 Hospital Cup, defeating Brothers 22-21
- Revival of the QRU Awards Dinner, with Shane Sullivan named Volunteer of the Year
- SQ and NQ teams finish first and second in the National Indigenous Carnival
- 11 players selected for the National Indigenous U16 team
- Qld Suburban reclaim the Barraclough Shield from NSW Suburban
- Rugby Gold Coast win the Hutchinson Builders Country Championships for the 4th year running

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# CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

It’s been said a million times but it’s absolutely appropriate here – I have some good news and some bad news.

Given there is little other than bad news these days, let me begin with the good news.

We have three distinct business units – the QR Reds, Community Rugby and our commercial operation and each in its own way is performing outstandingly well.

The genesis of this state of affairs can be traced back to some brave decisions taken by your Board three years ago.

Since this current administration came to power we have systematically reinvented each business unit through strategic personnel choices, rigorous financial oversight and constant liaison with our “customers”.

Let me start with the Reds. When we chose Phil Mooney as Head Coach we knew exactly what we were getting.

Phil has a wonderful empathy for, and knowledge of, the “Reds tradition” along with a calm professionalism that’s now producing the culture so vital to success in a highly competitive environment.

The appointment of Ben Whitaker likewise has brought a new level of respect for our professional rugby program. Phil and Ben have attracted a great team of support staff who now guide an exciting young team on the rise.

I can’t emphasise enough just how important a winning team playing attractive, exciting rugby is to our bottom line.

From where we were three years ago the Board is delighted with the progress of our team - Go the Reds!

The Board recently had an outstanding half day presentation from our Community Rugby leadership group. Simon Taylor and his able team have worked extremely hard with very limited financial and human resources to ensure our grassroots programs are delivered successfully.

The Board collectively cover a lot of territory seeking feedback and almost without exception we are congratulated on the service and support our Community Rugby team provides – Well done!

Finally then, the Commercial team. With the appointment of Rhys Watkins at the helm our sponsorship and corporate sales have held up remarkably well despite the economic environment.

Overseeing and leading our operation, of course, is our CEO, Ken Freer. The measure of any leader is the morale and productivity of his staff and on that front Ken’s done an

outstanding job through 2008 and beyond.

So for the bad news: make no mistake the Board spends the vast majority of its time and energy on our finances.

Our Finance Director Michael Glover ably supported by Will Colwell ensures we are fully aware and focused on our bottom line.

Like all businesses today we are preparing for the full impact of the international recession by staying one step ahead.

We will do everything in our power to maintain service and staff levels but I give you fair warning this will be a challenge for the rest of 2009 and 2010.

Ballymore remains a source of enormous frustration and hope all at the same time. Since losing our federal grant of \$25 million 15 months ago we have pressed on, believing our project has genuine community and sporting value and deserves government support.

Our Development Application is due to go before Council soon and we hope for a favourable and swift approval.

The silver lining of the recession is that the Federal and State Governments are looking for “shovel ready” infrastructure projects - and we have one.

Our economic impact report suggests we will create some 400+ construction jobs and 300+ permanent jobs on completion. Let’s hope the bi-partisan support we’ve been promised materialises soon.

In conclusion, let me thank three special groups of people without whom we’d be lost.

First and foremost, the army of volunteers out there who do such a wonderful job for Rugby. Ken Freer and his staff, who have performed so well under pressure. And finally, my Board colleagues.

Another great team effort – thanks for your support.



**Peter Lewis**  
Chairman



*Digby Ioane - Queensland XV v. Australian Barbarians at Ballymore*



HONOUR BOARD

2008 Wallaby representatives (Tri-Nations, Bundaberg Rum Series, Spring Tour):

Berrick Barnes, Quade Cooper, Sam Cordingley, James Horwill, Peter Hynes, Digby Ioane, Hugh McMeniman, Stephen Moore

2008 Australia ‘A’ Representatives:

Sean Hardman, Leroy Houston, Van Humphries, Digby Ioane, Tasi Luafutu, Ben Lucas, Hugh McMeniman, Morgan Turinui, Phil Mooney (Head Coach), Mark Bell (Assistant Coach)

Qld 2008 debuts:

Chris Siale, Morgan Turinui, Leroy Houston, Digby Ioane, Dayna Edwards, Ben Lucas, Poutasi Luafutu, Scott Higginbotham

Australian Sevens:

Scott Higginbotham, Damon Murphy, Kasey Mitchell, Ant Sauer, Andrew Walker, Caleb Brown, Blair Connor, Henari Veratau

Australian U20:

Albert Anae, Quade Cooper (Reds), Blair Connor, Ben Daley (Reds), Will Genia (Reds), James Hanson, Rob Simmons (Reds), Junior Sovala, Ben Tapuai, Matthew Taylor (assistant Coach), Brynley Abad (Athletic Performance Coach)

QRU Life Members:

KJ Hodda (1961) (decd), TN Betts (1969), BM Ffrench (1972), EAN Byrne AM (1971), TP Mooney (1975) (decd), JH Lucey (1983), JG Ryan (1984), LA Crowley (1985), DW Jowett (1986), AJ Muir (1988), RR Harrison (1989), Dr F Wilson (1993), AG Purcell (1994), RJO Herring (1996), KJ Crowe OAM (1997), LG Williams AO (1998), AR Taylor (1999), RB McGruther OBE (2000), G Core (2001), R Sinclair (2002) (decd), RJP Marks (2004), TPA Doyle (2007), RAC (Alec) Evans (2008)

QRU Perpetual Ground Members:

R Abbs, D Addis, Sir W Allen, C Anderson, W Andrews, E Anning, G Anning, S Armstrong, L&G Arnold, R Banham, J Barry, J Bartlett, T Baxter, P Beal, Dr G Beaver, M Beeston, J Bell, P Bell-Allen, D Bell-Allen, D Bendeich, B Bentley, M Berkeley, G Berkeley, G Bickerstaff, J Biggs, V Blanshard, R Bligh, B Bloxsom, C Blue, Dr A Blue, A Boyd, B Boyd, J Boyle, P Braddy, S Bradley, P Bray, F Brazier, D Breen, J Breene, W Brett, I Brett, L Brosnan, Brothers Rugby Club, B Brown, G Brown, Dr B Brown, Hon Justice N Buckley, I Callinan, I Cameron, M Capp, B Carey, B Carlton-Smith, P Carroll, L Casagrande, S Clair, G Clair, J Clark, B Clark,

R Clarke, P Clarke, R Clarke, Dr J Coleman, Professor W Coman, R Conn, P Connors, D Cooke, J Cornes, P Corrigan, J Costello, I Cottee, Dr P Cranstoun, V Creagh, J Creagh, Dr J Croker, A Croker, D Crombie, T Crommelin, C Crook, C Crouch, J Crowley, L Crowley, Crowley & Greenhalgh, A Cruice, M Cullinan, M Cullinan, P Curtis, Hon G L Davies, J Davies, Dr I Davies, M Davies, C Davies, M Davies, D Deen, J Delahunty, Dr R Denham, D Dick, P Dodson, Prof K Donald, R Doneley, A Douglas, J Douglas, J Dowrie, L Draper, J Duff, J Duhig, P Duncombe, J Dunsdon, R Dunsdon, R Duus, S Dyer, W Earnshaw, S Ebbott, A Ebbott, J Edgar, R Edwards, A Edwards, O Edwards, Edwards Dunlop Paper, R Elliot, C J Elliott, R Elphinstone, R Evans, M Farrow, C Ferguson, A Ferguson, R Ferguson, R Ferris, B Ffrench, Mr Finnimore, G Fitzgerald, A M Flynn, A Forster, Dr D Francis, M Fraser, H Fraser, G Fraser, H Fraser, Dr J Fraser, D Fraser, P French, J Frew, T Frisby, J Frith, R Fry, M Gallagher, J Gallagher, P Galloway, P Gamin, A Garde, P Geraghty, K Geraghty, L Germon, G Gibbons, A Gibson, J Gibson, R Gibson, M Girle, J Goldberg, J Gordon, M Gorin, J Gorman, H Gowen, W Graham, G Graham, Hall Downer, S Grant, M Grant-Taylor, B Graves, W Greaves, R Green, E Greenwood, R Gregory, S Gregory, D Greig, Brigadier L Greville, J Guerassimoff, Dr A Guest. B Gunn, B Hall, W Hamon, C Hampson QC, R Harrison, Dr M Harrison, M Hayne, S Herborn, C Hildebrand, B Hinder, P Hintz, Dr R Hodge, Dr B Hoffensetz, G Hogan, Dr E Holmes, Dr N Holmes, E Holmes, Dr J Holmes, Dr M Holt, H Hope, D Hosking, D Howard, A Hoy, Dr J Hunter, R Ingham-Myers, T Jackman, D James, J Jamieson, M Jarvis, J Jekyll, K Jennings, D Johnson, J Johnstone, L Jolly, A Jones, E Kann, B Kehoe, P Kemp, B Kennedy, P Kenny, J Knowlman, M Kriewaldt, M Laidlaw, I Lancon, P Lanskey, P Lauder, K Lawrance, G Leader, C Leagh-Murray, P Lee, E Leo, D L'Estrange, A Leutenegger, B Lewis, I Lewis, L L'Huillier, P Lilley, M Lockyer, B Loel, Dr J Lynch, M Lynch, J Lyons, M Lyons, B Macdonald, A Macdonald, R MacFarlane, J Maclean, A Macleod, A Mactaggart, R Manning, Dr T Manteit, A Marr, Dr I Marshall, M Marshall, P Marshall, Sir R Mathers, L McAfee, A McAfee, B McCormack, C McCracken, Dr S McCready, I McFadden, F McLaughlin, R McLeod, D McLoughlin, Dr M McNee, L McNicholl, T McSweeney, D Meadows, J Medhurst, D Mee, J Meldrum, R Melloy, J Miller, J Moffat, Hon J Moore, N Morgan, P Morgan, B Moriarty, P Moroney, Dr P Morris, G Morrison, I Morrow, R Mortimer, J Morton, M Moynihan, A Muir, J Muir, C Muir, Dr B Mulherin, Dr T Murphy, G Murphy, D Murphy, D Murphy, J Murray, I Nicol, K Nicoll, D Nutter, W Nutting, B O'Callaghan, M O'Callaghan, S O'Callaghan, J O'Connor, H O'Donnell, D O'Donnell, T O'Donnell, J O'Keeffe, Dr T Olsen, E O'Neill, Dr G O'Rourke, B O'Rourke, T Osborne, P O'Shea, F O'Sullivan, H Owen, N Owen, D Park, H Parkinson, R Parry, S Peacock, M Peacock, R Pearson, J Perrins, H Peterson, J Philp, S Pippos, R Porter, S Porter, J Porter, R Prosser, W Purcell, R Que Hee, Queensland Rugby Club, Dr R Quinn, P Quinn, A Ranson, C Rees, M Rees, R Reynolds, E Richards, J Ricketts, J Rivett, M Roberts, G Roberts, A Robertson, P Roe, M Rogers, N Rogers, J Rorke, A Ross, J Rowell, J Rush, T Ryan, D Rylance, R Seaborn, B Seale, B Sexton, A Sexton, W

Sexton, M Sexton, Dr D Sexton, M Seymour, Dr D Shanahan, H Shand, J Shand, F Shannon, Dr G Shearer, M Sheehan, M Sherwin, P Short, J Siganto, Dr G Siller, C Siller, J Simpson, D Slater, H Stack, R Stewart, P Stoneham, P Sullivan, S Sullivan, R Sweeney, B Sydes, M Talbot, H Tancred, A Taylor, J Templeton, H Tennent, Dr T Thatcher, Dr D Theile AO, M Thomas, S Thompson, D Thompson, J Thorn, Dr L Toft, R Trivett, Dr J Tuffley, Dr R Tuffley, Dr J Tully, J Tully, W Turner, S Turner, D Tynan, M Tynan, P Tynan, R Ure, D Usasz, Dr J Valery, Dr K Vandeleur, Dr P Vincent, J Waddington, M Waddington, J Waddington, A Wadley, C Waldron, G Walker, L Walsh, J Walthall, G Wanchap, Dr J Watson, M Webber, G Weir, W Wenck, D White, C White, A White, D Wilde, I Wilkey, B Williams, L Williams, C Williams, Dr M Williams, Lady D Williams, B Williams, K Williams, Dr C Wilson, Dr F Wilson, R Winning, F Winter, J Wolfe, Dr R Wood, A Woods, F Wright, J Wright, J Young, M Younger, R Younger, R Younger, Dr K Zabell, P Zappala, M Zappala, P Zoeller





# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

It’s my firm belief that with the passing of the seasons, 2008 will come to be viewed as a watershed year for Queensland Rugby and the QR Reds: a genuine turning point that set us on course for a Super 14 title.

It will be recognised as the year that the Reds began to take bold steps to remake the composition and culture of the team with a new approach to the game that elevated the values of team play and playing an attacking style of rugby.

Under the strong influence and guidance of Head Coach Phil Mooney, Assistant Coaches Damon Emtage and Mark Bell, Team Manager Brendan Morris and Performance Rugby Manager Ben Whitaker, the QR Reds discarded some of the baggage from previous years and resurrected some simple truths about the game and how the team should be selected, administered and coached.

While our final position on the table improved only slightly compared to 2007, the team’s performance (and importantly, for a group seeking to regain the respect of the rugby world, how it was perceived by opponents and supporters alike) was a world away from the 2007 model.

The Reds played an attractive, attacking style of football, the selectors groomed and blooded a number of young, ambitious players and the year-on-year process of building a squad of genuine depth and talent was stepped up.

Expect great things from this dedicated group in 2009 and beyond.

Queensland Rugby also honoured its pledge to reinvigorate the connection between the Reds and the broader Queensland rugby family, especially our juniors. In that regard 2008 was also a watershed year. Led by Simon Taylor, our Community Rugby department has continued to strengthen our connection with all stakeholders and through restructuring have lifted their level of service and support across all regions.

We believe 2009 will build even further on those gains, with the result that the Queensland rugby family will become more cohesive, more focused and even more dedicated to supporting their team and promoting their game than ever before.

## KEY GOALS

Our template for change has been a three year business plan developed early in 2007 and refined with considerable input from our affiliates. It remained our blueprint through 2008 and will again through 2009. The key goals or imperatives that as an organisation we are all aligned to achieving are listed below, along with some of the key achievements against these goals in 2008:

## RECONNECT WITH OUR RUGBY COMMUNITY

- Significant increase in the frequency of Reds team appearances across our communities including schools, clubs, hospitals and a variety of events including for example the State Championships and the schoolboys competition, and including a number of Reds training sessions away from Ballymore
- Continued engagement with all our affiliates through the joint business plans program and regular meetings with the Community Rugby Advisory Board (established in 2007) and the Northern Queensland Advisory Board
- Implementation of a coordinated junior sign on program with the QJRU and the BJRU
- Community Rugby department restructured into central services and regionalised local hubs to service the needs of each region
- Reestablishment of the QRU Awards Dinner to recognise the achievements each year of our players, officials, coaches and volunteers.

## REBUILD THE QR REDS TO BECOME A CONSISTENTLY SUCCESSFUL TEAM

- The development of a distinct Reds playing style that the Team clearly demonstrated can win games was an important achievement of Phil and his team in their first year together
- The development of a comprehensive player development program encompassing the new Reds program, new QAS Reds Academy program and new Junior Reds program to provide the foundations for the growth and sustainability of our professional rugby program
- Established a talent identification program which will in time comprise an extensive talent scout network throughout Queensland to assist the identification of key young players.

## PROVIDE THE BEST RUGBY EXPERIENCE FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

- Development of the Running Rugby (to be introduced in 2009) and Club Health Check resources to assist our volunteers in the management and growth of their Clubs
- Completed a review of the competitions structure and rules resulting in a more coordinated competition program in 2008.
- Implementation of the Online Competition builder to assist Clubs in the management of their teams
- Following a comprehensive review of all club and school based rugby infrastructure, the completion of a state wide facilities plan to assist our affiliates in securing additional fields and infrastructure to support their growth
- Achieved grant funding of over \$950,000 for facility upgrades across five regions
- The successful running of the indigenous Rugby program and Ballymore Cup programs, the Premier Rugby and Brisbane Rugby Competitions
- The success of the Queensland U16 teams (first and second in Australia, with Qld Red victorious over Qld White in the final), Queensland Schoolboys teams (third successive National School Boys Title), the Queensland Women’s team (2nd in the Australian Women’s Rugby Championship) and the Queensland Country team (2nd in the Australian Rugby-Shield).

- Introduction of Education weekends across all regions to enable coaches and officials to complete a variety of accreditations within the one program.

## MAINTAIN AND GROW VALUE FOR OUR PARTNERS

- Maintained all key sponsors during 2008 and commenced new corporate partnerships with Xstrata Copper, Hutchinson Builders, Yalumba and Wirra Wirra Wines, Myer and Fitness First yielding a record net sponsorship portfolio worth nearly \$5 million
- Implemented a comprehensive leveraging program with our principal sponsor QR (QR’s TV and outdoor campaign “The Team Behind Your Team”, as well as elite sponsors Suncorp (VIP Couch Upgrade), Tooheys New and Virgin Blue (Red Zone).

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Our result for the 2008 was an operating loss of \$(203,344) before annual depreciation/amortisation and interest and the remaining write-down of Ballymore’s three grandstands, which resulted in a reported loss of \$(4,411,025).

In a year with the additional income from a seventh home game, this result reflects the fragility of our financial model and the need for a financially superior, expanded Super Rugby competition and the successful redevelopment of Ballymore to provide a much needed additional revenue source.

## 2009 OUTLOOK

All departments have prepared strongly for 2009 in order to consolidate and build on the progress made in 2008.

2009 for the QR Reds is shaping into an exciting season with an increased level of success resultant of a committed and courageous coaching team and fuelled by a young and talented squad who are eager to prove themselves. The strong positive cultural change across the team is further evidence of their strong desire to succeed .

The introduction of the State Cup has been very successful and is important in terms of providing another level of engagement with our regional affiliates and their players and coaches. This has also provided momentum and heightened anticipation for the commencement of no doubt another successful Premier Rugby season.

The roll out of the Running Rugby program developed by our Community Rugby department is an exciting new initiative that has been well received by club administrators.

In conjunction with our Community Rugby Department, our Operations Department has introduced our Field Maintenance Program to assist Clubs across Brisbane improve and maintain the quality of their playing fields.

With the appointment last year of Rhys Watkins as General Manager, Marketing and Corporate Partnerships, we have

restructured our commercial team to provide a greater level of service to our sponsorship partners and to build a greater level of engagement with our members, corporate supporters and Reds fans.

The global financial crisis is providing a challenge as it is for all but a few businesses. This has already adversely impacted our financial outlook with a downturn in revenues coming from sponsorships and corporate hospitality sales. In response we have instigated further cost reductions whilst continuing to vigorously pursue a number of revenue generating projects, the Ballymore Redevelopment being the most notable.

I’d like to thank and congratulate my entire QRU Team for their dedication and commitment throughout 2008. It was a year characterised by a greater level of planning, coordination and cooperation between departments and greater external focus on our key stakeholders – our rugby family, our members, our corporate customers and sponsor partners.

Thanks also to my Chairman, Peter Lewis and the rest of the QRU Board for the direction and support they provide me and our team throughout the year. They give freely of their time and are called on for assistance and advice over a wide range of topics.

And of course, thanks to all of you in rugby who devote your time, experience and support freely in order to share and grow our game and make rugby an enriching experience for all who participate.



**Ken Freer**  
**Chief Executive Officer**







## FINANCE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Queensland Rugby’s financial accounts for the period ending 31 December 2008 report a loss of (\$4,411,025). This comprised (\$4,207,681) for the remaining write down of the three grand-stands at Ballymore, annual depreciation/amortisation and interest, along with an Operating Loss of (\$203,344).

As previously reported, an independent valuation of Land, Buildings and Improvements as at 31 December 2007 was undertaken by FPD Savills. After a similar writedown in the 2007 year, the Board decided this year to fully write down the remaining value of the three stands at Ballymore, at a cost of \$1,529,127.

The Operating result was behind the prior year’s performance, due in part to the need to invest further in the professional and community game while still maintaining a tight rein on costs. A bad debt provision was made for \$322,340 due mainly to a sponsor going into Administration; however we continue to work with the Administrator in an attempt to recover funds owed to the QRU.

Nevertheless, sponsorship support and the balance sheet remain strong and in 2008 we were able to increase the financial investment in community rugby, to the highest contribution to the grassroots game in QRU history.

The costs associated with running a professional rugby side increased again on the prior year. However we feel we have now reached a ceiling for those costs and we will continue to review all costs across the QRU. Our inability to attract the desired crowd numbers in 2008 was again a direct reflection on the team’s success in 2008; however we are encouraged by the progress that has clearly been made in improving on-field performance and the marketability of the Reds playing style.

The statement of financial position showed a deficiency of working capital in 2008. The Board believes we will be able to maintain our working capital due to savings being recognised within various areas of the QRU. The directors also believe the company can continue to pay its debts as and when they fall due as a result of the generation of cash from operations in the 2009 year.

As we continue on the building and revitalisation of the Reds, the financial turn around of the QRU will not happen overnight, particularly given the global financial crisis which first became evident in late 2008.

Decreases in corporate and membership revenue can therefore be expected in 2009, reinforcing the benefits of the cost rationalisation put in place in prior years.

I wish to sincerely thank Scott Eisentrager and Ken Freer for their efforts this year. Thanks also to my fellow board members for their efforts, commercial skills and their passion to make Queensland Rugby great. I would like to thank in particular my fellow board member Will Colwell for the time and effort he has devoted to the financial portfolio this year. This has been truly a team effort.



**Michael Glover**  
Financial Director

## COMMUNITY RUGBY

### OVERVIEW

Community Rugby achieved a number of significant goals throughout 2008 - none greater than the establishment of better communication channels with all stakeholders, by:

- forming a Community Rugby Advisory Board;
- implementing Joint Business Plans with each of our affiliates; and
- placing a greater focus on service delivery by all Community Rugby staff throughout all programs.

Our Role was redefined in 2008 as being:

*To grow rugby in Queensland in an environment that is safe, enjoyable and sustainable.*

By focusing on the following nine key goals in three key areas, we ensured that we remained on task throughout 2008:

#### Our Rugby Community (Players/spectators/coaches/officials/volunteers)

- Value and Grow Volunteers
- Build a greater awareness of rugby and its activities
- Sustainable growth in regular rugby participation

#### Our Infrastructure (Facilities/Policy/Club Health/Competitions/Representative Rugby)

- Manage our facilities for enhanced growth
- Manage the rugby environment for success
- Provide representative pathway opportunities

#### Our People (Communication/Education/Staff)

- Keep each other informed
- Develop the capabilities of our participants
- Build an achievement culture

In 2008 the Community Rugby team was re-organised into central services and local service delivery hubs, with the emphasis on ensuring staff and resources were located in each region to service the needs of the region.

The state was divided into three regional hubs, North Queensland, South Queensland and Brisbane, with Central services located in head office managing the strategic direction and developing the resources for Administration, Education, Development, Rugby Services and Affiliate management and Competition & Representative Teams.

### ADMINISTRATION

#### Volunteer engagement

Community Rugby secured Priority Initiative funding from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation to develop a club volunteer education program - Running Rugby. The curriculum and resources were developed throughout 2008 and will be rolled out to all regions in 2009.

#### Volunteer Recognition

The revival in 2008 of a QRU Awards Dinner held in conjunction with the Queensland Rugby Club was an opportunity to recognise players, officials, coaches and volunteers. The event was a great success and will be held

again in 2009. Winners of key volunteer awards in 2008 included:

- Volunteer of the Year – Shane Sullivan
- Service to Sport Award – joint winners Lisa Smith (Ballymore Ladies) and Narelle Cathcart (Junior State Championships)
- Queensland Rugby Club - Norbert Byrne Award - Des Hogan (Brothers)

#### Facilities Management

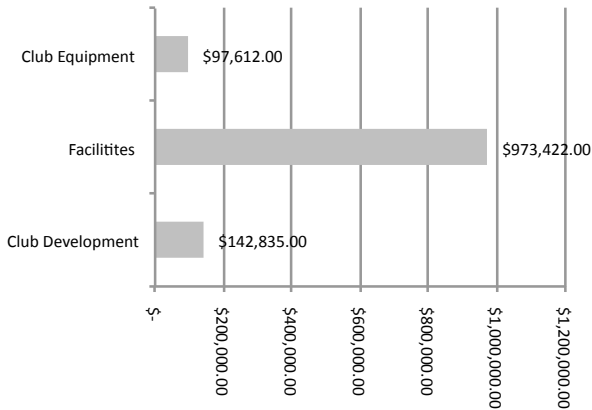
Community Rugby undertook a comprehensive review of all club and school based rugby infrastructure with a facility plan for all regions developed in 2008. From this plan Community Rugby will be able to support regions and clubs requiring additional infrastructure, upgrades and more fields.

Community Rugby supported and sought funding of over \$950,000 for facilities across five regions in 2008.

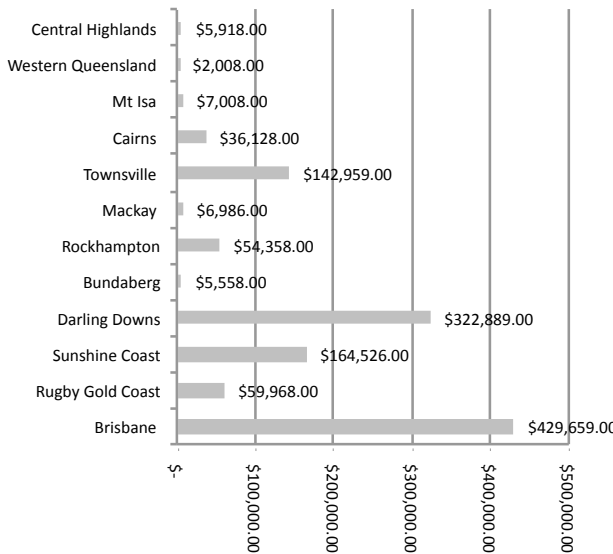
#### Funding

In 2008 Community Rugby strategically allocated the remaining Rugby World Cup infrastructure grants to specific projects with funds allocated to Cairns, Rockhampton, Wide Bay and Brisbane. Community Rugby successfully assisted a number of regions and clubs to secure funding for infrastructure, training, education and equipment.

#### Funding Projects



#### Funding Per Region





Affiliate Servicing

The continuation of the co-operative development of joint business plans with each of the Affiliates has ensured that community rugby is assisting in the sustainable growth of rugby in each region. The Joint Business Plans ensure that together we are meeting the individual needs of the region rather than rolling out one plan for all. Community Rugby has played a part in fostering unification of Darling Downs and Sunshine Coast Unions with both unions to establish new entities and constitutions in early 2009.

RUGBY SERVICES

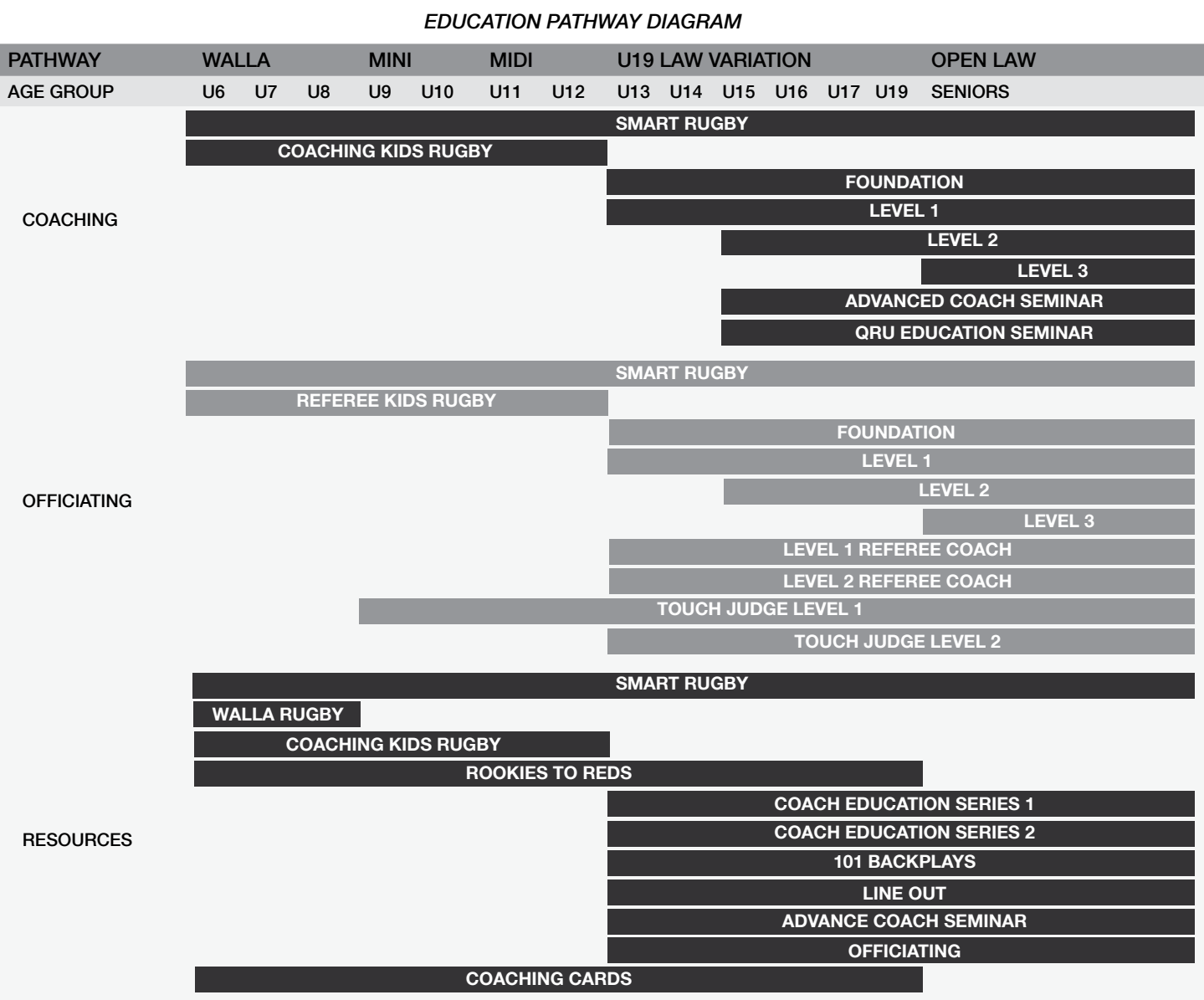
Community Rugby undertook a comprehensive review of the Competition rules between the 2007 and 2008 seasons and made a number of changes to produce a more streamlined and less ambiguous competition for 2008. As a result (and in marked contrast to 2007), the QRU Judicial Appeals committee was not called upon in 2008. Community Rugby also developed a match day management guideline and began an education program for clubs and competition managers on these procedures.

Community Rugby also undertook a review of the Two Year Window and Senior Rugby policies in conjunction with the ARU, to establish one national policy which ensured that player safety was paramount but which also allowed opportunities for further participation and which ensured that compliance by competition would be successful. The result of this review will be rolled out throughout 2009.

EDUCATION AND ACCREDITATION

2008 saw the introduction of face to face “Education Weekends” allowing participants to complete a variety of education accreditations within the one program for both coaches and officials. As a result, the number of participants educated across the state totalled 3,572, with 1,956 in Smart Rugby alone and 508 new accreditations. Throughout 2008 Community Rugby embarked on a comprehensive review of the accreditation and education of our active coaches. The development and Education teams collated coaches databases across all junior, school and senior rugby competitions, enabling the QRU to see for the first time the true level of compliance in accreditation and to target individuals for courses. Community Rugby in Queensland continues to lead the way in education resource development with resources produced for the ARU such as Smart Rugby; Rookies to Reds done for Queensland coaches, in conjunction with the Queensland Junior Rugby Union; and Advanced Coach Seminars for our high level coaches. In a joint initiative of the Community Rugby and Performance Rugby Departments, Premier Rugby and Queensland Representative coaches were given an opportunity to engage with the QR Reds Coaching staff during the Super 14 competition.

A special thanks needs to go to David Hanham (State Education Manager) and Michael Lucas (Coach Education Manager) for their tireless efforts, commitment and enthusiasm they bring to the delivery of each and every course and resource.



REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS AND COMPETITIONS

Indigenous Rugby

Community Rugby continued to provide an indigenous rugby program, beginning with selection trials in South Queensland and North Queensland.

Over 70 players attended the SQ trials (double the number from 2007), drawn from the following targeted regions:

- Brisbane and surrounding districts
- Gold Coast and District
- Darling Downs region
- Sunshine Coast and District
- South Burnett region
- Wide Bay region

The NQ region again conducted a selection carnival, with teams from Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville and Cairns and players from Mt Isa and Emerald in attendance.

The SQ and NQ teams went on to win the National Indigenous Carnival, finishing 1st and 2nd respectively. Eleven Queensland players were then selected to compete at the National U16 championships, for the National Indigenous team.

Women’s Rugby

The Women’s nationals were held in early July on the Gold Coast, with the Queensland team narrowly losing to Sydney in the Grand Final. The presentation luncheon saw the ARU cap Wallaroos players for the first time, retrospectively to 1994. We are now identifying appropriate recognition for those women who have played for Queensland. From the Nationals the following Queensland players were selected in the Wallaroo squad that played NZ in Canberra in October; Iliseva Batibasaga (Brothers RUC), Tasileta Bethell (Wests RUC), Vanessa Bradley (Easts RUC), Trisha Brown (University RUC), Sarah Hind (University RUC), Se’ei Sa’u (Wests RUC), Selena Tranter (Easts RUC).

The Australian 7’s squad qualified for the IRB 7’s World Cup in March 2009. Queensland was represented by Iliseva Batibasaga (Brothers RUC), Trisha Brown (University RUC), Rebecca Tavo (Brothers RUC), and Selena Tranter (Easts RUC) selected to play in Samoa in 2008 in the Oceania qualifier. Trisha Brown (University RUC), Rebecca Tavo (Brothers RUC) and Selena Tranter (Easts RUC) travelled to Dubai in March 2009 and were successful in winning the first Women’s IRB 7’s World Cup.

Queensland Coach Shirley Russell was also rewarded for successfully driving our Women’s program, with her appointment as technical advisor for both the Wallaroo 15 and 7 a side programs in 2008/2009. Karen Bucholz was appointed tour manager for the 7’s qualifier in Samoa in 2008.

Premier Rugby

- Trinity Premier Rugby Hospital Cup – Easts defeated Brothers 22 -21
- Premier Rugby Colts – Sunnybank
- 2008 Horsley Cup winners – Brothers
- 2008 Welsby Cup winners – Brothers
- Trinity Premier Rugby Leading Points Scorer – Brendan McKibbin of Brothers (223 points from 8 tries, 51 conversions and 27 penalties in the regular season).
- Trinity Premier Rugby Leading try Scorer – Paul

Doneley (Brothers)– 13 tries in the regular season

- Winner of the inaugural Tony Shaw Medal for Player of the Grand Final – Herman Porter (Easts)
- Winner of the Alec Evans Medal for Premier Player of the Year – Brendan McKibbin (Brothers)
- Winner of the Premier Rugby Caxton Cup (inaugural trophy) – Sunnybank
- Robert Collings Tennent Trophy for Queensland Colt of the Year - Albert Anae
- Premier Colt of the Year – Jake Schatz

The following awards also recognised the contribution of two individuals throughout the 2008 season:

- Coach of the Year – Pat Richards (Easts)
- Premier Referee of the Year – Geoff Acton

Brisbane and Suburban Rugby

The following Clubs should be congratulated on their successes in the 2008 Brisbane and Suburban Rugby Competitions:

- Brisbane 1st Grade - Brothers
- Brisbane 2nd Grade - Brothers
- Brisbane 3rd Grade - Souths
- Brisbane 4th Grade - Brothers
- Brisbane Colts 1 - University
- Brisbane Colts 2 – GPS
- Women - Easts
- John Barber Cup - Goodna
- Geoff Pegg Cup - Beenleigh
- Ian Scotney Cup – Brisbane Irish
- Normanby Cup - Sunnybank
- Graham Wyatt Cup - Sunnybank

Winner of the Doughty Shield as Brisbane Club Champions – GPS

Queensland Suburban

Queensland Suburban again reclaimed the Barraclough Shield, defeating NSW Suburban in Sydney 31 – 28 for only the 5th time in 43 years.

Country Rugby

The Hutchinson Builders’ Queensland County Heelers finished second in the Australian Rugby Shield to arch rivals NSW Country after defeating Northern Territory, Victoria and South Australia, but going down to NSW Country in the final round.

Queensland Country went undefeated in an Under 20 Carnival in Perth hosted by Rugby WA, losing only in a friendly game against a Rugby WA open age barbarian team. The Hutchinson Builders Country Championships saw eight sub unions play in a round robin competition with Rugby Gold Coast Cyclones victorious for the 4th consecutive year. The Hutchinson Builders Outback Championships were hosted by Central Highlands Rugby Union in Emerald, with Western Darling Downs winning the carnival.

The Outback Barbarians played Townsville in a return fixture after being beaten in 2007 in a curtain raiser to Australia A. The Barbarians defeated a Townsville development team in a fixture in Tieri as part of a charity weekend organised by Xstrata Coal.



The Queensland Country Player of the Year award was shared by Michael Zovko and Stephen Mulqueen

**Schools Rugby**

Xstrata Copper came on board to support the Queensland Schools program for 2008. The Xstrata Copper Queensland Schoolboys 1 coached by Ian Jones and David Bell successfully defended their National title in 2008, winning the Australian Schoolboy championships and being named the Queensland Junior Team of the Year at the Queensland Sport Awards.

The following were the Queensland Rugby Australian Schoolboy representatives for 2008: Nick Buchanan, Jarrad Butler, Josh Daley, Nicky Price and Dom Shipperley.

Australia A Schoolboy representatives were: James Ambrosini, Eddie Bredenhann, David Feao, Stephano Hunt, Mathew Mafi, Eddie Quirk, Ken Robertson and Mark Swanepoel.

The winner of the Queensland Rugby Football Schools Union – Ian MacMillan Memorial Trophy for Queensland Schoolboy player of the year in 2008, was Jarrad Butler.

The success of the Ballymore Cup (for non-traditional schools) continued to grow with over 120 schools participating in some in 2008. Congratulations to the following winners from the Ballymore Cup in 2008:

- Division 1 Champions – Mountain Creek SHS
- Runners up - Rockhampton Grammar
- Spirit of Rugby Award – Forest Lake SHS
- North Queensland Champions – Rockhampton Grammar
- Matt Cockbain Medal – Aussie Smith from Mountain Creek State High School
- Division 2 Champions - Ipswich State High School
- Runners Up - Emanuel College

Thanks to whole Development team especially Geno Costin – Brisbane Rugby Manager who drove the program in 2008 ensuring it was delivered to the highest standards and provided the players with a great rugby experience.

**Junior Rugby**

The QRU’s relationship with Queensland Junior Rugby Union continued to be enhanced, with the QJRU providing funds in 2008 for the development of the Junior Education resource – “Rookies 2 Reds”. In addition we developed a “grassroots” campaign which included:

- Promotional poster representing juniors aspiring to become Reds
- The “Fearsome Frontrow” promotion and competition
- Development of the Opposition mascot concept to promote the spirit of rugby
- Junior March past at Suncorp Stadium
- Conducting junior games at half time at Reds home games

The 2009 campaign is set to build on this with another jointly funded program.

Junior rugby saw the return of representative rugby for the U17’s with a QJRU v NSWJRU match at Ballymore providing a valuable pathway and representative opportunity for Queensland juniors.

The Junior State Championships again proved very successful in 2008 with 48 teams competing, representing all junior affiliate regions and supported by Queensland Rail sponsorship.

**RUGBY DEVELOPMENT**

In 2008 a comprehensive review was conducted of all competitions (Juniors, Schools and Seniors), current participation trends and targets through the ARU Census.

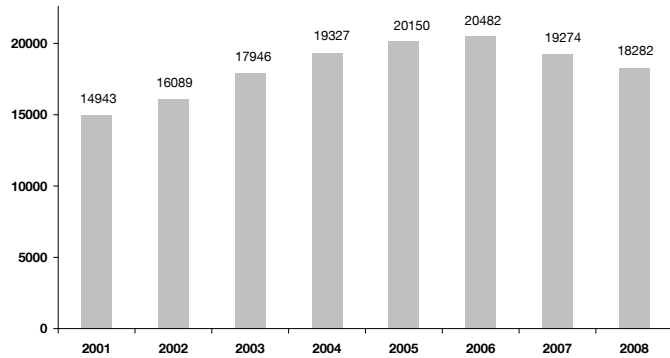
This resulted in a strategic framework for rugby development in Queensland, with key performance targets set in relation to each competition and specific areas targeted for growth.

Entry criteria for various levels of competitions in Queensland was established to help promote growth at the grassroots level, improved interaction between city and country and between juniors and seniors, and to promote the transition from Junior to Colts rugby.

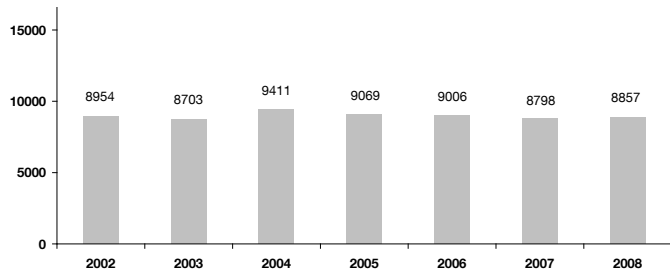
**PARTICIPATION**

The participation trends for 2008 show a slight decrease in overall participation compared to 2007, however we believe this trend will be reversed in 2009 with the implementation of a number new initiatives and by targeting specific clubs and schools for growth. The focus on regular rugby participation rather than one-off carnivals will continue, however ensuring that these competitions are sustainable will be integral to the type of program being delivered

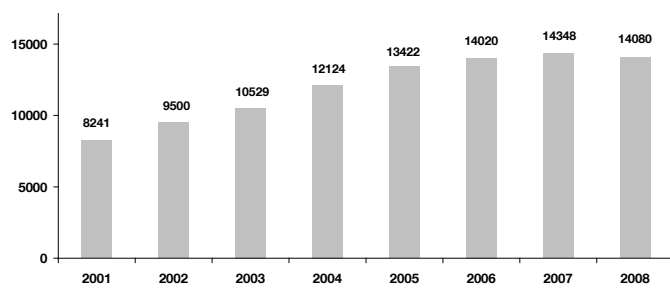
**QLD Schools**



**QLD Seniors**



**QLD Juniors**



**COMMITTEES/ADVISORY BOARD**

Thanks to Queensland Rugby/ Community Rugby committees for their time, expertise and support throughout 2008:

**Community Rugby Advisory Board:**

- Premier Rugby Representative: - Tony Shaw (President – Brothers)
- Queensland Country Representative – Peter Curtis (President – QCRU)
- Queensland Juniors Representative – Tony Reddy (President QJRU)
- Queensland Suburban Representative – Noel Rafter (President QSRU)
- State Referee Representative – Ian Scotney (Chairman SRC)
- Brisbane Referee Representative – Neill McCann (President QRRR – Brisbane)
- Women’s Rugby Representative – Selena Tranter
- Vintage Reds Representative – Bill Ross
- QRU Performance Rugby Representative – Ben Whitaker (GM – Performance Rugby)

**QRU Judiciary**

Thanks to the members of the QRU Judicial committee for their support, time and expertise throughout 2008

- Harold Shand
- Geoff Gardiner
- Paul Tully

**State Referee Committee**

The State Referee Committee plays an integral role in the development of our elite and future referees, managing the appointments for all Representative fixtures including Premier Rugby, state and country championships at senior, school boy and junior levels. Working closely with the QRRR – Brisbane the SRC continues to provide support to country referee associations on day to day management and provides pathway opportunities for up coming officials.

Thanks to the committee of:

- Ian Scotney - Chair
- Geoff Pegg – Secretary
- Neill McCann
- Andrew Cole
- David Shing
- Scott Young
- Terry O’Connor

**THE NEXT PHASE**

In 2009 Community Rugby will concentrate further on club servicing and on ensuring that all coaches and officials are adequately educated, with 100 per cent compliance for Smart Rugby and opportunities and resources provided for all to advance their learning. Community Rugby will also continue to work closely with all affiliates and deliver a new administration education program – “Running Rugby”, to assist club and affiliate administrators. Finally, with a focus on targeted recruitment and retention strategies we will look to grow the game firstly through our current clubs and affiliates and, secondly, through new school and club opportunities as they are identified.

I would like to thank all of my Community Rugby Staff for their passion, dedication and professionalism, going far above and beyond to help serve the rugby community in Queensland.



**Simon Taylor**  
**General Manager – Community Rugby**





# PERFORMANCE RUGBY

2008 kicked off the reign of new Reds Head Coach Phil Mooney and an exciting and challenging time to restore the pride of Queensland and Reds rugby. The QR Reds stand on top as the flagship within Queensland Rugby's Performance Rugby programs. Therefore, in many eyes, the Super 14 performances of the Reds drive the success of Queensland Rugby's performance teams and programs.

Although the numbers associated with the 2008 QR Reds marginally improved on 2007 figures there was a strong feeling that the Reds and the associated underpinning programs were back on the right track.

## QR REDS

The 2008 QR Reds finished the Super14 competition in 12th place having scored three wins and one draw from their 13 matches. Although only marginally improved in terms of statistics from 2007, the dramatic change of game style and the graduation of genuine young talent were stand out features of the season.

A hard-fought first round victory at home against the Highlanders kicked off the season and set the tone for many of the Reds' 2008 matches, especially away, where close losses became common. The Reds outfit had to once again contend with injuries to major players including the luckless Hugh McMeniman in Round two, seasoned prop Greg Holmes, experienced scrumhalf Sam Cordingley, inspirational number eight and captain John Roe and world XV status fullback Chris Latham – a list of players that no team in the competition could cover. Add to this impressive list of players the loss of Digby Ioane through successive suspensions and the nature of the Reds' 2008 season and success takes a whole new look.

After some inconsistent performances in the early rounds the new game style started and developed in 2008 showed good signs when the QR Reds exacted revenge on the Bulls with an emphatic 40-8 win. Impressive performances by rookies Tasi Luafutu and Scott Higginbotham showcased some of the local young talent being provided opportunity within the new look Reds playing style.

A further season highlight occurred in the round 10 home match against strong rivals the Western Force. An extremely committed and determined Reds outfit totally shut out the fancied Force team, scoring in the first two minutes and never losing control of the match, to run out 29-12 winners.

A series of close losses was no real consolation for a management team and player group determined to take the Reds program back to the top of southern hemisphere provincial rugby. The gradual evolution of a distinct and effective game style, the continuity in coaching staff and the emergence and development of outstanding performing talent has the Reds primed for an exciting assault on the 2009 Investec Super14 competition.

Through the season various milestones and honours were achieved by Reds players. These included:



David Croft

David Croft surprised all by announcing his retirement from the Reds and Australian Rugby mid way through the 2008 season. Croft ensured he would be recognised as one of the modern day heroes for Queensland rugby after a career that totalled 116 appearances (including 94 consecutive games in Super Rugby), making him the 10th most capped Red of all time. Croft was consistently in the middle of the action wearing his heart on his sleeve and inspiring the young Reds particularly over the last couple of seasons. Regular awards for the Reds best trainer and winner of the 2008 Pilecki Medal, his second in succession, highlight the extremely high performance levels that David managed to maintain.

David's competitiveness, skill and absolute desire to represent Queensland will be long remembered and all rugby fans will miss watching David give his all for the famous jersey. David seamlessly entered the business world on completion of his Super 14 duties and will no doubt prove equally as successful in this area of his life.



John Roe

John Roe earned his 100th cap in the third round of the 2008 season - a magnificent achievement by a player that has been the true leader of Queensland rugby for the past few years. John made his Reds debut in 1999 and was rewarded in 2003 with Wallaby selection for the 2003 Rugby World Cup.

Serious injury through 2008 led to Roe announcing his retirement from the game mid-way through the year. Roe finished his distinguished career with 107 caps for Queensland and 19 Wallaby caps. A dedicated off-field development program has seen John forge a medical career where he will surely excel, displaying similar attributes to those that made him such an important Reds leader across his 10 years in the team.

## WALLABY REPRESENTATIVES

Eight Reds gained Wallaby selection during the 2008 season, showcasing the rising talent across the new generation Reds squad.

Peter Hynes and Quade Cooper became the Reds' latest Wallabies. Peter made his debut in the first Test Match of 2008 against Ireland and played in all but one Test throughout 2008. Quade Cooper earned his Wallaby call up on the Spring Tour, instantly making a difference when he scored the winning try against Italy.

With many of Queensland's Wallaby representatives in their early or mid twenties, the future looks bright for the Reds. A further six players gained Australia 'A' honours with Ben Lucas and Poutasi Luafutu capping a fine debut season coming from the Reds Academy with their selection. Reds Head Coach Phil Mooney and Assistant Coach Mark Bell were rewarded with Australia 'A' coaching positions.

### 2008 Wallabies:

Berrick Barnes, Quade Cooper, Sam Cordingley, James Horwill, Peter Hynes, Digby Ioane, Hugh McMeniman, Stephen Moore

### 2008 Australia 'A' Representatives:

Sean Hardman, Leroy Houston, Van Humphries, Digby Ioane, Tasi Luafutu, Ben Lucas, Hugh McMeniman, Morgan Turinui, Phil Mooney (Head Coach), Mark Bell (Assistant Coach)

## QAS REDS ACADEMY

The QAS Reds Academy, coached and co-ordinated by former Red and Wallaby Paul Carozza and supported by Matthew Taylor, proved one of the most successful underpinning rugby programs in Australia through 2008 with numerous players representing at the highest levels and an unprecedented number of players graduating into the 2009 Reds squad.

Four players graduated out of the QAS Reds Academy and into Super 14 rugby with the Reds during the 2008 season – a fantastic effort and indication of the systematic and progressive models adopted throughout the Reds performance rugby system. Dayna Edwards, Ben Lucas, Poutasi Luafutu and Scott Higginbotham played for the Reds at Super 14 level out of the Academy.

All four players also secured Reds contracted positions for 2009 along with fellow Academy graduates James Hanson, Aidan Toua and Blair Connor.

All Academy players worked hard to develop their skills through the Trinity Premier Rugby competition – a competition viewed closely by Reds Academy and Performance Rugby staff to identify future Reds.

Other notable Academy player achievements included the selection of five QAS Reds Academy players in the 2008 Australian U20 team that finished fifth in the IRB U20 Youth World Championships staged in Wales. These Academy players were joined by four Reds players and Academy coach Matt Taylor and Reds Athletic Performance coach Brynley Abad to provide significant Queensland presence in this important national age group team.

### 2008 Australia U20 Representatives:

Albert Anae, Quade Cooper (Reds), Blair Connor, Ben Daley (Reds), Will Genia (Reds), James Hanson, Rob Simmons (Reds), Junior Sovola, Ben Tapuai, Matthew Taylor (assistant Coach), Brynley Abad (Athletic Performance Coach)

## QAS REDS 2ND XV PROGRAM

The QAS Reds 2nd XV program provided valuable match time at the beginning of the 2008 Super14 season for non playing Reds and Academy players before the commencement of the Trinity Premier Rugby competition. The 2nd XV program is coached and managed by Reds Academy staff using Reds methods and game style.

Some outstanding performances through these four matches led to selection in the Reds 22 for many players and further showcased the new game style being developed by the Reds for use throughout all Queensland performance Rugby teams and programs.

An impressive victory over NSW 'A' in Sydney opened the match program and was followed by a hard fought victory against Force 'A' in Perth. The program received a slight kick when soundly beaten by the Brumby Runners in Canberra, before responding well in their last match to exact revenge on the Brumbies 'A' team at Suncorp Stadium.

The QAS Reds 2nd XV program is valuably supported by the Reds in association with the Queensland Academy of Sport rugby program.

## JUNIOR REDS PROGRAMS

In 2008 the Performance Rugby department sought to ensure all junior programs coordinated or supported by the Reds were seen as 'Reds' programs and supported the progressive and systematic modelling of effective player development pathways. Jason Gilmore took on the position of Junior Reds Programs Coordinator in early 2008 and worked to drive this significant change across numerous programs.

The former Regional Colleges became the Junior Reds Training Squad program, supporting the identification and development of junior club players throughout seven regions of Queensland. Starting with a training program from November to March, the program will look to further evolve over the next few years introducing a match program and other development initiatives.

The Queensland U16s program co-ordinated by Jason Gilmore achieved significant success in 2008. For the first time in the seven year history of the National U16s Championships, both Queensland teams made the final, with Queensland Red victorious, coached by Premier coaches Roy Saunders and Garrick Morgan. Queensland White, coached by Michael Crank and Andrew Scotney proved the second best team at the championships and played a 'Reds' style of game gaining prominence amongst the other states.

The Queensland Schools achieved their third successive National Schoolboy title in Canberra and were appropriately awarded the Queensland Sports Award for most Outstanding Junior Queensland Team of 2008.

Further initiatives for 2009 include a Junior Reds U15s Camp and a match program to support the best young players in Queensland.



The success indicates an extremely strong talent base exists in Queensland and if developed effectively should prove to be the foundations upon which the Reds build their successful future.

2009 REDS PREVIEW

Under a consistent and committed coaching team lead by Phil Mooney the 2009 season will shape as an exciting one for the new generation Reds. Major changes to the 2009 Reds squad will showcase the young talent present in Queensland and will provide great opportunity for the more established young players to take the lead of this ambitious squad.

A commitment to an attack-influenced game style and significant improvements to the team’s defensive foundations will shape the 2009 season for the Reds.

The ongoing successes of players through the Reds player development system should ensure that the Reds are on track to provide consistent success and quality over a long period of time. This is a goal that drives all associated with the Reds team and underpinning programs.



Ben Whitaker  
Performance Rugby Manager



QR REDS CAPTAIN’S REPORT

2008 was a year of mixed emotions for the team with many highlights and some disappointment.

In competitive sports a team is usually evaluated only by the win/loss tally and position on the competition table. Whilst we did not win as many matches this season as we would have liked I believe we have taken the right steps forward to regain respect of the Reds jersey and team respect from our fans and competitors. On the face of it, rising only two places on the table would not appear to have been much of an improvement. But from the team’s perspective and especially in the performance in our “7 epic battles” at home there has been definite improvement in many areas.

As with most sports, people only see what happens on the field, I would like to share with you some interesting facts and figures from behind the scenes.

In 2008:

- Nine players played their first Super 14 Matches for the QR Reds: Ben Daley, Dayna Edwards, Scott Higginbotham, Leroy Houston, Digby Ioane, Ben Lucas, Poutasi Luafutu, Chris Siale and Morgan Turinui
- John Roe played his 100th Match for the QR Reds
- Stephen Moore played his 50th Match for the QR Reds
- Team trained approximately 500 hours for only 17 hours of matches
- Team travelled approx 44,000km or 51 hours on flights
- Team stayed 34 nights away from home
- Team scored 32 tries (most since 2002)
- There were 172 line outs and 141 scrums and 1705 tackles made (not including training...)
- Players received approx. 900 stitches, 70 X-Rays, 50 MRI's and 5 Operations and went though approx 40,000 rolls of strapping tape

In 2008 we farewelled a number of team mates who have given tremendous service to the Reds, most notably Chris Latham, David Croft, Sam Cordingley, Stephen Moore and Clinton Schifcofske. We wish all the players leaving us every success in their new adventures.

While much has been written about the departure of so many senior players, I can assure all Queensland supporters that our team is in great shape with many young and very exciting players like Quade Cooper, Ben Lucas, Hugh McMeniman, Digby Ioane, Brando Va’aulu and the arrival of the Faingaa twins Saia and Anthony. The future is very bright.

Big thanks must go to our coaching and medical staff for their hours of tireless enthusiasm and dedication to our continued improvement and well being.

Most importantly we would like to thank those many loyal Queensland Rugby supporters who have never lost faith, for being part of our 2008 journey. We hope you will continue to have as much pride in supporting the Reds as we have in going out there and playing for you. We know it is an honour and a privilege to represent you and our state.

James Horwill  
2008 Captain of the QR Reds

QR REDS AWARDS

- Pilecki Medal – David Croft
- Rookie of the Year – Leroy Houston
- Konica Magic Moment – Peter Hynes’ try v Crusaders
- Hardest Trainer – David Croft





QR REDS STATISTICS

	HIGHLANDERS Friday 15 Feb Suncorp Stadium Brisbane W 22-16	HURRICANES Friday 22 Feb Westpac Stadium Wellington L 23-28	BRUMBIES Sat 1 March Canberra Stadium Canberra Stadium L 43-11	STORMERS Sat 8 March Suncorp Stadium Brisbane L 34-16	BULLS Sat 15 March Suncorp Stadium Brisbane W 40-8	LIONS Sat 22 March Ellis Park Johannesburg Draw 24-24	SHARKS Sat 29 March Absa Stadium Durban L 22-10		CHEETAHS Sat 5 April Vodacom Park Bloemfontein L 29-14	WESTERN FORCE Fri 18 April Suncorp Stadium Brisbane W 29-12	CHIEFS Sat 26 April Waikato Stadium Hamilton L 32-20	BLUES Friday 2 May Suncorp Stadium Brisbane L 35-22	CRUSADERS Sat 10 May Suncorp Stadium Brisbane L 27-21	WARATAHS Sat 17 May Suncorp Stadium Brisbane L 18-11							
Player	Pos	Pos	Pos	Pos	Pos	Pos	Pos		Pos	Pos	Pos	Pos	Pos	Pos		2008 caps	2008 Pts	S14 Pts	S14 caps	Qld Pts	Qld caps
Abram, Geoff																0	0	0	2	0	2
Afu, Josh																0	0	0	0	0	0
Avei, Ole																0	0	0	4	0	7
Barnes, Berrick	10	10	10	10 2p		12	12		12	12 p	12 dg	12	12	12 dg		12	15	55	34	55	34
Blake, Rodney	3	3	3	17	17	17 t	17			17	3	17		17		11	5	10	36	10	36
Brown, Caleb														14		1	0	5	11	45	17
Cooper, Quade		23	23 DNP	21	10	10	10		10	10	10	10	10 t	10		11	5	10	22	10	23
Cordingley, Sam	9	9		9	9	9			9					20		7	0	30	50	25	57
Coutts, Ben									17	1	1	1	1	1		6	0	0	9	0	13
Croft, David	7	7	7	7	19	19	7 t		7	7	7	7 t	7	7		13	10	40	94	55	116
Daley, Ben													17			1	0	0	1	0	2
Edwards, Dayna	17 DNP	17	17	3	3	3	3		3	3	17	3	3	3		12	0	0	12	0	12
Fetoai, Charlie				23	12		21		21	22	22	22	22 DNP	22 DNP		7	0	5	14	5	14
Genia, Will	20	20	9	20			20 DNP			20	20	20				7	0	5	18	5	19
Gilbert, AJ			19 DNP	19												1	0	0	2	0	7
Hardman, Sean	16	16	16	2	2	2	16		16	16	16	16	16	16		13	0	20	99	20	124
Higginbotham, Scott					22	22						6	19	19		5	0	0	5	0	5
Holmes, Greg	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1							8	0	20	34	20	35
Horwill, James	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5	5	5	5	5 t	5		13	5	10	39	15	43
Houston, Leroy	19	19	8	8 t	8	8	8		8	8 t	8	8	8	8		13	10	10	13	10	13
Humphries, Van	4	4 t	4	18	4	4	4		4	4	4	4 t	4	4		13	10	20	45	10	26
Hunt, Herman																0	0	0	10	5	16
Hynes, Peter	21	21	21	13	11 t	11 t	11		11	11	11	11 t	11 t	11 t		13	25	65	55	70	65
Ioane, Digby	14	14	14				22				21 t	14	23			7	5	25	27	5	7
Johansson, Lloyd																0	0	5	20	31	27
Chris Latham	15	15	15	15 t	15 t	15 t	15		15				15			9	15	211	99	291	119
Poutasi, Luafutu					7	7	19		19	19	19	19	6	6		9	0	0	9	0	9
Lucas, Ben			20		20	20	9		20	9	9	9	9	9		10	0	0	10	0	10
McMeniman, Hugh	6	6														2	0	0	21	0	21
Moore, Stephen	2	2	2	16	16	16	2		2	2	2	2	2	2		13	0	10	47	15	53
O'Donoghue, Ed	18	18	18 DNP	4	18	18 DNP	18		18	18	18 DNP	18 DNP	18 DNP	18		8	0	0	21	0	27
Roe, John	8 2t	8 t	6 t	6	6 t	6	6		6	6	6					10	25	85	82	105	107
Schifcofske, Clinton	11 1t 2c 1p	11 1c 2p	11 2p	14	14 1t 3c 3p	14 3c 1p	14 1c 1p		14 2c	15 1c 3p	15 c	15 2c 1p	14 3c	15 p		13	93	197	23	206	24
Siale, Chris	12	12	12													3	0	0	6	0	3
Simmons, Rob																0	0	0	0	0	0
Turinui, Morgan	13	13	13	12	13 t	13	13		13	13 t	13 2t	13	13	13		13	20	145	71	20	13
Va'aulu, Brando				11	21	21			22 2t	14	14	21	21			8	10	10	18	10	22
Veratau, Henari																0	0	25	20	15	20
Walker, Andrew	22									21 t				21 DNP		2	5	268	58	22	11

Key:

Bench Debut

Starting Debut

Captain





# COMMERCIAL & MARKETING

2008 saw a record year and steady growth in the key revenue streams of Sponsorship and Corporate Facilities income reflecting the loyalty of both Sponsors and the QLD Business community to QLD Rugby and the QR Reds. 2008 also saw the economic downturn start to affect businesses discretionary spending and the full impact of this on both Sponsorships and Corporate sales is likely to be felt in future years.

QR entered its third year as Principal Naming Rights sponsor for the QR Reds and a comprehensive program of leveraging activity saw both partners benefit from the sponsorship with the integration of the QR Reds in QR's media communications. This was complemented with a number of player appearances at Central Station, Match Day Mascot activity and the launch of an internal website designed to promote QR staff engagement for the QR Reds sponsorship. QR also committed to becoming Naming rights sponsor for the 2008 Junior State Championships – a significant show of support for junior Rugby in QLD and an increase in their investment in QLD Rugby.

The focus on leveraging sponsor benefits was also seen through other Elite partnerships with Suncorp's Ball Boy program, activation of the Suncorp VIP couch upgrade and the Best Buddy promotional activity. Tooheys New continued their support for both the Super 14 competition and through Premier Club activity and the Virgin Blue Red Zone was a hit with our loyal fan base.

From a media perspective, 2008 saw the continuation of our partnerships with both Channel Ten and the Austereo network's Triple M radio station. Our media partnerships are critical in our ability to communicate directly with our target audience and the combination of advertising and leveraging spots on both Channel Ten and Triple M saw an effective campaign. Through our media plan we were able to meet the dual objectives of building long term loyalty to the QR Reds brand and also drive memberships and ticket sales.

In 2008 QLD Rugby welcomed Xstrata Copper as naming rights sponsor of the Queensland Schoolboys Competition and the QR Reds Country Tour which saw the QR Reds travel to our 11 country sub unions. New sponsors and suppliers in the year also included Hutchinson builders; Yalumba & Wirra Wirra wines; Myer and Fitness First.

QLD Rugby values all of our Sponsorship partners and I'd like to publicly acknowledge the support of the entire 2008 sponsorship and preferred partner group below: QR, Tooheys New, ISC, Energy Australia, Virgin Blue, Suncorp, Bartercard, Mazda, Vodafone, Coca Cola, Channel Ten, Triple M, Xstrata Copper, Bundaberg Rum, Hutchinson Builders, Trinity, Bentleys, Falken Tyres, Konica Minolta, Yalumba & Wirra Wirra, Clayton Utz, Body Science, Farnoz, AACO, Gilbert Footballs, Caxton Hotel, Black & White Cabs, Total Sports Travel, Harts Sports, Myer, Beiersdorf, 4 n 20-Streets, Enforcer, Fitness First, Golf Works, QDI, Skechers.

The end of the 2008 season also saw QLD Rugby farewell a long standing partner in Mazda whose sponsorship of the QR Reds came to a close after a partnership of more than 20 years. We wish Mazda every success for the future and thank them for their support and loyalty to QLD Rugby over many years.

The economic downturn became increasingly apparent in the second half of 2008 with signs that difficult times lay ahead in Sponsorship and Corporate sales as businesses prepare

themselves for lower growth by reducing their discretionary spending. The impact hit home with one of our Elite sponsors appointing an administrator late in 2008.

Following the 2008 Season Review the Commercial & Marketing team was restructured and I was appointed as General Manager, Marketing & Corporate Partnerships. This newly created position is designed to strengthen the links between the Marketing and Commercial departments providing a focussed customer service approach and better leveraging of our marketing capability to the benefit of our Members, Fans and Sponsors.



**Rhys Watkins**  
General Manager - Marketing & Corporate Partnerships

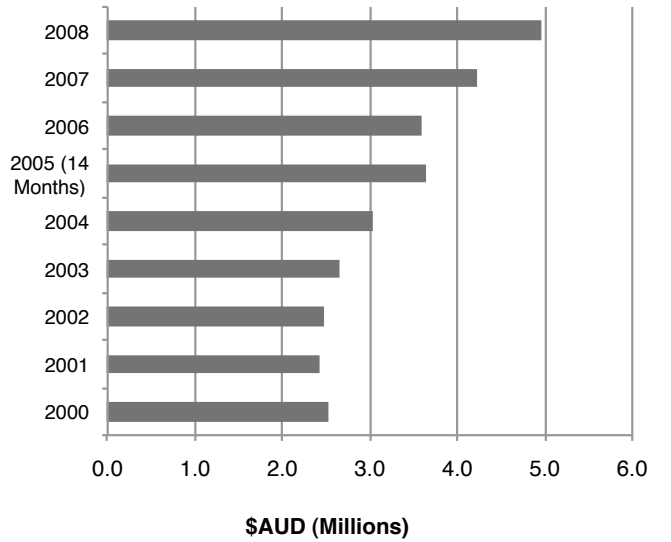
## SPONSORSHIP

2008 saw an improvement in Net sponsorship revenue to \$4.967 Million.

New sponsors introduced – Xstrata Copper; Hutchinson builders; Yalumba & Wirra Wirra wines; Myer and Fitness First.

Restructured Commercial & Marketing team which will deliver stronger coordination between Marketing and Sponsorships.

Net Sponsorship Income 2000 - 2008



# CORPORATE FACILITIES

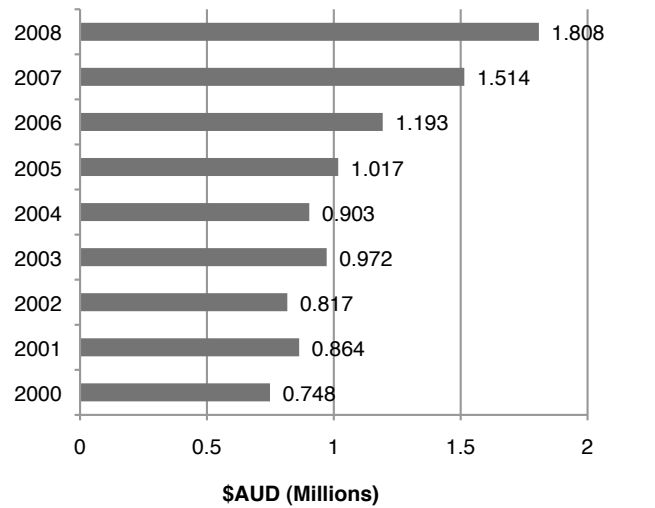
- Increase in Corporate Sales revenue of 19% despite a reduction in overall facilities sold.
- Facilities provided free of charge to Community Rugby stakeholders.
- Strong patronage of Corporate Events including B2B Breakfast, lunches and other networking events.

### Summary

2008 saw record results across both Sponsorship and Corporate income, although the second half of the year provided some insight into the tough time ahead for both Sponsorship and Corporate sales revenue.

The restructure of the Commercial and Marketing teams should provide increased opportunities through improved planning, a greater focus on customer management and more coordinated activity across the marketing and sponsorship areas. This will be critical in ensuring future growth in Membership, Match Day sales, Sponsorship and Corporate income.

Corporate Facilities Income 2000 - 2008





# 48/10 CLUB

Now in its third year, the 48/10 Club provides its members with exclusive access to the QR Reds players and coaches and provides a valuable revenue stream which supports the development of Rugby in QLD. 48/10 Club Members reflect a broad cross section of business leaders and captains of industry who share a common love for the game of Rugby.

The 2008 Members were:

MEMBER	COMPANY
Peter Lewis	Trinity Properties
Richard Bell	Reverse Corp
Col Archer	Gowland
Mitchell Nielsen	Indigo Group
Philip Lee	ABN Amro Morgans Ltd
Bill Chatterton	ABN Amro Morgans Ltd
Ben McCarthy	Trinity Properties
Toby Lewis	Consolidated Properties
Tim Douglas	Consolidated Properties
Don O'Rorke	Consolidated Properties
Martin Spinks	Consolidated Properties
Michael Dodd	Consolidated Properties
Steve Tyson	Consolidated Properties
Kieran Cox	Consolidated Properties
Brad Fitzgerald	Commercial Capital
Barry Jakeman	Global Construction Mgt (Qld) P/L
Neil Kelly	Nelson Irrigation Corporation
Scott Hutchinson	Hutchinson Builders
Stephen Norton	Hutchinson Builders
Michael McVeigh	McVeigh Consultants
John Mullins	Mullins Lawyers
David Watson	Capital Transactions
Chris Campbell	Capital Transactions
Ian Crooks	Resort Brokers Australia
Tony Samorowski	Steve Paul & Partners
Michael Maranta	Consolidated Properties
Robert Allison	Australian Water Systems
Ross Hirst	Hirst and Co Family Solicitors
Geoff Clark	Spaceframe Buildings
John Potter	The Potter Group

# BARBARIANS AT BALLYMORE

Barbarians Rugby returned to Ballymore in 2008 when a David Croft-led Queensland XV took on an Australian Barbarians side featuring 10 current and former international players and coached by Alan Jones and Alec Evans, who famously led the Wallabies to their memorable 1984 Grand Slam triumph in the UK.

QR Reds flyhalf Quade Cooper starred for Croft's side in their 61-17 victory over the visitors, scoring two tries and setting up several others as the Reds crossed nine times.

Former Wallaby loose forward Croft, who had announced his retirement from professional rugby during the Super 14, was given the honour of kicking the final three conversions from in front of the posts as Queensland loped over for three tries in the last 10 minutes.

In a "Back to Ballymore" match promoted as an entertaining farewell to Croft and a homecoming for Japan-based ex-Wallaby Toutai Kefu, the players did their best to pull out the razzle-dazzle.

The try of the match was a 75m backline effort sparked by wing Digby Ioane and brilliantly finished by teenage fullback Aidan Toua.

Fellow 18-year-old Luke Morahan finished with a hat-trick.

The crowd of 4,969 began arriving early for the traditional boot parties and barbecues on the creek bank and lingered after fulltime for a free concert by James Reyne, on a day described by QRU Chairman Peter Lewis as "a celebration of the rugby spirit and the spirit of Ballymore."

Queensland XV 61 (Luke Morahan 3, Aidan Toua 2, Quade Cooper 2, Morgan Turinui, Leroy Houston tries; Quade Cooper 3, David Croft 3, Matt Brandon 2 cons) d Australian Barbarians 17 (Jeremy Paul 2, Sam Cordingley tries; Ben Gollings con).

# MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

A three stage, pre-season PR and Media Opportunities campaign was developed to kick off the 2008 QR Reds season, anchored by a fresh approach to the traditional "season launch" which made the event more media friendly and widened our exposure far beyond the traditional rugby media outlets.

The "Tickets on Sale" event was developed as a visually exciting media opportunity which presented the team and new jersey in a themed performance based on the 2008 marketing campaign. The period culminated in a week of media leading up to the first home game, including the launch of our "spirit of rugby" campaign featuring Rodney Blake and seven juniors each wearing the jersey of one of this year's visiting S14 teams. "Rodney vs the World" symbolised the seven battles ahead for the QR Reds and as a prize each junior got to run on with "their" visiting team on game night, to demonstrate the importance of honouring the game and respecting the opposition.

The QR Reds and local juniors were also involved in two promotions organised with the assistance of the Junior Rugby Manager – the "fearsome front row" competition in which the winners got to meet the Reds front row in the week before the March 6 Juniors day and a photo shoot on the Sunshine Coast which involved the Reds "tunnelling on" a group of local juniors as an illustration of the ethos of the game. This produced great visuals which were used in a junior recruiting ad shown in cinemas.

During the season the QR Reds broke with current convention by allowing selected print media into the dressing rooms after the match to speak to players, in addition to hosting the customary post match news conference for electronic media. This initiative was well received by the media and provided a

point of difference for the QR Reds as being proactive in assisting the media to do its job.

Another new initiative during the season was the posting on redsrugby.com.au of downloadable, edited voice grabs from interviews and news conferences in a new multimedia section: "Reds on the record". These grabs were also used from time to time by mainstream media.

A welcome initiative from Media Partner Channel 10 was a new magazine-style football program called Inside Footy, which made its debut at the end of March. This significant free-to-air TV opportunity was enthusiastically supported by Queensland Rugby. A number of player interviews were pre-recorded at the Reds Family Fun Day and in the weeks leading up to games during the season, with several players being profiled.

Queensland Country Life produced a special 20 page rugby liftout with our assistance, which was some of the best promotion rugby has received in regional areas for some time.

As in previous years news coverage of the Trinity Premier Rugby competition was boosted with the recruitment of journalism students as volunteer "club cubs". Their match reports were used on the QRU website and often found there way into mainstream media coverage.

Towards the end of the year a complete revamp of organisation's web presence was begun, with a view to merging the two websites – qru.com.au and redsrugby.com.au – into one site.

**Paul Reid**  
**Communications Manager**



**Back row:** Epi Taione, John Ulugia, Beau Robinson, Salesi Maafu, Jeremy Paul, Dan Palmer, Moses Rauluni, Andrew Walker  
**Middle:** Peter Lewis (QRU Chairman), Chris Dillon (Physio), Dominic Katter (Assistant), Sam Cordingley, Toutai Kefu, Ratu Siganiyavi, Scott Robertson, Sitaleki Timani, Jason Harrington, Andrew Shaw, Mark Gerrard, Mitchell Chapman, Scott Oakhill (Asst Manager), Joe Anderson (Assistant), Jamie Youngsen (Athletic Performance Coach)  
**Front:** Zane Mitchell, Dan Luger, Gonzalo Quesada, Daniel Herbert (Manager), Alan Jones (Coach), Ben Gollings (Captain), Alec Evans (Asst Coach), Pek Cowan





# QUEENSLAND PREMIER RUGBY

## LEADING POINTS SCORERS (REGULAR SEASON)

Player	Club	Tries	Conv	PG	DG	Total
Brendan McKibbin	Brothers	8	51	27		223
Ben Gollings	Sunnybank	7	54	6	1	164
Matt Petersen	Norths	3	37	16	1	140
Matthew Brandon	Easts	6	24	13		117
Marshall Milroy	Gold Coast	3	38	8		115
Donovan Slade	GPS	6	17	8		88
Andrew Walker	Easts	2	17	12		80
Greg Willmot	University	10	7	3		73
Albert Vuli Vuli	Souths	8	11	3		71
Paul Doneley	Brothers	13				65
Nathan Williams	Sunshine Coast	3	14	6	1	64
Doug Hutton	GPS	3	14	5		58
Ian Auruso	Wests	6	6	5		57
Blair Connor	Norths	11				55
James Harvey	Brothers	11				55
Sam Hill	Sunshine Coast	4	7	7		55
Coen Ladewig	Easts	11				55

## HOSPITAL CUP PREMIERSHIP ROUNDS

Team	P	W	L	D	F	A	<7p	4t	Pts
Brothers	18	15	1	2	547	383	0	12	76
Easts	18	14	4	0	457	285	2	8	66
Sunnybank	18	12	6	0	628	346	1	11	60
GPS	18	11	6	1	476	359	3	11	60
Gold Coast	18	10	8	0	449	409	4	9	53
Norths	18	10	8	0	433	463	2	7	49
Souths	18	8	9	1	383	421	4	7	45
Sunshine Coast	18	4	14	0	360	561	5	4	25
University	18	3	15	0	315	604	3	5	20
Wests	18	1	17	0	310	527	7	2	13

## HOSPITAL CUP FINALS

Major Semi-Final	Easts 32 def Brothers 16
Minor Semi-Final	Sunnybank 57 def GPS 10
Preliminary Final	Brothers 36 def Sunnybank 27
Grand Final	Easts 22 def Brothers 21



# EASTS

2008 was meant to be a development year for the club with our goal to make the semi-finals in all grades. However with a very young side, well coached by Pat Richards and his team, we achieved what we thought we would achieve next year. We are very proud of being one total club from U6 to Premier grade.

This year we fielded 50 teams from U6 to U16 as well as 3 colts, Women's and 6 grade teams. This was a total of 760 juniors, 80 colts and 175 seniors.

The highlights for the juniors were:

- A very successful two day holiday camp for U6 to U15, with 175 players taking part
- Our Junior Development Committee concentrated on U6 new players, U8 for tackle, ruck and maul, and U12 for scrums and lineouts
- In the U13to U15s we had five teams in the Grand Finals with two teams winning the Grand Final

The Premier Colts had a great year and played some very attractive football, however lost the Grand Final to Sunnybank. Colts I also made the Finals. We will continue to manage our Colts transition to Grades. This year Pat Ritchie and Phil Braban played a full season in Premier grade, with George Tambakis and John Wilder having some game time. Aidan Toua, also 18, was selected for the Reds' end of season tour.

Our Premier Team had a fantastic season losing only four games, two of these to Brothers, who we beat in the Semi final and Grand Final. They were well coached by Coach of the Year; Pat Richards, ex Queensland Player Andrew Scotney and David Hanham.

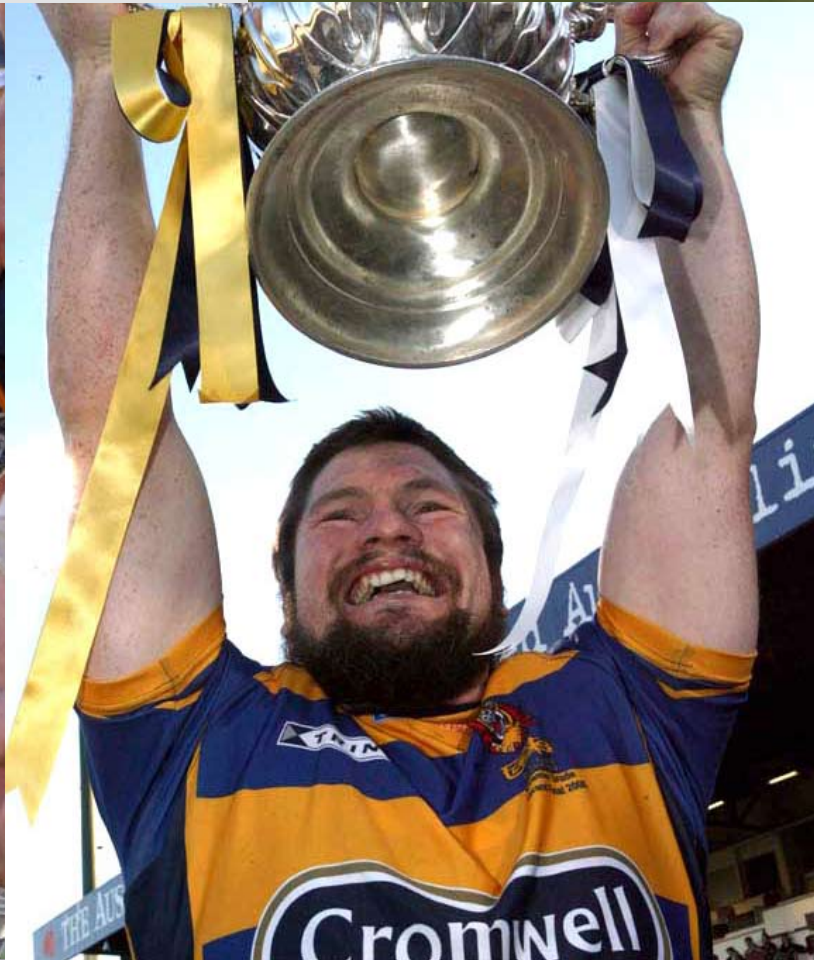
The rest of the senior grades are getting stronger, with 2nd grade making the semi-finals. All grades will be very competitive next year.

The Women's team won their Grand Final with a great display of running rugby. They were rewarded with Selena Tranter playing for Qld, Aust 7s and Aust 15s and Vanessa Bradley playing for Qld and Aust 15s. Another 10 players also represented Qld: Moana Virtue, Lavinia Gould, Harmony Gould, Rebecca Noble, Cheyenne Campbell, Tisha Hina, Aimee Gilbert, Amy Turner, Ilse Oud and Shannon Parry.

Thanks to Cromwell our naming rights sponsor. We had great support from Paul Weightman and his staff, especially Pat Howard and Jodie Clark. Thanks also to Gotzinger Small Goods, KooGa, Astor Terrace Car Park, Temperzone and Priority.

The other highlight of 2008 was the opening of the new grandstand. I would like to thank: Roslyn Richards for obtaining the grant and managing the project; John Tong for his guidance on the engineering; Tim Stoddart, Denis Owens and their team of supporters who helped with funding and seating; Pat Geary for organising the concrete and Mark Kennedy for his expert advice and help.

**Mark Skelton**  
**President**







## BROTHERS

2008 was a very successful year for Brothers both on and off the field. Congratulations to the players, coaches, managers, strappers and medicos for their magnificent effort and commitment that led to seven finals berths, four grand finals and three premierships.

Congratulations and thanks also to the committee and their tireless band of volunteers. Without the likes of Tony Shaw (President), Jim Frayne (Chairman) and Des Hogan (Legend and Norbert Byrne Medal winner), the club would not be in the strong position it is today.

A special mention also for our magnificent and generous sponsors. Imagetec as our major sponsor has been fantastic. Not only do they not miss a home game, the boys also showed up at a number of our away matches, which is great to see. Ray White Ascot, Westpoint Autos, Canterbury Teamwear, Orient Hotel, O'Loughlin Executive Search, Sherwin Financial Planners, McDonalds Northside and all our sponsors at all levels are also to be thanked, as much of our success is due to their support.

Congratulations to those players who were selected for representative honours this year. Sam Cordingley, Wallabies and Reds and Sean Hardman for The Reds, Australia A and the Wallabies; David Croft for the Reds and Queensland, Brendan McKibbin, James Harvey, Andrew Shaw and Paul Doneley for Queensland teams; Damon Murphy for the Australian Sevens; Ilie Batibasaga for Australian, Queensland and Australian Sevens Women's teams. Well done to you all.

For the remainder of this year and throughout next year we will continue to improve the grounds and the facilities at the club as well as develop our player and coaching group with a view to ensuring next year is even more successful than this one.

**Mark Taylor**  
General Manager



## SUNNYBANK

After the massive success of 2007, 2008 was going to be a challenge for the club to replicate. However in our 20th season of Premier Rugby participation and 40 years of Junior Rugby we continued to be a dominate club both on and off the field.

The Premier team opened the season as inaugural holders of the Caxton Cup due to our premiership win in 07. During the season Sunnybank also played Sydney University for the Australian Club Championship at Suncorp Stadium, which was disrupted just before kick off by a huge storm. A disappointing first half performance let Sydney Uni get away from us but in the second half we held our own, going down by 24-0.

Making the finals is always the goal throughout the season and we were able to do this whilst grooming many of our 07 premiership winning colts players into senior premier players.

We completed the season in third position but we had regained the Caxton Cup and will hold it again at the start of 09. We comfortably won our minor semi final appearance against GPS by 57-10. Our season ended though when we went down in the preliminary semi final to a spirited and united Brothers team 26-37. It was a sad way for our captain John Dart and senior player Karel Bos to finish their playing careers but that's rugby. Both have been tremendous players for Sunnybank and more importantly great guys and we wish them well in the future. The entire team and club was disappointed in the result, however we were all very encouraged by the talent and commitment of all our players, coaching and support staff and we look forwarded to a better result in 09.

The club did taste Grand Final success as Sunnybank successfully defended the Premier Colts Premiership and also won the Queensland Suburban Rugby Union Normanby and Wyatt Cup competitions. The Premier Colts victory was an excellent performance as we were defending our 07 premiership and were fielding a relatively young colts squad. The Premier Colts players will continue to develop and our future club playing strength is in great hands.

Sunnybank continued to provide a pathway for players to representative honours with individual players representing Qld, Australia and other international teams.

### Congratulations to:

Greg Holmes QLD  
Rodney Blake QLD, Barbarians  
Digby Ioane QLD, Australia  
Ben Lucas QLD, Australia A  
Brando Va'aulu QLD  
Charlie Fetoai QLD  
Dayna Edwards QLD  
Ole Avei QLD A,  
Henari Veratau QLD A  
Josh Afu QLD A, Tonga  
Albert Anae Aust U20, Qld Development Tour  
Rob Simmons Aust U20, Qld Development Tour  
Richard Kingi Aust Sevens, Aust U20  
Junior Sovala Aust U20  
Jake Schatz Qld Development Tour

Off the field the club is continuing to upgrade its spectator facilities and by the start of the 09 season we will have Grandstand style seating. Planning is also well underway to develop an elite level gymnasium for all players, which will be funded via grants from our Licensed Club, the Sunnybank Sports and Community Club which is now in the top five turnover clubs in the state. Sunnybank Rugby is in a very strong position financially due to the great success of the licensed club and we thank the board, management, staff and the 20,000 registered social members for another very successful year.

The club would like to acknowledge the support of the many volunteers and sponsors as well as Sunnybank Junior Rugby Club Inc. and Sunnybank Rugby Union Club Inc. committees, particularly Ben Riley (chairman) and Brendan Smith (former treasurer) for their outstanding commitment to the club.

**Bruce Swan**



## GPS OLD BOYS

In spite of disruptions caused by the major grounds redevelopment that stopped all games being played at Ashgrove in the first round and restricted training to number three oval, season 2008 was a most successful one for Jeeps, both in terms of growth and results.

Large early season numbers saw the Club enter eight senior teams and three colts teams in the Premier and Brisbane competitions, an increase of three teams over the 2007 number.

By season end Jeeps had won the Doughty Shield and were club champions for 2008. Eight of the eleven teams qualified for the Semi Finals and six for the Grand Finals.

Whilst Colts 2 was the only Premiership winning side, the consistency of players and teams was remarkable given the disruption caused by the first round lack of proper facilities at Yoku Road.

The Club extends its thanks to the Queensland Rugby Union for its assistance during this early period for making Ballymore available for training purposes. The Club would also like to express its appreciation to the Queensland State Government, the Commonwealth Government and the Brisbane City Council for the grants and assistance which made the redevelopment of the Ashgrove grounds possible.

It also extends thanks to its sponsors, volunteers, members and supporters for their invaluable contributions in 2008. The GPS complex is now without doubt one of the show pieces of Queensland Rugby.

### Season Results

Premier Grade, 4th, Semi Finalists  
1st Grade, 2nd, Grand Finalists  
2nd Grade, 2nd, Grand Finalists  
3rd Grade, 2nd, Grand Finalists  
4th Grade, 1st, Minor Premiers, Grand Finalists  
Premier Colts, 2nd, Preliminary Finalists  
Colts 1, 1st, Minor Premiers, Grand Finalists  
Colts 2, 2nd, Grand Finalists, Premiers

**David Park**  
President



## GOLD COAST BREAKERS

Special thanks to Garrick Morgan and his coaching staff on achieving fifth place in a difficult season.

Thanks also to Mike Thomas and Damion Ryan for their contribution to the team over many seasons. Both Mike and Damion will not be with us in 2009.

Those players who reached higher honours at Senior level are Ben Daley, James Slipper, Caleb Brown, Ben Tapuai, Mitch Francis and Will Munsie.

Marshall Suckling, Josh Cooper, Josh den Elzen, Tom Gordon

and Tobias Rissman represented Qld Country U20s with Heath Claydon as the Coach.

RGC was also represented at the Melrose 7s by the Breakers.

The Breakers Premier teams will be without a First Grade in 2009, but RGC will field two teams in the State Cup that will soak up the excess and still provide the necessary representative pathway between Colts and Premier.

The pool for a successful campaign, in concert with a new controlling High Performance Unit, is expected to pay dividends throughout the senior and older junior divisions, which of course covers the Academy.

**Tim Rowlands**  
CEO, Rugby Gold Coast Ltd



## NORTH BRISBANE

The 2008 season saw the first significant results of the major rebuilding efforts commenced in earnest in 2005 by a dedicated team of rugby supporters.

The Premier side came out of the starting gates in magnificent form, winning their first seven games in succession, including overpowering Sunnybank, the 2006 Premiers.

However, as the season wore on injuries and representative commitments took their toll, with Premier Grade just missing out on a final four spot.

Whilst lack of depth became an issue in 2008, all the signs are there that Norths is now a club that can seriously challenge for the Premier Championship in 2009. It is interesting to note the only two clubs Norths did not defeat at least once in 2008 were the grand finalists Easts and Brothers.

The club is proud of the fact that Blair Connor has secured a QR Reds contract for 2009 and that he and Andrew Rossiter were selected in the Australian Under 20 Rugby World Cup squad. We also acknowledge the efforts of openside flanker Ray Stowers who became a full international, representing Manu Samoa in 2008.

Whilst it is now evident to the Brisbane rugby public that Norths' Premier Grade is on the rise, it should also be acknowledged that the other lower grade teams at Norths are also slowly improving.

Prior to the rebuilding efforts commenced in 2005, the club's results were disastrous. As a demonstration of the turnaround that has been achieved, in 2004 our Premier side lost to the Gold Coast Breakers 113-9, but in 2008 our Premier side beat the Breakers 32-26. First Grade lost 135-0 in June 2004, but won 12-0 in June this year. Colts I lost 81-6 in June 2004, but in June this year drew 23-all with the Breakers.

Whilst there is still room for very significant improvement throughout the grades, 2008 will go down as the year that Norths turned the corner of a very long road.

**Ivor Davies**  
Secretary





## SOUTHS

2008 marked the 60th year of the Southern Districts Rugby Union Football Club and to celebrate the occasion the Club held a number of special events throughout the season, culminating with the hugely successful 60th Anniversary Dinner and Trophy Presentation in August. Over 600 guests attended and all decades of the Club's history were represented, including seven members of the 1948 team.

For the first year since 2002, Souths was able to field eight (8) teams in the Senior and Colts grades in the Premier and Brisbane Competition. Although only two teams (Division One 1st Grade and 3rd Grade) progressed to the Finals Series and one of those (3rd Grade) was successful in the Grand Final, we saw the 2008 season as one in which the Index Souths Magpies, made steady progress in regaining the competitiveness that they enjoyed in the 1990's.

The Premier Grade season held great promise, with the appointment of new coaches in Dan McKellar as Head Coach and Jason Gilmore as Club Skills Coach. Fortunately the team did not suffer the same spate of injuries that marred the 2007 year however there were about four games which were there to be won which slipped from our grasp. With some help from the "Rugby Gods" a semi-final spot was certainly achievable. With such a young group of players, the 2008 experience will be of great value in next year's competition.

The Club was honoured to have four Queensland Reds players in our ranks in 2008: Quade Cooper, Van Humphries, Ben Coutts and A.J. Gilbert. Quade was later selected for the Wallabies Tour of Hong Kong, Europe and the UK in November/December 2008.

Anthony Ongolea, "Flipper" Manu, Sam Denny and Albert Vulivuli were selected in the Queensland XV that played and defeated Auckland. After a fine season, "Flipper" Manu was rewarded with an end-of-season European Tour with the Western Force and subsequently was signed by the Western Force to a Super 14 contract. "Flipper" will be returning to play with the Magpies in 2009 when his Super 14 duties are completed.

The Division One 1st Grade team has been one of the Club's most consistent sides over the past few years, winning Grand Finals in 2000, 2002, 2005 and 2006. In 2008 they progressed through the Minor semi-final, with a stunning defeat of Sunnybank, to the Preliminary Final, where they played in an outstanding final against GPS, being narrowly defeated 29-24. Congratulations to all involved with this team, especially coaches Brett Whalley and Matt Bailey and Manager Doug Mahoney.

The Division One 3rd Grade won its fourth Premiership in five years. This team battled throughout the season with GPS, suffering just one defeat for the season against GPS and it was fitting that they met in the Grand Final. In a match that was in the balance until the final whistle, Souths prevailed. Congratulations to all the players who contributed to another Premiership and especially the coaching and management staff of Stewart Walsh, Paul Ekeberg, Troy Johnston, Lachlan Francis and Steve Spurr.

Off the field the season began with the disappointment and dismay at the decision of the EPA Court to refuse our application for, and the Brisbane City Council's approval of, a

second field in Yeronga Park. This decision left the Club in a perilous financial position, having outlaid nearly \$350,000 in costs to get the application before the Court, without a result.

The financial situation was a constant worry for the Club in 2008, preventing us from making necessary infrastructure improvements around the Club and being a constant restriction on Club activities. To the Club's great relief, the Queensland Government through the Department of Sport and Recreation came to our aid and provided Souths with a grant which has enabled us to meet all the outstanding liabilities. The Club extends its thanks and appreciation to all involved in procuring this assistance.

The Club was also successful in obtaining grants under the Commonwealth Government Water Grants Program and the Minor Facilities Program of the Queensland Government, to install a 125,000 litre water tank, together with the installation of a new underground irrigation system and the complete re-surfacing to the playing field.

We all look forward to a successful and enjoyable 2009 season, which holds great promise with some excellent recruiting into the Colts and Senior Grades.

**Steve Munro**  
**President**



## SUNSHINE COAST STINGRAYS

The Sunshine Coast Stingrays enjoyed their best ever season in the Queensland Premier competition. For the first time they were financially sound, and the result was a professionally-run rugby team.

Sunshine Coast and District Rugby Union purchased the Stingrays headquarters at Stockland Park which is centrally located on the Sunshine Coast.

Being the representative team of the SCDRU, the Stingrays received welcome support from all eight clubs in the region.

Former Reds great, and former Wallaby Glen Panoho as head coach worked tirelessly to bring the team up to a standard which made them very competitive. Glen's right hand man was former Reds halfback Brett Johnstone, who took control of the backs and did an excellent job.

Franky Bourke was appointed Strength and Conditioning coach. Franky had the boys well prepared for the beginning of the season and encouraged them with their fitness for the duration of the season. Greg Craig as head physiotherapist made sure all the boys received the best treatment throughout the season.

Dennis Berry was appointed Operations Manager and did a Herculean job, making sure the administration of the Stingrays was thorough and professional.

The Stingrays forwards more than held their own throughout the season, and on many occasions got on top of their opposition. Opposing teams soon learnt that playing the Stingrays wouldn't be a walk in the park

The Stingrays backs received a big boost with the arrival of both Wallaby Morgan Turinui and former Reds player Nathan Williams. Morgan Turinui registered with Fraser Coast rugby

club and generously gave his time to promote rugby in that area when the opportunity arrived. Nathan Williams passed on his experience to the younger and less experienced backs, although some niggling injuries curtailed his playing time.

Shon Siemonek and veteran Stingrays player Charles Wyllie were selected in a Queensland Premier XV side which played Auckland in June at Stockland Park. These selections were a great boost for rugby on the coast.

Throughout the season Glen ensured every visiting team was made welcome, providing drinks and food after the match and presenting a small gift to the best and fairest player from each team. This occasion was a great way for players to make new acquaintances and renew old friendships. The excellent feedback of this initiative from all teams was both generous and appreciative.

Glen Panoho has a vision for Sunshine Coast rugby which is now supported by almost all rugby supporters on the coast: to create a pathway for players commencing with the Juniors and then on to the Schools and senior Clubs and finally to the Stingrays and beyond. Under Glen's stewardship the Stingrays are well placed to improve a great deal further in the Queensland Premier competition.

Finally thank you to the generous sponsors, supporters and volunteers for working so hard and giving up much of their time to improve the quality of rugby on the Sunshine Coast.

**Ian McKinnon**  
**President**



## UNIVERSITY

Congratulations go to our Colts 1 team on winning the premiership by defeating GPS to claim the 2008 title. This was great achievement with the team being coached by two of the club's youngest coaches. It is a great achievement to win back to back premierships and to all players and coaches who were involved in the two premierships; well done.

Congratulations also go to our Women's and Colts 2 teams on reaching their Grand Finals. It was credit to the coaches and players for playing some great rugby throughout the season.

The club fielded 11 teams in 2008: six grades teams, four colts and a women's team. There was an increase in registered players with 179 grades, 90 colts players and 29 women.

Many thanks to all our sponsors, in particular new principal sponsor Buildcorp.

Once again Red Heavies players were well represented with higher honours in 2008:

- James Horwill and Stephen Moore cemented their spots in the Wallabies, playing in both the Tri Nations and Bledisloe Cups.
- Tricia Brown and Sarah Hind were selected in the Australian Women's team to play test matches against New Zealand.

- Mitchell Chapman played for Australia A.
- James Hanson represented the Australian U20's at the inaugural World Cup in Wales.
- Shawn MacKay represented the Australian 7's with Tricia Brown representing the Australia Women's 7's.
- James Horwill, Herman Hunt, and Stephen Moore all played for the Reds with Horwill Captaining the side in the Super 14.
- Mitchell Chapman represented the ACT Brumbies.

James Hanson, Daniel Linde and Luke Morahan played in the Qld XV vs Barbarians game. Mitchell Chapman was in the Barbarians Side. James Hanson, Luke Morahan and Jono Lance were in the Queensland team that toured Ireland and France. Thea Sala, Tricia Brown, Mel Kawa and Sarah Hind were all members of Queensland's Women's team which attended the Australian Championships.

This year the club recognized the long standing achievement and service to the club of players, coaches and support staff. 100 plus games for the club : Ben Blake, Andrew Bradford, David Cassidy, Ben Forde, Chris Perkins, Stuart Price, Daniel Purcell, Tricia Brown, Tony Burren & Isaac. 50 plus Premier games for the club: Adam Connelly, Phil Rowell and Heath Tessmann. Five years plus service: Cam Wray, Catriona Arthy, Heather Arthy, Mike Madden, David Shand, Simon Tutt.

**Bruce Brown**  
**President**



## WEST BRISBANE BULLDOGS

The Bulldogs had a wealth of players in 2008 – enough to field seven senior men's teams, two colts and a women's side - but couldn't maintain the performance to achieve our full potential.

The 2008 pre-season started well with a win at the Alleygator Tens Tournament at Palm Beach, beating Sunnybank in the final to take the prize. Our Normanby Cup side made it through to the Grand Final but were unable to overcome a strong Sunnybank Firestarters side on the night and our Division 1 3rd Grade side made the finals for the 5th year in succession but were unable to make it all the way.

A positive note from 2008 is that the majority of our Colts players were 17 and 18 years old and will use their experience this season to strengthen their performance and focus in 2009.

Dave Witt, Damien Reidy, Carl Marshal and the rest of the football management team have been working hard in the off-season and the 2009 plans are in full swing already.

Many of our Club players gained representative honours in 2008:

Berrick Barnes- Reds and Wallabies  
Hugh McMeniman – Reds and Wallabies  
John Roe – Reds  
Ed O'Donoghue – Reds



Will Genia – Reds  
Clinton Schifcofske – Reds  
Poutasi Luafutu - Reds  
Scott Higginbotham – Reds & Australian Sevens  
Tasileta Bethel – Qld and Wallaroos  
Sia Sau – Qld and Wallaroos

2008 marked the retirement of club and state stalwart Joe Roe. Roey epitomises the Bulldog spirit and the club joins all rugby supporters in thanking him for his years of service to club, state and country, and wish him all the best in his medical career that has been on hold during his professional rugby days.

We also farewelled Clinton Schifcofske and Ed O’Donoghue, who left to play overseas. We look forward to their return in time. We also say goodbye to Wayne Carter (Premier Manager) whose efforts and commitment often fly under the radar but we would like to take this opportunity to thank Wayne for a wonderful contribution to the Wests club over many years.

Club stalwart and successful Premier Coach, Tony Cross, was awarded the club’s premier award, the Rose Bowl. It was fitting acknowledgment of Crossy’s years of service on the paddock as a player and coach along with his dedication to the social ethos of Bulldogs Rugby.

Finally we thank our sponsors, including Amart Allsports, Yalumba and Toowong Mitsubishi.

**Adam Atherton**  
**General Manager**



# BRISBANE CLUB AFFILIATES

## LOGAN

The Club’s growth was formally recognised by the QRU in 2008 when it became a full affiliate. We are excited by the prospect of entry to the Premier Competition and it is the Club’s intention to pursue this aspiration with a full commitment of all its resources during the coming year.

The Club has been negotiating with the Logan City Council and Griffith University to provide a purpose built rugby facility to develop the game to its full potential in Logan City, at Meadowbrook. This partnership will also involve close association with a tertiary education institution and help provide further educational opportunities for our players.

Our Homestead Park clubhouse had a major facelift during 2008 thanks to a committed group of junior parents and senior players.

Although the Senior Club did not achieve the on-field results of recent years, there has been a substantial and significant increase in the Club’s depth.

The First Grade benefited from their off season commitment to strength and fitness, but a few ‘last gasp’ losses in the early rounds cost them a place in the semis. A glimpse of what could have been was their defeat of the eventual premiers in the first round.

Our great Wyatt Cup side again achieved the Minor premiership but were unable to pull off the “threepeat” of premier-ships, being beaten in their preliminary final.

The Colts put on a wonderful exhibition of tenacious and competitive rugby, even though their ranks were sorely tested throughout the year by serious injury and off field commitments.

Our First Grade Coach Mark Forrester and his staff and many of his players formed the backbone of the Barraclough Shield side which won a thrilling game to defeat New South Wales “Subbies” in Sydney this year. This match provides our players with the opportunity of being involved in representative rugby and again is a measure of the success being achieved by the Club.

Our junior players featured in the Under 16s Australian Trial and in the Queensland Under 15 team. Three players continued in the ARU National Training Squad (NTS), and two hold Reds scholarships.

Thanks to all those who contributed so much to the Club during 2008, especially Junior President Barry Parker who is stepping down after five very successful years, and our principal sponsors Australian Capital Home Loans and Top Dog Fencing.

**Peter Tisdall**  
**Chairman**

## REDLANDS

2008 was another successful year for Redlands Rugby Club, both on and off the field. On the field, our players from Under 6’s through to the Golden Oldies again did us proud in the way they played the game. Our sincere appreciation to all the coaches, managers and support staff for their time and efforts in mentoring the teams.

In a milestone for the club, 2008 produced our first Australian representative in Edward (Eddie) Quirk. Eddie was the Man of the Match in the Australian Schoolboys record-breaking maiden victory over the New Zealand schoolboys on New Zealand soil. This is recognition of the dedication and hard work Eddie puts into his game and we are immensely proud of him.

Another Man of the Match performance was produced by Gary Blank who, along with Mitch O’Hara and Brendan Dales, were selected in the Queensland Suburban team that won the Barraclough Shield against NSW Suburban in Sydney.

Other Representative honours were won by Zac Frank-QLD U16, Jordan Tuapou-QLD Schoolboys and Vice Captain & David Harle-QJRU U18.

Off the field, we were recognised by the QRU with full membership of that body, a direct result of the work and efforts performed by this and previous committees dating back to the club’s inception in 1979. We would not be the club we are today if not for the work and efforts of these committees. We thank the QRU for this acknowledgement of our achievements.

We were also offered and have accepted a promotion to the Brisbane Rugby Division One First Grade competition in 2009. This is another step on our way to full Premier Club status. In anticipation of this, the Management Committee has initiated talks with other interested Clubs in the Bayside region to form a representative Senior Club and provide a pathway for our players to be able to play the highest level of rugby without leaving the Redlands regions.

Once again, the Club has been served by a large group of volunteers who have unselfishly given their time. We have many examples of not one – but two or more members of a family contributing to the Club in some way – be that coaching, managing, refereeing or in a Management Committee role. A big thank you to all for your efforts as without volunteers, the Club would fail.

**Tony Machin**  
**President**

2008 Doughty Shield			
GPS	532	Wests	245
Sunnybank	496	Redlands	172
Brothers	459	Logan City	148
Easts	420	Norths	148
University	387	Gold Coast	96
Souths	318	Sunshine Coast	39



# QUEENSLAND SUBURBAN RUGBY UNION

The 2008 season was one of consolidation under the revised playing parameters introduced at the end of the 2007 season. These included the promotion/relegation system to reward stronger performing clubs and a revised structure to enhance competition across all grades.

The 2008 season saw 22 clubs field 38 senior teams and four colts age teams throughout the Suburban and Brisbane rugby competitions. It was especially pleasing to see the resurrection of rugby on the Redcliffe Peninsula for the first time in over 25 years. The QSRU committee stands ready to assist in expanding the game even further throughout the northern districts of Greater Brisbane.

This revitalisation of suburban rugby was reflected in the strong spectator attendance at games throughout the year, in particular, the finals series at Ballymore.

Along with the QSRU premiership winners, Goodna, Beenleigh, Brisbane Irish and Sunnybank, congratulations also go to Redlands who were minor premiers in Brisbane 2nd Grade and Southern Bay who participated in the Brisbane club finals series.

Proving 2006 was no fluke, the QSRU representative team bounced back from their 2007 loss to reclaim the Barraclough Shield from NSWRU with a 31–28 victory in Sydney. The presentation of jerseys by QRU President David Crombie and words of wisdom and encouragement from QR Reds Assistant Coach Damon Emtage set the stage for a courageous win against the odds.

NSW now recognise the importance of the game and no longer treat it as a fitness run for their elite players. All the more pleasing for players and coaching staff was the fact that NSW were undefeated in their representative season to that point and had beaten NSW Country (who went on to win the Australian Rugby Shield) in their lead in game to the interstate clash.

Thank you to the coaching staff led by Mark Forrester and Paul Daly, Manager Sean O'Neill and their support staff: physiotherapist John Dearness, fitness trainers Corey McDonald and Matt Ellis, trainer Grant Rogerson, for preparing the squad in such a professional and enthusiastic way.

Thank you also to the players and your respective clubs, in particular our captain of the past three years, Rex Harrison, who did a terrific job leading the boys from the front.

And a very sincere thank you to Queensland Rugby Club, who provide a fantastic level of support to all facets of grass-roots rugby. We look forward to your continued support in 2009 and having the Barraclough Shield occupy a prominent place in your new downtown premises.

I would also like to recognise the assistance of the QRU in our efforts to establish a stand-alone QSRU colts competition which we hope to implement on Friday nights in 2009. Every effort should be made to encourage on-going participation after school years and also provide an avenue for those taking up the game on a casual basis for the first time.

Finally, the QRU's resurrection of the end of season dinner, which recognises all facets of community rugby, is to be congratulated by all rugby followers and participants.

**Noel Rafter**  
**President**

2008 QSRU Finals				
Competition	Minor Premiers	Premiers	Runners-Up	Score
Barber Cup	Pine Rivers Boars	Goodna Easts	Longhorns	15 – 10
Pegg Cup	Beenleigh	Beenleigh	Goodna 1	5 – 8
Scotney Cup	Pine Rivers Boars	Brisbane Irish	Pine Rivers Boars	21 – 20
Normanby Cup	Logan City	Sunnybank	Wests	19 – 0
Wyatt Cup	Sunnybank	Sunnybank	Ag Vet	15 - 10
The 2008 QSRU representative squad				
Leon Makiri (Logan), Rex Harrison (Logan), Stewart Cameron (Logan), Mitch O'Hara (Redlands), Andrew Buckley (Wynnum), Andrew Brown (Easts Longhorns), Leon Letchner (Easts Longhorns), David Patterson (Logan), Gary Blank (Redlands), Chris Staunton (Logan), Patrick Kavanagh (Wynnum), Grayson McDonald (Redcliffe), David Wilder (Logan), Christopher Bohan (Easts Longhorns), Timothy Burow (Logan), Shannon Fullen (Wynnum), Nathan Hazlett (Wynnum), Tim Woods (Logan), Tam McElhaney (Logan), Brendan Dales (Redlands), Colin Beer (Logan) and Kieran Harris (Wynnum)				

# QUEENSLAND COUNTRY RUGBY UNION

The AGM for the QCRU was held in April 2008, resulting in the following office bearers being elected: President – Peter Curtis; Vice-president – Dan Coonan; Treasurer – Graeme Cann; Directors – Geoff Makim, Dan Morton and Peter Menzies. Graeme Cann resigned as Treasurer in the following month and Ian Coombe from RDRU accepted the position on a temporary basis, later confirmed at the GM in September 2008.

**Sponsorship**  
Hutchinson Builders were the naming rights sponsors for both the QCRU Championships and the Heelers with Farnoz retaining their sponsorship in a reduced capacity. From January 2009 we are pleased to announce that Hutchinson Builders are the outright sponsors for QCRU Championships and the QCRU Heelers.

The QRU's Principal Sponsor, QR continued their additional sponsorship of the QCRU Under 20 side.

**Hutchinson Builders QCRU Championships**  
Eight teams: Gold Coast Cyclones, Sunshine Coast, Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville, Bundaberg and Cairns took part in the 2008 Hutchinson Builders QCRU Championships.

The Rugby Gold Coast Cyclones were undefeated, winning their fourth consecutive championship, with Cairns the runners-up. It was disappointing to see Bundaberg pull out of the Championships due to their inability to field a team.

**Outback Championships**  
These were held in Emerald in March with Western Downs once again proving too strong for Mt Isa and Central Highlands. It was unfortunate that Western Queensland was a late withdrawal, necessitating a redraw and resulting in fewer games being played.

**Hutchinson Builders Queensland Country Heelers**  
The senior team had a relatively successful season, winning against Melbourne in Charters Towers, Darwin in Darwin and Adelaide at the Surfers Paradise Rugby Club, but losing against NSW Country in Warren in western NSW. Special thanks to coach Terry Shiells, his assistant Peter Hansen, manager Robert Brennan, selectors Greg Dodd, Matthew Edwards and Robert Brennan and physiotherapist/conditioner Jonathan Moses.

**QCRU U20**  
A QCRU U20 team was selected after a series of trials in Brisbane and competed in Western Australian Rugby U20 competition in Perth. This team won both their games, defeating WA and Victoria. They played an additional game against WA Barbarians open team, narrowly losing 12-10. Thanks to Heath Claydon and his staff for preparing the team and also to Ben Whitaker and his staff for their professional input.

**Outback Barbarians**  
The game was played in September in the Central Highlands at Tieri against a Townsville XV, with the Barbarians winning 32-17 after Townsville led 17-10 at half time.

My thanks go to the QCRU board for their commitment which involved making themselves available for teleconferences and travelling long distances for meetings, at the same time overseeing the development of the game in their local areas.

Thanks to our administrative team of Simon Taylor and Brent Hagen in Brisbane and their untiring professional approach to QCRU.

The QRU Chairman Peter Lewis and all Board Members have continued to show support for our interests, despite difficult financial times.

To all QCRU volunteers, whether you be administrators, referees, coaches or players, thanks for growing the game in Queensland country in 2008.

**Peter Curtis**  
**President, QCRU Inc**





# BUNDABERG DISTRICT RUGBY UNION

This year we continued our partnership with the Brothers Sports club which saw our competition play a lot of games on Friday night at their ground. A return to playing double headers at each venue also increased the crowds at all games and provided a better opportunity for clubs to support their sponsors.

The Bundy Fire took to the rep fields this year for part of the Hutchinson Builders Country Championships, however a lack of depth with several key players unavailable led to several disappointing results before the side was pulled from the competition. Unfortunately the U19 side did not get to play any representative games this season which may impact on recruitment for the next couple of years. Thanks to the coach Moe Turaga and the players who put their hand up to represent Bundaberg.

Congratulations to our grand finalists Isis and Falcons and very well done to the Isis who won their first premiership. This was a changing of the guard in the competition with Buccaneers missing out on the grand final for the first time since the competition began in 2002. A spring competition was trialled as a possible option for the future and included three local teams and Hervey Bay who travelled to the games each week. What this showed was the difference between the two competitions and provided opportunities to improve the standard of local rugby. Unfortunately this competition did not reach its conclusion due to financial issues.

Thank you to Matt Clarkson (President) Peter Menzies (Secretary and competition manager) and Peter Emery (Treasurer) for their hard work throughout the season in ensuring that the competition happened. I especially thank the club registrars who this year did a lot better job at making sure players were registered on Rugby Net.

We are faced with many challenges in 2009 that include developing the player base by finding the right pathway for local juniors to move through to the senior ranks and convincing the local business community that local rugby is something really worth getting behind. The union has also to develop referees and touch judges to ensure that the competition can grow.

The rugby community will have additional competition for players from the local league competition which is moving from Sunday games to Saturday night games in 2009. This will test the depth of several clubs if players currently involved in both codes opt for the player payments on offer in league. It will be up to the clubs to be proactive in retaining existing players as well as developing new talent. It is also very important that new people continue to become involved in the development of the local competition as well as volunteering for management roles within the union to refresh the thinking and to provide the union with ongoing development.

**Matt Leighton**  
**Vice President**

# CENTRAL HIGHLANDS

2008 was another challenging season on the Central Highlands with all four teams travelling short and forced to play without the required number of players. Shift work and personal commitments meant every club struggled to be competitive at certain times.

The early part of the season saw a situation where Moranbah was fighting for survival under the stress of outstanding debts and flagging club membership. Many endeavours were made to assist Moranbah in their struggle for survival including a QRU-sponsored rescue meeting which included CEO Ken Freer.

Referee recruitment and retention was also a pivotal issue with several matches having to be adjudicated by coaches or supporters. Hopefully, this problem will be alleviated in 2009 with the successful Grant Application for a referee and coach's course to be held early in the season.

In representative rugby, the Central Highlands displayed a very high standard of rugby at the carnival which was hosted co-operatively in Emerald. Credit has to be given to all volunteers who assisted in the organising and running of the canteen and bar over the weekend. The representative side defeated Mt.Isa, but went down to eventual winners Western Downs by 15-5. Representative player of the year was Jacob Rauluni, while Andrew Dopsen was rookie representative player of the year.

The Clermont Bushpigs continued their dominance of the Central Highlands competition securing another Minor Premiership. The Grand Final was a repeat of 2007 with the Clermont Bushpigs hosting the Capella Cattledogs. The intensity and closeness of the match was a testament to both sides with Clermont finishing the game ahead 10-7 to secure their third successive premiership.

2008 provided many challenges to rugby on the Central Highlands but having endured these tests we can only hope for a more productive and fluent 2009 season. Once again I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all committee members across all clubs who have worked tirelessly to keep rugby thriving in our region.

**Eddie Shaw**  
**President**

# DARLING DOWNS

The Darling Downs Rugby Union had a successful representative season with teams participating in the Hutchinson Builders Country and Outback Country competitions and the U19 Country Championships. The U19's had one win and one loss to finish second with Ryan Brown, Lachlan Jensen & Sam Muir selected in the Queensland Country U20 team to play in Perth.

The Western Roos again won the Outback Championships which were held in Emerald. The Eastern Eagles finished third in the Hutchinson Builders Championships.

After some very strong performances for the Eastern Eagles & Western Roos, the following players were selected for the Queensland Country Heelers – Justin Garvey, Andrew Pauli, Dan Rollinson, James Obst, Chris Hanley, Braam Lategan, Dan Lucas, Andrew McKinnon and Andrew McPherson. A special acknowledgement for Andrew McKinnon, who captained the 2008 Country Heelers.

The 2008 DDRU domestic season was a great success for all participants.

We had eight team from seven clubs vying for four grand final trophies. These clubs represented a great cross section of our Rugby community, including teams from Highfields, Roma, Condamine, Dalby, Rangers, USQ and Toowoomba City. Congratulations to these clubs and their players for making to the grand finals.

Toowoomba City Rugby Club won its first Risdon Cup competition for A Grade, capping a great day for the club after their U20 side earlier won the club's first premiership trophy. Congratulations to Roma Rugby Club for winning the B Grade, and Highfields for winning the C Grade competition.

In total there were 116 A and B Grade games, 34 C Grade games and 39 Under 20 games scheduled to be played throughout the season, starting in April this year. I could not even attempt to calculate the total kilometres travelled throughout the year, or the length of time spent on buses and in cars travelling to these games. One player reportedly travelled over 26,000 km throughout the year for his club.

The Darling Downs Rugby Union and the Darling Downs Junior Rugby Union committees are working to improve our coordination and administration of our competitions from 2009. This is an exciting time in our growth, as we see this as crucial in continuing the growth of Rugby on the Downs.

Lastly, we would like to officially congratulate Geoff Makim on his Life Membership of the Darling Downs Rugby Union for his involvement in Rugby on the Downs for more than 40 years. Well done Geoff and thank you for your commitment.

**Paul Tindall**  
**President**

# MACKAY

2008 was a challenging year in all aspects, from participation to financial.

**Schools**  
The same number of schools participated in 2008 as they did in 2007. This was a sound result with our development officer having his first full year based in Mackay and working with the district schools for the first time. It was pleasant to see Moranbah High join the Mackay region and hopefully this will be a long term appointment ensuring rugby development continues in this strong regional centre.

**Juniors**  
Participation numbers were down from the previous year. Strong inroads have been made in the Whitsunday area and we expect this to continue in 2009 with strong volunteer participation and excellent support from the schools network in this area. Future development programs will ensure this region will continue to flourish. The juniors have suffered from a lack of stability on their committee and this year with an increased involvement of the MDRU management committee and a change to a shorter winter season we expect to rebuild our numbers over the next three years.

**Seniors**  
2008 was the best standard of rugby played in the district for quite some time. The culmination of a Slade Point-Whitsunday final was just desserts for the two best teams in the competition and Whitsunday was unlucky to miss the prize on the day. The competition showed a considerably

improved playing standard, which was a credit to the coaches, captains and players in the district.

**Mackay Rugby Union**  
It is no secret that financially we have struggled over the past five years and with the addition of Ian Joblin to our committee our finances have been shored up. Our desire to sell a portion of land to clear debt and develop our facility will assist with directing the sole focus on rugby and assisting to provide a facility for generations of rugby players and supporters in the district.

**Bryan Sheedy**  
**MDRU President**

# CAIRNS

The Cairns region experienced a significant level of rugby activity in 2008. At the representative level, our Blue Sky Thunder Team did very well at the country championships, coming second. We also fielded an U19 Thunder side which acquitted itself against the local neighbouring unions. Eight of the Cairns Blue Sky Thunder squad were selected for the Queensland Country team.

In our premier competition we had eight clubs, with six teams playing A Grade and seven teams playing Reserve Grade. Not all clubs were able to field both grades and that is the challenge for us going into 2009; to rebuild rugby so that all clubs can field both grades. Our stalwart women had their own competition and provided great lead up features to our Premier competition. This is the only Women's Rugby competition outside Brisbane. Again, this will be a focus for development in the future.

The Juniors competition always has its challenges competing in a League stronghold. We offer an end of year competition which has been very successful and after five years of progress we now find that in 2009 we will be able to run an U18s competition.

Our Cairns Old Crocs held another extremely successful Cairns Reef Casino Over 35's Tournament in September. This event had 10 teams including visitors from overseas, interstate as well as two local teams. The hospitality and reputation of this tournament continues to grow and provides a great highlight for rugby at the end of our main season.

**Margot Richardson**  
**Secretary**

# RUGBY GOLD COAST

The region achieved four per cent growth for juniors and 20 per cent for seniors, resulting in an overall growth rate of some 10 per cent and a total rugby playing population on the Gold Coast of 2,930.

In major new growth areas such as Coomera, numbers are expected to climb at an increased rate, whilst the "re-birthing" of older established clubs will generate acceptable increases.

The past year has seen the addition of a new club, the Hinterland Celtics, to bring the total number of Gold Coast clubs to 11.

Continuing contact with and support of the Far North Coast Division of NSW Country rugby is producing a very positive relationship. The way ahead has been agreed in principle and the expectations of both parties mutually accepted.



The two RGC Development Officers made inroads to new and established rugby schools. The success of the McDonalds Cup at All Saints School led to many players indicating their wish to continue in rugby via their local club. The growth pattern of the various school programs run by the DOs is ahead of the club statistics at present.

A more structured and transparent selection process for players and coaches resulted in very satisfactory results at the Junior State Championships in July. Gold Coast Cyclones teams reached the top four of their pools, with the U13s and U15s runners-up in the finals. A big thank you to Mat Hanley from Mattelectric and ILC for the sponsorship support of the Junior Cyclones program.

The success of the Senior Cyclones in achieving their fourth straight Premiership in the Hutchinson Builders Country Championships is testament to the coaching skills and the strength and depth of this section of the RGC pool. The new State Cup format for 2009 is awaited with enthusiasm.

A volunteer recognition program has been successfully instigated with monthly and annual recipients being recognised with dinners and Reds tickets, and by being named in the monthly newsletter. Grant assistance has been instrumental in providing the services of support personnel for the clubs as well as training programs for club-nominated individuals to improve skills and and/or accreditation.

RGC is grateful to our loyal group of Sponsors especially Bill Brownlee Smith from City Finance Loans & Cash Solutions because without their contribution RGC would not survive. Other sponsors include LM Investment Australia Ltd, Bartercard, Delfin Lend Lease, The Potter Group, WRS Kooga and Bruce Lynton BMW.

**Tim Rowlands**  
**CEO. Rugby Gold Coast**

## SUNSHINE COAST AND DISTRICTS

The 2008 season was a very successful one for Sunshine Coast rugby. Our representative team in the Queensland Premier competition, the Stingrays, was very competitive, due to the extremely hard work and tenacity of the Stingrays players, head coach Glen Panoho and his excellent support staff. The Stingrays players all responded well to Glen's encouragement.

Two Stingrays players, Shon Simonek from Maroochydore Rugby and veteran Stingrays player Charles Wyllie from University of the Sunshine Coast Rugby, were selected in a Queensland Premier XV which played Auckland at Stockland Park. These selections were a great boost for rugby on the coast.

On the club scene eight clubs competed in the local senior competition: Caboolture, Caloundra, Fraser Coast, Gympie, Maroochydore, Nambour, Noosa and University of the Sunshine Coast.

A couple of clubs struggled with player numbers particularly towards the latter end of the season and hopefully this situation will improve next year. A more favourable draw for those clubs and a more aggressive attitude with player recruitment in the off season will go a long way to improve the situation.

It was encouraging to see many clubs apply for and receive Government grants to help improve their amenities as well as plant and equipment.

More clubs have to make a bigger effort to encourage quality committee members. These members should ideally be drawn from the local business community. There are many rugby tragics out there willing to help and they simply need to be asked.

Each club should continue to improve their image so as to attract young families within their area. I single out the University of the Sunshine Coast rugby club for the excellent work they did this year to create an atmosphere at their grounds which is family friendly. Being the Club champions for 2008 gave them the right to host the grand final. They performed the big job admirably and should be congratulated.

The A Grade grand final was won by University defeating Noosa; the Reserve Grade grand final was won by Maroochydore defeating University; the U19 Colts was won by Noosa defeating Caboolture and the Women's grand final was won by University defeating Maroochydore.

I would like to thank all club Presidents for their support and advice throughout the season and all of the wonderful sponsors, supporters, and volunteers who work so hard and give their time generously to this great game of ours.

**Ian McKinnon**  
**President**

## TOWNSVILLE

Approximately half-way through the season, Craig Stack resigned as President of the TDRU due to work and family commitments. Craig had made an outstanding contribution to Rugby in Townsville both as immediate Past President and a former Committee Member. Craig had always believed that exposure to international and provincial Rugby would increase the growth and profile of the game in Townsville. He actively pursued high profile matches for Townsville which underpinned the growth and development of Junior Rugby in this region. The TDRU sincerely thank Craig for all his time and efforts, and encourage him to continue to be involved with Rugby at whatever level he considers appropriate.

From my perspective, there are two significant achievements in 2008. The first is the proposed expansion of the competition playing base in 2009. The decision to have competitions in each age division in Junior Rugby will see our competition grow from 47 to approximately 70 teams in 2009. This will create a launch pad for the next phase of growth and development for Townsville Rugby.

The second major achievement for this year is detailed in a letter from Queensland Rugby dated 10 November, 2008. In that letter, the QRU Board acknowledges the value a regional-based team in Townsville would bring to the Premier Rugby Competition and Rugby in Queensland. It goes on to say that the QRU Board have approved the inclusion of a Townsville-based Premier Rugby Team in 2010 subject to conditions.

The application and business plan submitted to the Queensland Rugby Union for admission into the Premier Rugby Competition involved a considerable amount of work. In particular, I would like to thank our Rugby Director, Terry Shiells, our Treasurer, Anthony Burke, our Vice-President, Lachlan Bell, and Brian Fanning for their assistance. I would

also like to acknowledge the letters of support provided by all the Townsville Rugby Clubs, the Cairns & District Rugby Union, Mackay Rugby and the QRU North Queensland Rugby Manager, Peter Wilkins.

Our involvement in Premier Rugby will also involve a variety of new challenges which will include:

1. The creation of new revenue streams;
2. The development of a new operational structure;
3. Constitutional reform;
4. A working Rugby Club; and
5. Revised timetables to accommodate Premier Rugby.

The TDRU is extremely confident it can deal with these new challenges.

The TDRU must continue to increase the profile of Rugby as it now competes for sponsor dollars against national competitions in Rugby League, Basketball and Soccer, and high profile events such as V8 Supercar Racing. We acknowledge and thank our current sponsors such as Xstrata, Walters Supa IGA, Mike Carney Toyota, Troy Williams The Good Guys, the Great Northern Hotel, North West Constructions, and Wilson Ryan Grose.

Our representative sides have been competitive in all forms of Country and State Championships as on-field success of sides representing Townsville is one of the principal yardsticks by which the TDRU should continue to evaluate its performance. Our local clubs continue to grow and we thank all who participated in the 2008 competition. The final mention should go to the Teachers West Rugby Union Club

## WESTERN QUEENSLAND

Western Queensland enjoyed a successful season with four teams participating in the competition; Barcaldine, Ilfracombe, and the two Longreach teams; the Rustlers and Jumbucks.

Barcaldine players' commitment was exceptional with their captain, Clinton Betines, driving a round trip of nearly 1,000 kilometres every weekend to play. Tapai Bartlett coached Barcaldine yet again and attracted a lot of new players to the club.

Ilfracombe struggled for numbers in their third year in the competition but displayed great courage in competing in games without a full complement of players.

Rustlers finished second in the competition for the third year in a row and were well led by Mark Cuttler. The team blended youth with experience and with the experience and confidence gained in 2008 will be a force in 2009.

The Longreach Jumbucks were undefeated in 2008 and deservedly won the Western Queensland Premiership. They were well coached by Bevan Pierce and had a number of talented players; the best being Andrew Coleman, Robbie Johnson and Ian McConnell in the backs and led from the front by Keith Morton, Grant Laidlor and Luke Peachy. Dean Workman deserves credit for a lot of effort in administering the competition.

Two players, Robbie Johnson and Ian McConnell represented the Outback Barbarians in their game against Townsville.

**Boyd Curran**  
**President**

## ROCKHAMPTON

2008 was another good season with many highlights. We had a terrific finals series with Colts snatching victory over Frenchville in the last second. We also had some close and exciting matches in the other grades. Congratulations go to all our other premiership winners.

Pathways rugby continues to grow and prosper whilst we also had a very successful schools competition. A junior competition was also held as well as a primary school competition at Capricorn Coast.

Our open representative team performed with distinction throughout the country championships. We also fielded teams at the State junior championships.

Sponsorship continued this year with good support from Thrifty, to name one. We also received significant support from Olimar Pty Ltd towards the cost of upgrading the air conditioners in the club house.

We would like to thank all of our volunteers for their efforts during 2008. This not only includes RDRU volunteers but all of the club volunteers and our referees.

A special thanks to our groundsman Wayne Dunstan for maintaining rugby park as one of the best grounds in Queensland and to Athol Backhouse who, in addition to being our chief line marker, also chairs the judicial committee.

Thanks to all committee members for your efforts. Also a big thank you to all sub committee members especially the chairman of our junior sub committee Wes Heberlein and our chairman of the schools competition committee Alistair Waite.

**Ian Coombe**  
**President**



# QUEENSLAND RUGBY FOOTBALL SCHOOLS UNION

The QRFSU year again commenced with the regional coaching seminar at Ballymore in early March. While the participation of coaches was down a little on 2007 numbers the input by the QR Reds coaching and management staff Ben Whitaker, Phil Mooney, Damon Emtage and Mark Bell was invaluable. The readiness of the Reds staff to be involved at this level was very encouraging and it is to be hoped this form of participation will continue into the future.

The State 18 Years Regional Championships was hosted by Met North at Brisbane Grammar Fields at Nudgee, but due to the wet weather the games had to be played on the outside fields. In a closely contested final South Coast defeated Met East 7-0. Both regions were the best performing teams over the four days but there were excellent performances by the Sunshine Coast region, Peninsula region and the Northern region. As previously recorded there is the need for the injection of extra support in the Darling Downs region which, with schools such as Downlands College, should be a top four performer each year at this championship. The following people need to be acknowledged for their outstanding effort in organising the championships: Mark Tibbles (RSO /Met North); Michael Crank and Phil Langley (convenors)

The Queensland Schoolboy Trials were held at Ballymore over three playing days in late June and provided all boys with the opportunity to display their talents in front of the state selectors. The trials were well run by the QRFSU executive and two very competitive state teams were selected at the conclusion of the trials. The following people were instrumental in ensuring that all went according to plan: Bill Newcombe (QRFSU) ; John Brew (QRFSU); Darren Kayrooz (QRFSU) and the staff from the Queensland School Sports Unit who provide great assistance with programs and in other small but invaluable ways.

The Queensland teams went to Canberra for the national Championships in July well prepared and well rested. Both coaching staffs recognise that for both teams, more training is not necessarily better for the team performance. Both teams enjoyed the week in Canberra both on and off the field. The non playing program seems to be well balanced and touches on a range of social and rugby events. After a week of very competitive rugby Queensland 1 emerged the winner of the national title with a 23-21 victory over NSW 1. This capped a remarkable effort by Ian Jones, who coached the winning state team for the third year in a row, and by David Bell who was assistant coach for two years and was Manager of the winning team in the first year, 2006. After a slower start to the championships the Queensland 2 team finished with a 27-12 victory over ACT. The following staff are to be acknowledged for all the work done in preparing and looking after the interests of their respective teams for the best part of a fortnight:  
Queensland 1: Jon Fitzgerald (manager), Ian Jones (coach), David Bell (assistant coach) Jason Gilmore (QRU)  
Queensland 2: Adam Ridgewell (manager), Steven Philpotts (coach), John Rauch (assistant coach), David Hanham (QRU)

Following on from the national championships the CSS team travelled to Sydney for a game against NSW CHS. This game revived an annual exchange which commenced in the mid 1980s. After conceding NSW a considerable start the CSS boys finished with a second half burst and recorded a narrow victory. It is hoped to retain this fixture in 2009 with the possibility of expanding it to include teams from AIC in Queensland and NSW CCC.

The final football event for the year was the 15 Years State Regional Championships which was hosted by the Sunshine Coast region at the Noosa Rugby Club where, as always, the hospitality was outstanding and nothing was too much trouble. The winning region was Met East which had a convincing 35-7 victory over South Coast in the final. Darling Downs won the plate award for the highest finishing country region and encouraging performances came from Peninsula and Capricornia. The following people need to be thanked for their terrific work in organising this event: Mark West (RSO Sunshine Coast); Steve Chapman and Luke Zermes who were the championship convenors; and the committee from the Noosa rugby club.

The commencement of the national program saw games against Fiji with the Fijian test in Brisbane as a curtain raiser to the Bledisloe Cup game. This game was followed by the Australian tour of Tonga and New Zealand. The following Queensland boys were selected to play in these games:

Australia v Fiji: Nick Buchanan, Josh Daley, Jarrad Butler, Nick Price, Dominic Shipperley

Australia A v Fiji: James Ambrosini, Eddie Bredenmann, David Feao, Stephano Hunt, Matthew Mafi, Eddie Quirk, Ken Robertson, Mark Swanepoel

Australia v Tonga and New Zealand: James Ambrosini, Jarrad Butler, Eddie Bredenmann, Nick Buchanan, Josh Daley, David Feao, Stephano Hunt, Nick Price, Eddie Quirk, Ken Robertson, Dominic Shipperley, Mark Swanepoel

The Ian MacMillan Memorial Award for the most outstanding schoolboy footballer was awarded to Jarrad Butler (The Southport School) and the outstanding player award (Bronze Boot Award) from the New Zealand test went to Eddie Quirk (Brisbane State High School). Both Eddie and Jarrad are Year 11 students and are available for selection again in 2009.

In concluding 2008 report I need to highlight the effort that the QRU has made to reconnect with the schools at a variety of levels. Hopefully the gains made will continue to be nurtured in 2009. One of the initiatives was the first community rugby dinner hosted by the QRU. The QRFSU took advantage of this event to make two special presentations. The first was the Ian MacMillan Memorial Award and the second was the presentation of a QRFSU life membership to John Edwards. John's contribution to schools' rugby for over 30 years has been outstanding. The quality of the Sunshine Coast rugby competition is indicative of John's outstanding work. There will be a QRFSU presentation to John at our AGM in 2009. It also worthy to

note and congratulate two of our life members who received Order of Australia Awards during the year – Bill Sole and Jim Lucey, both of whom have made a huge contribution to school sport in Queensland and beyond

I also express my gratitude to the following people for their contributions over the past year:

- The QRFSU committee and the executive especially Bill Newcombe, John Brew, Darren Kayrooz and the QSS Unit
- The QRU especially Simon Taylor
- All our volunteers who assisted at trials, championships and other events as coaches, managers and referees
- Education Queensland through their regional sports officers

## Damien Barker Chair

Major School Competition Winners for 2009 were-

- AIC: St Laurence's College
- GPS: St Joseph's Nudgee College
- Ballymore Cup: Mountain Creek State High School
- Sunshine Coast Schools: Mountain Creek State High School
- State 18 Years Regional Winners: South Coast
- State 15 Years Regional Winners: Met East

# QUEENSLAND JUNIOR RUGBY UNION

2008 was a good year for junior rugby in Queensland. Although there was limited growth in numbers over the state there were a number of events and initiatives that leave Junior Rugby in a good place today.

The 2008 QR State Championships were possibly the best championships we have staged. The major sponsors were QR, ISC-Sports, Mazda, and Powerade.

QR's assistance for teams outside the Brisbane area, the opening ceremony and the partnership with True Sport Lives Here, the visit from the Wallabies, the visit from the Test referees, the availability of tickets to the Australia v France Test, the final day at Ballymore and a visit from the IRB representatives on the final day all contributed to a great event. With the partnership of the Environment Protection Agency, Brisbane City Council and the QJRU the State championships were a Public Place Recycling Event.

As President, I am always concerned with the issue of player safety and one of the general indicators that I use to judge the state of coaching standards and how safety issues are being addressed is the number of serious injuries. This year's State Championships was exceptional in that there were no ambulances required to attend to injured players.

A QJRU U17 team was selected from the players present at the State Championships to play a NSW U17 team in September for the inaugural Chris Latham Shield. Because of the distribution of players across the state and the logistics involved there was a limited preparation for the players. The final score was 44-0 to NSW, however I believe the young men involved played the game with great spirit and pride. My thanks to the Brisbane Junior Rugby Union for supplying an Under 15 team to play the NSW JRU Under 15 in the curtain raiser and the contribution the BJRU made to the organisation of the day's events. Next year the games will be played in Sydney.

This year the QJRU in conjunction with the QRU have facilitated a huge increase in the numbers of people attending Level 1 Coaching Courses throughout Queensland. This has been achieved through the distribution of advertising and a contribution of coaching resources.

I can sense a positive vibe in Queensland's Junior Rugby Community at this time, with the involvement of the QJRU in the marketing of the Reds, the Wallabies Fan Day at the Brisbane Junior Rugby Union's Grand Final and the marketing initiatives involved with sign on days across Queensland. These positive activities will be continued.

Thank you to specific volunteers who organised the State Championships: Scott Bethel , Narelle Cathcart, Richard Stokes, Dr John Moran, Ted Hunter, Lis Hammond, Chris Aitchison, Sue Hanger, Ian Forrester, Evie Glover, Tony Machin, Ian Patterson and Jack Cathcart and the many referees, touch judges, field marshals and ballboys who contributed to the event.

Thanks also to the coaching staff of the QJRU U17 team: Coach Andrew Gillies, Assistant Coach Peter Cook and Manager Pita Thompson.

My thanks to the committee: Don Parry, Scott Bethel, Ken Greedy, Barry Leask, Ken Hunter, Grahame Thompson. Special thanks to the members of the committee who will be leaving this year: Scott Bethel for his contribution to the State Championships and to Ken Hunter for his insights and support. Thanks also to Brent Hagen for his enthusiasm and hard work through the year.

Lastly I would like to thank the families, the mums and dads of the boys and girls who play junior rugby across the state. These people make up the committees, the team management, the coaches and the officials who support the game where ever it is played. Please continue the good work you are doing.

## Tony Reddy President



# QUEENSLAND RUGBY CLUB

Club membership ranks swelled by an additional 100 new members during the year to approximately 4,000, is a testimony of to the high quality of services offered by the Club.

Our Penfolds Lunches are a continued source of enjoyment for those members able to join us at Ballymore on a Friday every eight weeks or so. The speakers who entertained us in 2008 included Eric Rush, Kieran Perkins and Matt Burke. The success of these events will continue to see them improve in years to come.

Whilst always focussing on our members’ interests, we are committed to assisting grassroots rugby when possible. We have maintained previous levels of support to grassroots rugby organisations with the provision of financial grants to a host of rugby affiliates including referees, junior rugby, schools rugby, country rugby, suburban rugby and the Vintage Reds.

As previously announced the Club is embarking on an exciting new CBD-based development on the Brisbane River at the Riverside Centre to be known as Rugby Quay. At the time of writing our programmed and staged opening dates for the new facilities will be between February and April 2009.

The new facilities will include:

- A 330-seat event centre (The Strand at Rugby Quay)
- A signature restaurant (Tempo at Rugby Quay), and
- New city-based Club premises (The Queensland Rugby Club at Rugby Quay), incorporating a members’ dining room, members’ bar and lounge.

In addition to the improved membership facilities that will be offered at Rugby Quay, the other prime motivating force for embarking on the project is the potential for long term annual revenue growth to assist in our support of grass roots rugby organisations.

I am also happy to report that our relationship with QRU Chairman, Peter Lewis and his Board continues to strengthen. The Club is supportive of the QRU’s initiatives to secure the future growth and prosperity of rugby and the two Boards will continue working together to investigate ways of furthering the development of rugby in Queensland. Prospective redevelopment opportunities at Ballymore by the QRU are particularly exciting and we look forward to these plans coming to fruition.

We congratulate Phil Mooney and the Queensland Reds on their 2008 season which was a welcome turnaround from recent years and gives a fresh optimism for a return to success for Queensland Rugby in years ahead. We look forward to members supporting the Reds in great numbers again next season.

We are again entering challenging economic times and are resolved to focus on managing the affairs of the Club to ensure our continued success and ever increasing contribution to Rugby in Queensland

**Chris J. McCluskey**  
**President**

# QUEENSLAND JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

The trial period for dealing with minor offences by an agreed one week suspension continued in the 2008 season. Once again, it appears to have worked satisfactorily with 31% of offenders electing to proceed in this way. That figure is down from 45% last year and seems to have come about by a more stringent review of send off reports and the Committee erring on the side of issuing more ‘show cause’ notices rather than offering a mandatory one week ban. While this led to an increased workload for the Committee, it did not appear to lead to many offences warranting anything greater than a one week suspension.

The concern expressed last year that there may have been some correlation between the rapid increase in Colts send offs with fewer actual appearances before the Judiciary has not been borne out in 2008. This year there were 18 Colts sent off which represented 22% of all send offs, which is the same proportion of Colts to the Brisbane rugby playing population.

The key statistics for the 2008 season were:

- 80 players were sent off (down from 98 in 2007 and 107 in 2006)
- 25 were given the one week suspension without appearing (44 in 2007)
- 18 colts (2 Premier Colts) sent off (43 in 2007 and 42 in 2006)
- 7 Premier grade players sent off (6 in 2007 and 11 in 2006)

The significant contributions of Paul Tully and Geoff Gardiner in their respective roles as President’s nominee and QRRR nominee must be acknowledged

**Harold Shand**  
**Chairman, Queensland Judiciary Committee**

# STATE REFEREE COMMITTEE

The QRU’s State Referee Committee (SRC) achieved the following planned objectives in 2008:

- Advanced Training and Education programs for the Premier Development Squad
- Further development of the State’s Referee Coaching Panel
- Provide Officials for all SRC-Designated matches
- Establish Interchanges Domestic/Overseas
- Extend the DVD coverage to a greater range of Referees

Over the year, the SRC appointed 224 referees, 322 Reserve and Assistant Referees, 109 number 4’s and 5’s and 70 referee coaches and notational assistants to matches in:

- Trinity Premier Rugby
- Hutchinson Builders Country Championships
- QRFSU 18 years Championships

- QRFSU Under 15 Championships
- QRFSU Schoolboy Trials
- Ballymore Cup Semi-Finals and Finals
- Other Requested Appointments
- Under 18 State Secondary Schoolboy Trials

All Hutchinson Builders Country Championship matches were refereed by country-based referees except where it was more economical to appoint referees from the QRRR (Brisbane) Inc. Country Referee Coaches viewed the majority of these matches as part of their ongoing development after attending a Brisbane based Referee Coach Course early in 2008. Level III Referee Coaches from Brisbane were appointed at times to assess these coaches in their development.

QRRR (Brisbane) Inc Association referees, Craig Hills, Stephen Hill and Paul Twomey were appointed to a total of three Australian Rugby Shield (ARS) matches that were played in Charters Towers, Adelaide and the Gold Coast. Referee Coaches Geoff Pegg, Terry O’Connor, Peter Gofton and Greg Hinton were also appointed as reviewers to ARS matches in Queensland, Adelaide and Darwin.

The SRC, in line with its charter to increase the quality of referees, endorsed and financially supported the Intrastate Referee Interchange programs conducted by the QRRR (Brisbane) Inc and the overseas appointment of Paul Haydock to the Dubai 7’s in 2008.

The SRC conducted a Junior Referee Coaching clinic prior to the QJRU State Championships at Nudgee College as well as nominating to the QRRR (Brisbane) Inc and the QJRU, talent-identified junior referees to officiate at these State Championships.

Ian Scotney, SRC Chairman, held mid-year discussions with Reds Performance Manager Ben Whitaker and Team Manager Brendan Morris in respect to them providing a Referee Development Program for 6-8 referees that would provide key education modules including nutrition education and program, mental toughness, decision making, recovery as well as formalised training. At time of writing this was expected to be held in 2009. Another project to be undertaken was for two referees to be involved with the Reds Academy Camp.

The SRC would like to congratulate the following on their 2008 achievements:

- Paul Marks on his retention on the IRB Referee B Panel and the ARU Referee A Panel. Paul’s appointments for 2008 included:
  - Pacific 6 Nations Test Referee NZ Maori v Tonga
  - Referee for Seven Super 14 matches
  - Trinity Premier Grand Final Referee
  - Reserve or Assistant Referee to Five International Test Matches
  - Referee Manager for ARU Under 16 National Championships
  - ARU selected Referee for Japan A League late 2008
- Geoff Acton on his retention on the ARU Referee B Panel for 2008 and as the recipient of the 2008 Queensland Premier Rugby Referee Award. Geoff’s appointments for 2008 included:
  - Referee for ARU Provincial match Qld A v ACT A
  - Reserve Referee for Provincial match ACT A v NSW A
  - Reserve Referee for Pacific 6 Nation Test NZ Maori v Tonga





- Number 4 Official for 3 International Tests
- Reserve or Assistant Referee or TMO for 9 Super 14 matches
- Referee Manager for the ARU National Women’s Championship
- Simon Moore on his selection to the ARU Referee B Panel for 2008
- Andrew Cole on his appointment as Referee Head Coach for the ARU Div 1 Schools Championships
- Terry O’Connor on his appointment as Referee Head Coach for the ARU Under 16 National Championships
- Geoff Pegg on his appointment as Referee Head Coach for the ARU Women’s National Championships
- Neill McCann on his appointment as a Referee Coach to the ARU Div 2 Schools Championships
- Andrew Coorey, John Christophersen, Paul Haydock, Craig Hills, Stephen Hill, Steve Leszczynski and Paul Twomey on their selection to the ARU National Development Panel
- Paul Haydock and Stephen Hill appointments as Referees for the ARU Div 1 Schools Championships
- Paul Haydock appointment as Referee for the Australia A v Fiji Schools match
- John Christophersen and Andrew Coorey appointments as Referees for the ARU Under 16 National Championships
- Stephen Hill selected by ARU to Referee the Japan A league September 2008

Activity programs to be considered for 2009 include:

- Further Updating of Premier Referee Training and Education programs
- Further develop Junior Refereeing and Coaching
- Country Associations Referee and Referee Coach Development
- Further upgrade State Development Squads
- Focus on upgrading Referee Coaching
- Develop and Plan a State Referee Conference to be held in 2010.

**Geoff Pegg**  
**SRC Committee**

# QUEENSLAND RUGBY REFEREES ASSOCIATION

QRRRA enjoyed a stable and productive season in 2008, continuing to build a genuine and respected presence in the wider rugby community. This season our focus was firmly on four elements of our core business:

**Refereeing Services**  
In 2008, QRRRA appointed to 3,197 games including QRU grade competitions, school based competitions (GPS, AIC and TAS), BJRU junior competitions and the QJRU championships. 248 members were appointed to these games with visiting referees completing the remainder.

**Referee Development Activities**  
QRRRA provides by far the most number of referees to the talent identified squads at both a state and national level and works closely with the State Referee Committee to improve the skills and abilities of all members of the Association. In 2008, over 280 coaching reports were provided by referee coaches as well as specialist activities throughout the season.

**Recruitment and Future Planning**  
Our new school-based Associate program provided accreditation programs for the non-appointed school based referees as well as specialised kit in conjunction with Schools Sports Associations. This program, attended by 102 referees, predominantly students, helped to improve the standards in lower grade school games. Importantly, refereeing now has the same pathways available as players. In addition, 33 new referees commenced with the Association this year, the largest number in many years. We are also working on an induction program to smooth the path for new referees.

**Accreditation and Administration**  
QRRRA has assumed responsibility for distributing referee education and administrative advices to the broader refereeing and rugby community. This ensures that Law and Policy issues are communicated to all match officials directly from a single and reliable source as well as ensuring accreditation can be monitored.

Paul Marks led the way for our representative referees with further international and Investec Super 14 appointments, Geoff Acton was again appointed to Assistant Referee and TMO duties in Super 14, along with Steve Leszczynski as a TMO and Simon Moore as an AR, while Andrew Cole, Scott Young and Ian Scotney served in evaluation roles. In total 24 of our referees and referee coaches were appointed to national championships and other representative fixtures.

Thanks to the 2008 Management Committee of Barry Leask (Vice-President), Mark Hogan (Secretary), Dan Sheahan (Treasurer), Rodd Brockett, John Christopherson, Paul Daly and Rob McAfee; to the Appointments Board chaired by Barry, along with Brian O’Donnell, Peter Backstrom and Greg Cuthbert; and to Executive Officer Paul Heath, for his professional approach to our overall administration. Thanks also to long standing sponsors, Queensland Rugby Union Club and Cooper’s Plains Dental Surgery, joined in 2008 by Genworth Financial and BlueScope Steel.

**Neill McCann**  
**President**

# OFFICE BEARERS

**Patron**  
Her Excellency  
Ms Quentin Bryce, AC  
Governor of Queensland

**Vice Patrons**  
The Honourable Anna Bligh  
Premier of Queensland

**The Right Honourable**  
The Lord Mayor of Brisbane  
Cr Campbell Newman

**President**  
David Crombie

**Vice Presidents**  
Tom McVeigh, Paul McGahan (until April 19), Dick Marks (from April 19)

**Board of Directors**  
PB Lewis (Chairman); M Glover (Finance Director); WM Colwell B. Com (QU), CA, IP; KE Freer B. Pharm, MBA, FAIM (CEO); CO Harkness; RJP Marks (to April 19); BN Tune (Player); RS Williams LLB, ArbiAMA, FAIM; SM Wilson BCom, LLB, Hon PhD; PJ Carroll B. Com (UQ), LLB (Macq), FCA (from April 19)

**QRU Chief Executive**  
Ken Freer

**QRU Commercial Manager**  
Tony Hancock / Rhys Watkins (from October 2008)

**QRU Community Rugby Manager**  
Simon Taylor

**QRU Performance Rugby Manager**  
Ben Whitaker

**QRU Finance & Administration Manager**  
Scott Eisentrager

**QR Reds Head Coach**  
Phil Mooney

**QAS Reds Academy Head Coach**  
Paul Carozza

**Australian Rugby Union Council Members**  
Peter Lewis, Ross Williams, Will Colwell

**Queensland Suburban**  
Ross Williams (Chairman), Noel Rafter (President), Rob Donaghue (Secretary), Cameron Leggat (Treasurer), Terry Donaghue, Karl Shrubsole, Pat Stein and Paul Daly (QRRRA (Brisbane) Inc. Representative – ex officio)

**Queensland Country**  
Peter Curtis (President), Graeme Cann (Treasurer, to May 2008) Ian Coombe (Treasurer, from May 2008), Dan Coonan, Geoff Makim, Peter Menzies, Dan Morton

**Judiciary Committee**  
Harold Shand (Chairman), Geoff Gardiner, Paul Tully

**Judicial Appeals Committee**  
John Mullins, Wren Bligh, Greg Core, John Forbes, Paul Harding, Tim Matthews, Paul McGahan, Chris Newton, Mark Peacock, Noel Rafter, Tony Shaw and Alby Taylor

**State Referee Committee**  
Dick Marks (Chairman until 19/04/08), Michael Glover (Chairman from 19/04/08), Ian Scotney, Terry O’Connor, Andrew Cole, Geoff Pegg, Neil McCann, David Shing, David Hanham (ex officio)





# OBITUARIES 2008

## Paul Treacy

Queensland junior rugby mourned the passing of QJRU Life Member and former AJRU director Paul Treacy, who died in Brisbane after a four year battle with cancer. He was 62.

Paul Treacy joined the committee of the QJRU in the mid-1980s, becoming President in 1991-1993 and a Life Member in 1995. During this time he was also a Director of the AJRU from 1991-1995. He was a driving force behind the Brisbane Club Competition Committee with his focus being cooperation between competitors for the greater good of the game.

He combined his skill at administration with a love of coaching, especially in the younger age groups where he could encourage new generations to enjoy the camaraderie, friendship and fun that had made rugby his lifelong passion.

Paul Treacy started coaching at Ashgrove Emus/Ashgrove GPS in the early 80’s when there were only about 50 kids from 7’s to 10’s playing. He maintained a long involvement, being honoured with a Life Membership of the club.

## Lukasz Suszynski

Lukasz Suszynski, one of the founders of the Redcliffe Juniors, died in a traffic accident on May 15. He was 43.

The Kippa-Ring father of five was a tireless worker for junior rugby and a devoted family man. He was a foundation committee member of the Redcliffe Sea Snakes Junior Rugby Union club.

Junior club president Doug Galvin said over the past five years Mr Suszynski had served on the committee in the roles of Vice President, Treasurer, Registrar and Canteen Coordinator. He was voted Club Person of the Year in 2004, due to his tireless volunteer work for the club.

## Quinton Mateo

Former Norths Premier Rugby outside back Quinton Mateo was killed in a car accident at the age of 23.

Mateo joined Norths in 2005 having never played rugby union before, but by 2006 he was a member of the Queensland squad for that year’s Australian Provincial Championship.

Norths’ Head Coach Chris Roche said Mateo had played for the Eagles for three years and had hoped to play again this year but his football comeback was delayed by a long term arm injury.

Roche said Mateo’s death was especially sad given he had helped start the resurgence that has led to the club’s current success. “He was a part of the group that embarked on this grand adventure at a time when you couldn’t have convinced your best friend to come and play for Norths,” Roche said.

## Col O’Brien

Sports physiotherapist Col O’Brien, who spent a decade preparing and repairing some of Queensland Rugby’s finest players, died at the age of 61.

Col O’Brien was a great servant of Rugby, serving for many

years as the Honorary Physiotherapist of the Reds in the glory era. He even paid his own way when the Reds went on exotic tours to Japan, North America, South America and Europe.

His crowning achievement in Rugby was to be the Physio to Tony Shaw’s Wallabies in 1981.

He was also a Physio to the Australian Team for the Los Angeles Olympics.

He died of a heart attack while out running.

## Doug Hutchings

Long serving referee Doug Hutchings passed away in Brisbane after a battle with prostate cancer.

Doug Hutchings joined the QRRRA in 1993 and officiated at 292 matches in his 16 years as a member and match official.

QRRRA President Neil McCann said he and members of the QRRRA extended their sympathy to Doug’s widow Betty and his family.

Doug Hutchings was also a Life Member of the Sunnybank club, which used its match against University to promote awareness of the prevention and early diagnosis of cancer by making it a Call to Arms day. The club also lost life member Jim Gallen to cancer in the same week.

## Roy Prosser

Once Australia’s most-capped prop with 25 Test appearances from 1967-1972, Roy Prosser passed away in Brisbane following a heart attack.

“It is an absolutely tragic loss to our game,” said Australian Rugby Union president Paul McLean.

“Roy was one of Rugby’s all time great people. He had friends around the world; he was extremely well loved by the entire Wallabies family; and in many ways you would never meet a more generous person.

“His career on the field was also highly distinguished.”

Roy Prosser made his Test debut on the 1966-67 tour to the UK and Ireland. A 23-11 victory over England at Twickenham marked his entry to the international ranks while, over the next six seasons, he would take on the might of the All Blacks and Springboks on 13 occasions.

Having played in Australian sides captained by Ken Catchpole, John Thornett, Peter Johnson and Greg Davis, Prosser played his final Test at Buckhurst Park, Suva, in 1972 where Australia defeated Fiji 21-19.

In the mid-1970’s he moved to Brisbane and was captain-coach when Wests won its inaugural top grade premiership in 1977. He was coach when future Wallaby fullback Roger Gould made his debut with the club. He also assisted another Test star in Stan Pilecki through his early years in representative football.

## Cyril Andrews

Former Queensland player and celebrated “Golden Oldie”, Cyril Andrews, died in Brisbane at the age of 92.

Cyril “Fatty” Andrews played as a winger for Queensland between 1936 and 1941 out of the now defunct Eagle Junction club.

He played for an Australia XV against the Springboks in 1937 but never reached Test level. Cyril also played for Queensland against the ‘Boks in the same year, when the South Africans toured Australia on their way to New Zealand.

When his representative career ended Cyril kept playing well into his 90s, as one of the XXXX “Golden Oldies”.

He attended a number of Golden Oldies festivals, travelling as far afield as Cape Town in 1998 and the USA in 2005 at the age of 87 to play the game he loved. He was presented with the Spirit of the Festival Award at the San Diego gathering.

On one trip to Norfolk Island to play the island team, the Creaky Old Convicts, Cyril scored a try under the posts and then stepped up to kick the conversion.

## Fabian McCarthy

Australian Rugby was saddened by the death of former Queensland forward Fabian McCarthy in Toowoomba, aged 89.

Born in Roma on 24 June 1919, “Fabe” McCarthy played for Queensland from 1948-50 and toured New Zealand with the triumphant 1949 Wallabies, who returned as the first Australian team to win a series against the All Blacks on Kiwi soil. The Wallabies won both Tests and finished with an overall record of 11 wins from 12 matches.

McCarthy made his Test debut the following year against the British Isles in Brisbane, where the Lions won 19-6. It proved to be McCarthy’s one and only Test. At the end of the same year he retired from the game at the age of 31.

## Doug Ryan

Former Queensland winger and popular hospitality and sports industry figure Doug Ryan died in Brisbane after a long illness.

Doug Ryan played on the wing for Brothers and represented Queensland in 1965-6.

A former Queensland Academy of Sport chairman, he was a popular and successful figure in sporting and business circles, as general manager of the Mayfair Crest Hotel for many years and also as a chairman of the Brisbane Bullets NBL team.

## John Joseph D’Arcy

John D’Arcy, who died in Melbourne, aged 78, might have spent his final 23 years in Melbourne but he was always a Queenslander.

His business life centred on the media, particularly newspapers, but he devoted a lot of time and effort to charity, racing and his great passion, rugby.

It was not enough for him to be simply a spectator at Ballymore watching Queensland or club side Brothers play, he also accepted offers to be involved in the administration of

the code.

He was President of the QRU Club from 1983 to 1984 - his term cut short by his transfer to Melbourne in 1985. He was Co-Trustee of Ballymore from the date the QRU established its headquarters there in 1977 up until 1985.

His contribution to Queensland Rugby went far beyond these positions. He was passionate about rugby from his days at Downlands College where he captained the 1st XV in 1947 - the year in which Downlands defeated Brisbane State High - (the undefeated GPS Premiers) - in a bruising match at Downlands Oval in which D’Arcy lost his four front teeth.

In Victoria, he was active with a small group of union devotees to lobby for Test matches to be allocated to Melbourne.

His high business profile led to many invitations to corporate functions at AFL matches. He attended several as part of the necessary networking culture of the city.

Before a Carlton v Geelong match at the MCG, D’Arcy was invited to give his prediction on the result.

“Geelong will probably win the line-outs but Carlton’s scrum looks stronger to me.” He later recounted nobody even smiled at the joke and he vowed never to be publicly flippant about AFL again.

Asked in Melbourne what team he followed, Mr D’Arcy promptly responded: “Brothers”.



FINANCIAL REPORT 2008

Queensland Rugby Union Limited  
A.C.N. 055 120 217

Directors' Report

The Directors of Queensland Rugby Union Limited, except where otherwise stated, present their report on the company for the financial year ended 31 December 2008.

Directors

The name and particulars of the Directors of the company in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

Mr PB Lewis, Mr WM Colwell, Mr RJ Marks (resg 19/4/08)  
Mr CO Harkness, Mr RS Williams, Mr PJ Carroll (appt 19/4/08)  
Mr KE Freer, Mr SM Wilson, Mr M Glover, Mr BN Tune (resg Feb 09)

Information on Directors

**Mr Peter Lewis B. Com (UQ) - Chairman**  
  
Peter Lewis is the founder and Deputy Chairman of Trinity Ltd a listed property company based in Brisbane. He became a QRU Director in March 2006 and is a former Reds player. Peter is 57 years old.

**Mr Michael Glover B. Com (UQ), MBA (USC),FAIM,GAICD - Finance Director**  
  
Michael Glover is the Chief Financial Officer/ Company Secretary with City North Infrastructure Pty Ltd. He has been heavily involved in the development of junior rugby in Queensland, across clubs and schools, including as a committee member on the Queensland Junior Rugby Union. He became a QRU director in March 2006. Michael is 48 years old.

**Mr P.J. Carroll B. Com (UQ), LLB (Macq), FCA**  
  
Peter Carroll is a former partner of the international accounting firm Deloitte and is a director of Bemax Resources Ltd, China Steel Australia Ltd and Indo Gold Ltd. He was President of Tattersalls Club from 2004 to 2007. He has been a Board member of Sunnybank Rugby Club (now one of the largest licensed clubs in Queensland with over 21,000 members) since 1997 and Board Chairman since 2002. Peter is 61 years old. He became a QRU director in April 2008.

**Mr W. M. Colwell B.Com (UQ) CA**  
  
Will Colwell is a Partner at Ferrier Hodgson, Asia Pacific's leading corporate recovery and restructuring firm and has been involved in some of Australia's largest insolvency matters. Will has had a long association with the GPS club beginning in 1987 where his involvement was as a player, coach and later as treasurer, playing a key role in rebuilding the club during the 1990s. Will is currently involved at Brothers Juniors where his three sons play. Will is 41 years old and joined the Board in May, 2005.

**Mr K.E. Freer B. Pharm (Vic), MBA (INSEAD), FAIM**  
  
Ken Freer was appointed Chief Executive Officer and Director on 31 July 2006. Ken is a former Managing Director of Castlemaine Perkins and General Manager of the Gold Coast Indy. Ken is 51 years old.

**Mr C. O. Harkness**  
  
Col Harkness was appointed a Director in December 2005. Col brings with him strong rugby administrative experience as a former Vice President of Queensland Rugby in the late 1960s to the mid 1970s, and also as President of the Queensland Country Rugby Union in 1974 and 1984. Col holds a number of positions including Director and Member of the Management Committee of Fairfield Land Pty Ltd, Director of Chan Group, member of the Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) and is a former President of the northern branch of the UDIA. Col is 69 years old.

**Mr. R.S. Williams LLB, ArbiAMA, FAIM**  
  
Ross Williams has been a Director since November 2002. He is a Partner of Ebsworth & Ebsworth. Ross is a graded arbitrator; a Director of Mount Olivet Hospital, Saint Vincent's Hospital Toowoomba and the Holy Spirit Northside Private Hospital; a past president of the Queensland Rugby Union Club; and the Honorary Solicitor and Life Member of the Royal Life Saving Association. Ross is 45 years old.

**Mr. S.M. Wilson BCom, LLB (UQ), HonPhD (QUT)**  
  
Steve Wilson is Executive Chairman of Wilson HTM Investment Group and has extensive other business experience including running a cattle and wine operation in the South Burnett district. He has served on many boards in business and community including Telstra, Hyperion Investments, Queensland Tourism, City of Brisbane Airport, is Chairman of South Bank (since 1997) and was Chairman of St John's Cathedral Completion Fund. He joined the QRU Board in March 2006. Steve is 54 years old.

Principal Activities

The company's principal activities in the course of the financial year were the control and operation of Rugby Union in Queensland.

During the year there was no significant change in the nature of these activities.

Likely Development and Results

Likely developments in the operations of the company and the expected results of those operations such as the advancing plans for the redevelopment of Ballymore, have not been included in this report as the directors believe, on reasonable grounds, that the inclusion of such information would be likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the company.

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 5.

Meetings of Directors

During the financial year, 11 meetings of Directors were held. The number of meetings attended by each Director during the year is as follows:

	<i>Number eligible to attend</i>	<i>Number attended</i>
Mr P.B. Lewis	11	11
Mr W.M. Colwell	11	11
Mr K.E. Freer	11	11
Mr M. Glover	11	10
Mr C.O Harkness	11	8
Mr R.J. Marks	3	3 (resg 19/4/08)
Mr R.S. Williams	11	7
Mr S.M. Wilson	11	10
Mr B.N. Tune	9	5 (resg Feb 09)
Mr P.J. Carroll	8	8 (appt 19/4/08)

Operating Results

The company's loss for the financial year after income tax was a loss of (\$4,411,025) which compares to a 2007 loss of (\$4,187,580). The Company's loss includes a depreciation charge of \$2,493,416 (2007 - \$1,343,784) and a recoverable amount written down in relation to the Ballymore Grandstands of \$1,529,127(2007 - \$2,765,202).

Dividends

The company is a company limited by guarantee and is prohibited under its Constitution, to declare dividends.

Review of Operations

Details of the Commercial, Community Rugby, Professional Rugby and Corporate activities of the company for the year have been outlined under those operational headings in the previous pages of the annual report.

Significant Changes in State of Affairs

No significant changes in the company's state of affairs occurred during the year.

After Balance Date Events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in subsequent financial years.

Officers and Auditors Indemnification

The company has not, during or since the financial year, in respect of any person who is, or has been, an officer or auditor of the company or of a related body corporate:

- indemnified or made any relevant agreement for indemnifying against a liability incurred as an officer or auditor, including costs and expenses in successfully defending legal proceedings; or
- paid or agreed to pay a premium in respect of a contract insuring against a liability incurred as an officer or auditor for the costs or expenses to defend legal proceedings;

with the exception of the following:

During or since the financial year the company has paid premiums to insure each of the directors and the company secretary against liabilities for costs and expenses incurred by them in defending any legal proceedings arising out of their conduct while acting in the capacity of director or company secretary of the company, other than conduct involving a wilful breach of duty in relation to the company. Further details are prohibited by a confidentiality clause.


Proceedings on Behalf of the Company

No person has applied for leave of court to bring proceedings on behalf of the company or intervene in any proceedings to which the company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or any part of these proceedings.

The company was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors made pursuant to Section 298(2) of the Corporations Act 2001 on behalf of the Directors.

  
P.B. Lewis  
Chairman

  
M. Glover  
Finance Director

Dated in Brisbane this 19th day of March 2009.



**QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION LIMITED**  
**A.C.N. 055 120 217**

**INCOME STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008**

19 March 2009

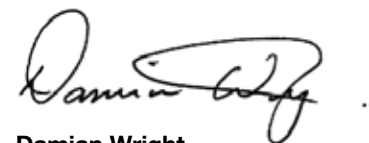
The Directors  
Queensland Rugby Union Ltd  
PO Box 205  
KELVIN GROVE DC QLD 4059

Dear Directors

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION TO THE DIRECTORS OF QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION LTD**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 31 December 2008 there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements asset out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Yours faithfully  
**BDO Kendalls (QLD)**



**Damian Wright**  
Partner

	Note	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
		\$	\$
Revenue from ordinary activities	2	18,900,582	18,231,987
Government Development Grant	2	507,000	-
Employee and Player costs		(10,433,564)	(9,613,998)
Depreciation & Amortisation expense	3(a)	(2,493,416)	(1,343,784)
Recoverable Amount Write Down	6	(1,529,127)	(2,765,202)
Match day operational expense		(1,301,299)	(1,177,126)
Borrowing cost expense		(185,143)	(110,527)
Other expense from ordinary activities	3(c)	(7,876,058)	(7,408,930)
Loss from ordinary activities before income tax		(4,411,025)	(4,187,580)
Income tax expense relating to ordinary activities	1(d)		-
Net loss from ordinary activities after income tax expense attributable to the members		(4,411,025)	(4,187,580)
Total changes in equity other than those resulting from transactions with members as members		(4,411,025)	(4,187,580)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



**QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION LIMITED**  
A.C.N. 055 120 217

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2008**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Year Ended 31 December 2008 \$</b>	<b>Year Ended 31 December 2007 \$</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash assets		36,579	130,364
Trade and other receivables	4	861,365	1,620,211
Other current assets	5	714,443	459,358
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>1,612,387</b>	<b>2,209,933</b>
<b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property Plant & Equipment	6&1(a)	27,387,367	30,464,103
Other Receivables	4	71,429	0
Intangible Assets	7	186,195	316,346
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>27,644,991</b>	<b>30,780,449</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>29,257,378</b>	<b>32,990,382</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	8	5,677,653	4,889,736
Short term interest bearing liabilities	9	1,347,661	1,492,807
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>7,025,314</b>	<b>6,382,543</b>
<b>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	8	702,265	691,670
Long term interest bearing liabilities	9	26,373	38,450
Long term provisions	10	166,264	129,532
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>894,902</b>	<b>859,652</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>7,920,216</b>	<b>7,242,195</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>21,337,162</b>	<b>25,748,187</b>
<b>MEMBERS EQUITY</b>			
Retained Profits		13,337,162	17,748,187
Asset Revaluation Reserve		8,000,000	8,000,000
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' EQUITY</b>		<b>21,337,162</b>	<b>25,748,187</b>
Capital, leasing and contractual commitments	12, 13		
Contingent liabilities	17		
Members Liability	11		

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION LIMITED**  
A.C.N. 055 120 217

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008**

	<b>Retained Earnings \$</b>	<b>Asset Revaluation Reserve \$</b>	<b>Total Equity \$</b>
Balance as at 1. 1.07	21,935,767	-	21,935,767
Net loss attributable to Members	(4,187,580)	-	(4,187,580)
Asset Revaluation Reserve		8,000,000	8,000,000
<b>Balance at 31.12.07</b>	<b>17,748,187</b>	<b>8,000,000</b>	<b>25,748,187</b>
Balance as at 1. 1.08	17,748,187	8,000,000	25,748,187
Net loss attributable to Members	(4,411,025)	-	(4,411,025)
<b>Balance at 31.12.08</b>	<b>13,337,162</b>	<b>8,000,000</b>	<b>21,337,162</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

	Note	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		\$	\$
Receipts from patrons, sponsors etc		20,718,019	18,364,994
Interest received		6,673	11,034
Grants from Government Bodies		2,017,183	245,183
Payments to suppliers, wages etc		(21,685,633)	(19,722,176)
Interest paid & other financial costs		(185,143)	(110,527)
Net cash provided by operating activities	(b)	871,099	(1,211,492)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from sale of property plant & equipment		8,000	31,321
Payments for property, plant & equipment		(163,158)	(162,875)
Payments for Preliminary Project Costs (Ballymore)		(652,501)	(221,131)
Net cash used in investing activities		(807,659)	(352,685)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from Commercial Bill		10,830,583	5,770,000
Repayments of Commercial Bill		(10,976,652)	(4,301,693)
Repayment of borrowings		(11,156)	(53,761)
Net cash provided by financing activities		(157,225)	1,414,546
Net/(decrease) in cash held		(93,785)	(149,631)
Cash at beginning of the financial year		130,364	279,995
Cash at end of the financial year	(a)	36,579	130,364
Note (a)			
For the purposes of Statement of Cash Flows Cash Comprises:-			
- Cash On Hand		2,500	1,500
- Cash At Bank		34,079	128,864
		36,579	130,364

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

	Note	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
Note (b)		\$	\$
Reconciliation of Cash Flow provided by Operating Activities to Loss from ordinary activities			
Net Cash (used)/provided by operating activities		871,099	(1,211,492)
Non cash flows in Loss from ordinary activities			
- Depreciation		(2,363,270)	(1,154,825)
- Recoverable amount write down		(1,529,127)	(2,765,202)
- Amortisation		(130,151)	(188,958)
- Gain on Disposal of Assets		8,000	13,266
Changes in assets and liabilities			
- Increase/(Decrease) in debtors		(687,417)	1,157,440
- Increase /(Decrease) in other debtors & prepayments		255,085	(96,603)
- (Increase)/Decrease in provisions		(36,732)	20,356
- (Increase)/Decrease in creditors		(798,512)	38,438
Loss from ordinary activities for the year		(4,411,025)	(4,187,580)
Financing Facilities			
1) There was no permanent overdraft facility in place as at 31 December 2008.			
2) Loan facility - Commercial Facilities secured (note 9)			
Amount used		1,335,584	1,470,000
Amount unused		1,264,416	1,130,000
		2,600,000	2,600,000

Note: The Financing facility is due for renewal in April 2009.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

NOTE 1 – STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Act 2001. Australian Accounting Standards include Australian Equivalent to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS). Compliance with AIFRS ensures that the financial report complies with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The financial report covers the entity, Queensland Rugby Union Limited as an individual entity. Queensland Rugby Union Limited is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the company in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

(a) Property, Plant and Equipment  
Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

Land

Land is measured at revalued deemed cost based on the fair value of the land granted to the company by the Queensland Government, being the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction. The land was first recognised in the financial statements in 2001 on the basis of a valuation prepared by independent valuers. The land was revalued on the same basis at 31 December 2008.

Buildings

Buildings are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.  
The carrying amount of buildings is reviewed annually by directors to ensure that it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from the buildings. The recoverable amount of the buildings is the higher of the buildings fair value less costs to sell or value in use. In relation to the Ballymore Buildings and Stadium, value in use is determined by reference to depreciated replacement cost. This value has been determined by reference to an independent assessment of the deemed replacement cost of land and buildings at Ballymore.

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.  
The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to their present value in determining recoverable amounts.

Preliminary Project Costs (Ballymore)

Professional fees and other costs incurred associated with planning the Ballymore redevelopment have been capitalised.  
These capitalised costs will be depreciated on completion of the planned redevelopment.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including buildings and capitalised lease assets, but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight line basis over their useful lives to the company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets in the current and previous financial years are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Buildings and Improvements	2.5 - 10%
Plant and Equipment	17 – 33.3%

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

NOTE 1 – STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

Depreciation rates in relation to the above classes of fixed assets are regularly reviewed by Directors.

(b) Intangibles  
Throughout the 2006 year the company purchased a number of Perpetual Ground Membership seats back at a cost of \$3,000 per seat and this intangible asset will be written off by the end of the 2010 financial year to fall in line with the ending of the original Suncorp Stadium Hiring agreement. Balance remaining at 31st December 2008 is \$165,701.  
The company paid an amount of \$200,000 to the Queensland Rugby Club for the reacquisition of catering rights which included an amount of \$63,501 for plant and equipment. The balance will be written off in the books over three years. Balance remaining at 31st December 2008 is \$20,494.

(c) Inventories  
Inventories are valued at the lower of purchase cost and net realisable value.  
  
(d) Income Tax  
The company is exempt from income tax pursuant to the Income Tax Assessment Act.

(e) Contra Sponsorships  
The company is in receipt of sponsorships in the form of contras for travel, playing gear, advertising, car leasing etc. These contras have been recognised in the financial statements as both income and expenditure unless the contra has not been fully realised or expended.

(f) Leases  
Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the Lessor, are expensed in the periods in which they are incurred. This basis reflects the pattern of benefits derived from the use of the leased assets. Lease payments for finance leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the Lessee, are expensed in the periods in which they are incurred. This basis reflects the pattern of benefits derived from the use of the leased assets.

(g) Deferred Income  
The company has sold certain grandstand seats and sponsorships over time periods exceeding one year. The income therefrom is brought to account over the respective time periods on a pro rata yearly basis. The unexpired portion has been disclosed as a current or non current liability.  
Income derived from the 48-10 Club membership is brought to account on a proportional basis between the amount received as a donation/contribution to the company and the amount received for where direct benefits are given to the member. The company received a grant from the State Government in the financial year which relates to the building of specific facilities under the agreement. The company will defer the income until the monies are fully acquitted against the purpose of the grant.

(h) Employee Benefits  
Provision is made for the company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits expected to be settled within one year together with entitlements arising from wages and salaries and annual leave which will be settled after one year, have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on costs.  
Liabilities for long service leave are recognised as part of 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 to the balance sheet date using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future salaries and wages levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service.  
Contributions are made by the entity to employee superannuation funds and are charged as expenses when incurred.

(i) Land  
The Land situated at the Junction of Butterfield Street and Clyde Road, Herston is held by way of a Deed of Grant issued by the State Government. This land is shown in the financial statements on the basis of an independent valuation being the fair value of the asset acquired.

(j) Comparative Figures  
Where required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year. The comparative figures for year ending 31 December 2007 have been amended to reflect the net amount of Sponsorship Revenue less Internal Benefits supplied under a sponsorship agreement.  
Match Day costs have also been amended to reflect a change in allocation of the Gate Hire fee for members and corporates. They are now reflected in ticketing costs.

(k) Shortfall of Working Capital



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

NOTE 1 – STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

The Balance Sheet shows there is a deficiency of working capital of \$5,412,927 (2007 - \$4,172,610) which includes an amount for deferred income of \$4,063,551 and an amount for prepayments of \$714,443. The current position relates to a six home game series in 2009 compared to a 2008 seven home game series.  
The directors believe the company can continue to pay its debts as and when they fall due as a result of the generation of cash from operations in the 2009 year, however the company budget for 2009 is providing a negative EBITDA position. Any shortfalls in working capital will be funded through the existing line of credit with Suncorp.

(l) Revenue  
Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised upon delivery of goods to customers.  
Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rate applicable to the financial assets.  
Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers.

(m) Goods and Services Tax (GST)  
Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense. Receivables and payables in the Statement of Financial Position are shown inclusive of GST.

(m) Interest Bearing Liabilities  
All loans and borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transactions costs) and the redemption amount is recognised in the income statement over the period of the loans and borrowings using the effective interest method.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
	\$	\$
NOTE 2 – REVENUE		
Operating activities		
- grants/sponsorship received	12,867,032	12,865,455
- government development grants	507,000	-
- gate takings	3,134,195	2,728,163
- corporate facilities	1,808,153	1,542,973
- food and beverage royalties	391,149	313,855
- merchandising and royalties	55,176	182,411
- other revenue	504,136	496,730
	<u>19,266,841</u>	<u>18,129,587</u>
Non-operating activities		
- car parking income	28,505	28,684
- rent received	97,563	52,263
- interest received	6,673	11,034
- sale of assets	8,000	10,419
	<u>140,741</u>	<u>102,400</u>
Total revenue	<u>19,407,582</u>	<u>18,231,987</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
NOTE 3 – PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	\$	\$
Profit from ordinary activities before income tax has been determined after:		
(a) Expenses:		
Interest paid or payable to:		
- other persons	185,143	110,527
Movements in Provisions		
Depreciation of non-current assets:		
Buildings & improvements	2,210,342	995,687
Plant & equipment	138,317	159,139
Leased assets	14,607	59,164
Amortisation of intangibles	130,150	129,794
Write Down of Buildings & Improvements to		
Recoverable amount	1,529,127	2,765,202
	4,022,543	4,108,986
Other provisions		
- employee entitlements	(31,698)	(20,356)
Net expense resulting from movement in provisions	3,990,845	4,088,630
Bad and doubtful debts	322,340	50,000
Remuneration of the auditors for the audit of financial statements	25,000	25,019
Rental expense on operating leases		
Sale of Fixed Assets	8,000	-
(b) Significant Revenues and Expenses		
The following significant revenue and expense items are relevant in explaining the financial performance:		
	-	-
(c) Other Expenses		
Sponsorship Servicing	383,947	549,434
Premier Rugby Grant Funding and Expenses	875,660	838,962
Ballymore Expenditure	662,381	835,970
Promotions and Advertising	745,768	849,918
Country Rugby Grant Funding and Expenses	407,572	524,201
Reds Team Expenses	828,854	713,333
Grants to Other Affiliates	376,003	347,452
Doubtful Debts	322,340	50,000
Other Expenses	3,273,533	2,699,660
	7,876,058	7,408,930

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
NOTE 4 – TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade Receivables	658,599	908,789
Less Provision for Doubtful Debts	(369,885)	(50,000)
Other Receivables	433,365	761,422
Loans to Members	139,286	-
	861,365	1,620,211
NON CURRENT		
Loans to Members	71,429	-
	71,429	-

Age analysis of trade receivables that are past due but not impaired at the reporting date

	2008			2007		
	Total	Amount impaired	Amount not impaired	Total	Amount impaired	Amount not impaired
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Not past due	148,535	-	148,535	297,321	-	297,321
Past due [30] days	2,500	-	2,500	311,805	-	311,805
Past due [30-60] days	67,370	-	67,370	138,957	-	138,957
Past due [>60] days	440,194	369,885	70,309	160,706	(50,000)	110,706
Total	658,599	369,885	288,714	908,789	(50,000)	858,789

As at 31 December 2008, the company had current trade receivables of \$369,885 (2007 \$nil) that was impaired. The amount relates to customers who we are currently pursuing in order to recover the amounts owing.

Analysis of Allowance Account

	2008	2007
	\$	\$
Opening Balance	50,000	-
Provisions for doubtful receivables	369,885	50,000
Reversal of amounts provided	(50,000)	-
Closing Balance	369,885	50,000



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
NOTE 5 – CURRENT OTHER ASSETS	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Prepayments	714,443	459,358
NOTE 6 - PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT		
Land at independent valuation	18,000,000	18,000,000
	18,000,000	18,000,000
Buildings & improvements - at cost	26,113,351	26,113,352
Accumulated Depreciation	(10,075,932)	(7,865,591)
Recoverable Amount Write Down	(7,851,929)	(6,322,802)
	8,185,490	11,924,959
Plant & Equipment - at cost	755,949	1,163,966
Accumulated Depreciation	(459,193)	(892,050)
	296,756	271,916
Leased Assets - at cost	58,270	58,270
Accumulated Amortisation	(26,780)	(12,173)
	31,490	46,097
Preliminary Project Costs (Ballymore)	873,631	221,131
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	27,387,367	30,464,103

An independent valuation of Land, Buildings and Improvements was undertaken as at 31 December 2007 by Mr Matthew Buckley, AAPI certified, Registered Valuer No. 1771, of FPD Savills. The revaluation was undertaken to enable directors to assess the current value of Land, Buildings and Improvements a required by AASB1040. The revaluation revealed a current value for Land of \$18,000,000 and Buildings and Improvements of \$14,354,271. The revaluation of Land was taken up in the accounts to the Asset Revaluation reserve and the stadium buildings were written down by \$2,765,202 to reflect the valuation provided. The stadium buildings were written down by a further \$1,529,127 in 2008 as part of a Directors Revaluation, taking the recoverable written down amount to an accumulative \$7,851,929.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
NOTE 7 – INTANGIBLE ASSETS	\$	\$
Perpetual Ground Member Buyback	339,000	339,000
Accumulated Amortisation	(173,299)	(88,316)
	165,701	250,684
Ballymore Catering Rights	136,499	136,499
Accumulated Amortisation	(116,005)	(70,837)
	20,494	65,662
Total Intangible Assets	186,195	316,346

(a) Movements in Carrying Amounts  
Movement in carrying amounts for each class of Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangibles between the beginning and the end of the financial year

	Freehold land	Buildings & improvement s at cost	Plant & equipment at cost	Leased assets at cost	Ballymore Catering Rights	PGM Buyback	Preliminary Project Costs	Total
Carrying amount at start of year	18,000,000	11,924,959	271,916	46,097	65,662	250,684	221,131	30,780,449
Additions	-	-	163,157	-	-	-	652,500	815,657
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	(1,529,127)	-	-	-	-	-	(1,529,127)
Depreciation/ Amortisation charge for year	-	(2,210,342)	(138,317)	(14,607)	(45,168)	(84,983)	-	(2,493,417)
Carrying amount at end of year	18,000,000	8,185,490	296,756	31,490	20,494	165,701	873,631	27,573,562



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
NOTE 8 – TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Unsecured Liabilities		
Trade creditors	802,403	715,490
Other Creditors	631,765	745,993
Loans from ARU	20,000	100,000
Annual Leave Entitlements	159,935	164,970
Deferred income (a)	4,063,550	3,163,283
	<u>5,677,653</u>	<u>4,889,736</u>
NON-CURRENT		
Unsecured Liabilities		
Loans from ARU	60,000	-
Deferred income (a)	642,265	691,670
	<u>702,265</u>	<u>691,670</u>
(a) Deferred Income		
Represented by:		
CURRENT		
2009 Sponsorship	839,867	710,200
Season Tickets	948,973	1,007,485
Red Pass - 30 years (a)	49,405	49,405
ARU RWC Infrastructure Grants	221,825	242,325
Other	367,647	154,140
Other Grants	1,200,000	-
Corporate Facilities	435,833	999,728
	<u>4,063,550</u>	<u>3,163,283</u>
NON CURRENT		
2-5 years		
Red Pass- 30 years (a)	197,620	197,620
After 5 years		
Red Pass- 30 years (a)	444,645	494,050
	<u>642,265</u>	<u>691,670</u>
TOTAL DEFERRED INCOME	<u>4,705,815</u>	<u>3,854,953</u>

(a) Deferred Income  
Red Pass Subscribers to seats in the Eastern Stand purchased these seats for a period of 30 years. The Red Pass deferred income disclosed as a current liability represents income which will accrue to the company in 2009.

Red Pass deferred income disclosed as non current liability represents the income value that will accrue to the company after 2009.  
The accounting treatment for deferred income has been disclosed in Note 1(g).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
NOTE 9 – INTEREST BEARING LIABILITIES	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Secured Liabilities		
Commercial Facilities (a)	1,335,584	1,481,651
Leased Assets	12,077	11,156
	<u>1,347,611</u>	<u>1,492,807</u>
NON-CURRENT		
Secured Liabilities		
Leased Assets	26,373	38,450
	<u>26,373</u>	<u>38,450</u>

(a) The commercial facility is secured over the property situated at 231 Butterfield Street, Herston including the land. The carrying amounts of assets pledged as security for current and non current interest bearing liabilities. This facility is reviewed annually in March. Interest is paid on a monthly basis, with repayments and drawdowns made dependent on cash received and cash paid throughout the year.

CURRENT		
Floating Charge		
Cash & cash equivalents	36,579	130,634
Receivables	861,365	1,620,211
Total current assets pledged	<u>897,944</u>	<u>1,750,845</u>
NON CURRENT		
First Mortgage		
Freehold Land	18,000,000	18,000,000
Buildings	8,185,490	11,924,959
Finance Leases		
Plant & Equipment	31,490	46,097
Total non current assets pledged	<u>26,216,980</u>	<u>29,971,056</u>
Total assets pledged as security	<u>27,114,924</u>	<u>31,721,901</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
NOTE 10 – PROVISIONS	\$	\$
NON-CURRENT		
Long service leave	166,264	129,532
	<u>166,264</u>	<u>129,532</u>
Number of employees at the end of the year		
- Administrative and Coaching Staff	53	47
- Players Super 14	39	38
- Players Academy	16	20
	<u>108</u>	<u>105</u>

Long Service Leave

Long term employee benefits comprise amounts payable for long service leave which are not vested at balance date and the amount and timing of payments to be made when leave is taken is uncertain. Refer to accounting policy on Note 1 (h) for more details.

NOTE 11 – MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The company is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. If the company is wound-up the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$100 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At 31 December 2008 the number of members was 28 (2007-26)

NOTE 12 - LEASE COMMITMENTS

Finance Lease – non-cancellable		
Within one year	12,077	11,156
Later than one year but not later than 5 years	26,373	38,450
Later than 5 years		
Total future minimum lease payments	<u>38,450</u>	<u>49,606</u>
Total future finance charges	<u>3,055</u>	<u>6,546</u>
Lease liabilities	<u>41,505</u>	<u>56,152</u>
Lease liabilities are represented in the financial statements as follows:		
Current (note 9)	12,077	11,156
Non-current (note 9)	26,373	38,450
	<u>38,450</u>	<u>49,606</u>

The company leases plant and equipment with a carrying value of \$31,490 (2007: \$46,097) by way of finance lease expiring within 2 years.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

NOTE 13 - CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS

As at 31 December 2008, the company had entered into contractual obligations with certain players and support staff for the 2008 and subsequent seasons. This will result in payments as follows:

	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
	\$	\$
Not later than one year	5,539,086	6,645,425
Later than one year but not later than five years	<u>3,017,342</u>	<u>4,104,200</u>
	<u>8,556,428</u>	<u>10,749,625</u>

Income to support these commitments is to be received from the Australian Rugby Union Limited as a grant.

The Queensland Rugby Union Limited has signed a collective bargaining agreement on 23 December 2004 together with the Australian Rugby Union Limited, the New South Wales Rugby Union Limited, the Australian Capital Territory Rugby Union Incorporated, Western Australian Rugby Union Inc and the Rugby Union Players Association Incorporated which provides amongst other things minimum remuneration requirements for contracted players. The agreement has been rolled over for a further 12 months, due to mature 31st January 2010.

NOTE 14 - SEGMENT REPORTING

Queensland Rugby Union operates in one geographical segment, Queensland. In the industry segment of the sport of Rugby Union.

	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
NOTE 15 - REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS	\$	\$
Amounts received, or due and receivable by the Auditors from the company for:		
Auditing the Financial Statements – current year	25,000	25,601
Auditing the Financial Statements – prior year	-	-
Consulting Fees	<u>-</u>	<u>12,247</u>
	<u>25,000</u>	<u>37,848</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

NOTE 16 – KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL COMPENSATION

Total Income paid or payable, or otherwise made available, to the four most senior executives of the Company.

	Short Term Benefits	Post Employment Benefits	Total Benefits
	\$	\$	\$
2008 Total Compensation	712,055	35,676	747,731
2007 Total Compensation	580,244	57,566	637,810

NOTE 17 - CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There are no contingent liabilities to be reported as at balance date.

NOTE 18 – RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

(a) During the year the following Directors held office:

P.B. Lewis  
M. Glover  
P.J. Carroll  
W. M. Colwell  
K.E. Freer  
C.O. Harkness  
R .J. Marks  
B.N. Tune  
S.M. Wilson  
R.S. Williams

(b) Director Related Entities

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

- (1) Messrs, P.B. Lewis, W.M.Colwell and R.S. Williams are the three Queensland members of the Council of the Australian Rugby Union Limited. The Australian Rugby Union Limited receives affiliation fees from the company and distributes grants to the company.
- (2) Director related parties paid the Company for sponsorships, match day hospitality and use of Queensland Rugby Union's facilities on the same terms offered to non-related parties. These amounted to \$156,763 (2007: \$228,958). The Director's involved were Messrs P.B. Lewis, R.S. Williams, S.M. Wilson and M. Glover.

(c) Associated Entities

- (1) Queensland Rugby Union Club Inc. is charged rent for their premises at Ballymore, \$18,702 (2007 \$18,000).
- (2) Australian Rugby Union provided the Queensland Rugby Union with grants totalling \$6,346,604 (2007 \$6,346,612). A further \$100,000 affiliate loan was received from the ARU in 2008. This is to be paid back over a five year period.
- Queensland Junior Rugby Union Inc. is not charged rent.
- Queensland Suburban Rugby Union Inc. is not charged rent.
- Queensland Rugby Referees' Association (Brisbane ) Inc is not charged rent.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

NOTE 19 - ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

Income to support the contractual obligations of players and support staff for the 2009 season is to be received from The Australian Rugby Union Ltd as a grant. The company is dependent upon the receipt of these funds from The Australian Rugby Union Limited in order to meet the contractual obligations as noted in Note 13 to the financial statements.

NOTE 20 – COMPANY DETAILS

The company's registered office and principle place of business is located at:

231 Butterfield Street  
Herston QLD 4006

NOTE 21 – FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

(a) General objectives, policies and processes  
Queensland Rugby Union Limited is exposed to risks that arise from its use of financial instruments. This note describes the company's objectives, policies and processes for managing those risks and the methods used to measure them. Further quantitative information in respect of these risks is presented throughout these financial statements.

There have been no substantive changes in the company's exposure to financial instrument risks, its objectives, policies and processes for managing those risks or the methods used to measure them from previous periods unless otherwise stated in this note.

The principal financial instruments from which financial instrument risk arises are:

- Trade Receivables
- Cash at Bank
- Trade and other Payables
- Bank Line of Credit

The Board of Queensland Rugby Union Limited has overall responsibility for the determination of the company's risk management objectives and policies and while retaining ultimate responsibility for them, it has delegated the authority for designing and operating processes that ensure the effective implementation of the objectives and policies to the Group's finance function. The company's risk management policies and objectives are therefore designed to minimise the potential impacts of these risks on the results of the company where such impacts may be material. The board receives monthly reports from the Financial Controller through which it reviews the effectiveness of the processes put in place and the appropriateness of the objectives and policies it sets

The overall objective of the Board is to set policies that seek to reduce risk as far as possible without unduly affecting the company's competitiveness and flexibility. Further details regarding these policies are set out below:

(b) Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that the other party to a financial instrument will fail to discharge their obligation resulting in the company incurring a financial loss. This usually occurs when debtors or counterparties to derivative contracts fail to settle their obligations owing to Queensland Rugby Union Limited.

There is no concentration of credit risk with respect to current and non current receivables. Company policy is that sales are only made to customers that are credit worthy.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at balance date is as follows:

	2008	2007
	\$	\$
Cash & cash equivalent	36,579	130,634
Trade receivables	1,091,964	1,670,211
Loans granted	210,715	-



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

NOTE 21 – FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS CONTINUED

The company’s most significant customer accounts for \$448,309 of trade receivables at 31 December 2008 (2007: \$79,809).

The company considers that all receivables outstanding at 31 December 2008 that have not been provided against are fully recoverable and no further provision for bad debt is required.

(c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the company may encounter difficulties raising funds to meet commitments associated with financial instruments, e.g. borrowing repayments. It is the policy of the Board of Directors to manage the liquidity risk of the company.

Financing arrangements

The following financing facilities were available at balance date:

Credit Stand-by arrangement	2008	2007
	\$	\$
Total facilities: Bank line of credit	2,600,000	2,600,000
Used at balance date: Bank line of credit	1,335,584	1,470,000
Unused at balance date: Bank line of credit	1,264,416	1,130,000

The bank line of credit facilities may be drawn down at any time but are subject to an annual review.

Maturity Analysis 2008	Carrying Amount	<6 mths	6 – 12 mths	1 – 3 years
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Liabilities				
Trade Creditors	1,434,167	1,434,167	-	-
Bank Line of Credit	1,335,584	1,335,584	-	-
Finance lease liabilities	38,450	6,038	6,038	26,374
ARU Loan	80,000	10,000	10,000	60,000
TOTAL	2,888,201	2,785,789	16,038	86,374
Financial Assets				
Trade Debtors	722,079	722,079	-	-
Loans Granted	210,715	132,143	7,143	71,429
TOTAL	932,794	854,222	7,143	71,429
Maturity Analysis 2007	Carrying Amount	< 6 mths	6 – 12 mths	1 – 3 years
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Liabilities				
Trade creditors	1,461,483	1,461,483	-	-
Bank line of credit	1,481,651	1,481,651	-	-
Finance lease liabilities	49,606	5,578	5,578	38,450
ARU Loan	100,000	100,000	-	-
TOTAL	3,092,740	3,048,712	5,578	38,450
Finance Assets				
Trade Debtors	1,620,211	1,620,211	-	-
TOTAL	1,620,211	1,620,211	-	-

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

NOTE 21 – FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS CONTINUED

(d) Interest Rate Risk

The exposure to interest rate risk, which is the risk that a financial instrument’s value will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates and the effective weighted average interest rates on those financial assets and financial liabilities, is as follows

2008	Floating rates	< 1 year	1 – 2 years	> 2 years	Non Interest bearing	Total
Financial Assets	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash & cash equivalents	34,079	-	-	-	2,500	36,579
Loans granted	-	-	-	-	210,715	210,715
Trade Receivables	-	-	-	-	722,079	722,079
Financial Liabilities						
Bank line of credit	1,335,584					1,335,584
Lease liabilities		12,076	26,374			38,450
ARU Loan					80,000	80,000
Trade payable					1,434,167	1,434,167
Weighted average interest rate	7.20%	7.81%	7.81%			
2007	Floating rates	< 1 year	1 – 2 years	> 2 years	Non Interest bearing	Total
Financial Assets	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash & cash equivalents	128,864				1,500	130,364
Trade Receivables					1,620,211	1,620,211
Financial Liabilities						
Bank line of credit	1,481,651					1,481,651
Lease liabilities		11,156	12,076	26,374		49,606
ARU Loan					100,000	100,000
Trade payable					1,461,483	1,461,483
Weighted average interest rate	8.54%	7.81%	7.81%	7.81%		

Sensitivity Analysis	Carrying Amount	+ 1% Interest Rate Profit	Other Equity	- 1% Interest Rate Profit	Other Equity
2008	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash at bank	34,079	341	-	(341)	-
Bank line of credit	1,335,584	(13,356)	-	13,356	-
		(13,015)	-	13,015	-
2007					
Cash at bank	128,864	1,289	-	(1,289)	-
Bank line of credit	1,481,651	(14,817)	-	14,817	-
		(13,528)	-	13,528	-



**QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION LIMITED**  
A.C.N. 055 120 217

**DIRECTORS' DECLARATION  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008**

The directors of the company declare that:

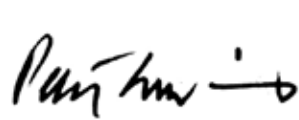
the financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 51 to 71, are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001:

comply with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and

give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 31 December 2008 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the company;

2. in the directors' opinion 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 Board of Directors.



**P.B. Lewis**  
Chairman



**M. Glover**  
Finance Director

Dated in Brisbane this 19th day of March 2009.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

TO THE MEMBERS OF QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION LIMITED

**Report on the Financial Report**

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Queensland Rugby Union Limited, which comprises the balance sheet as at 31 December 2008, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

**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.

**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.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION LIMITED CONTINUED**

**Independence**

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001. We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, provided to the directors of Queensland Rugby Union Limited on 19 March 2009, would be in the same terms if provided to the directors as at the date of this auditor's report.

**Auditor's Opinion**

In our opinion the financial report of Queensland Rugby Union Limited is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2008 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

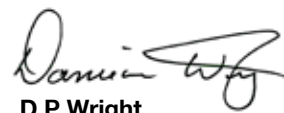
**Emphasis of matter regarding working capital deficiency**

Without qualification to the opinion expressed above attention is drawn to the following matter. As disclosed in Note 1(k) the company has net current liabilities of \$5,412,927 at 31 December 2008. In addition the company has incurred an operating loss of \$4,411,025.

The ability of the company to continue to meet its current expenditure commitments is largely dependant on its ability to achieve its commercial income targets for 2009 and future years and to successfully extend its borrowing facilities which are due in 2009.

Should the company not be able to achieve these objectives the company will have ongoing short term liquidity issues which will result in further restructuring and expenditure reduction.

**BDO Kendalls (QLD)**

BDO Kendalls  
  
**D P Wright**  
Partner

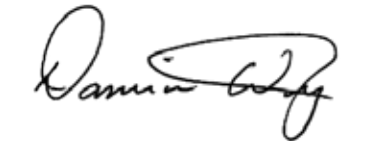
Brisbane  
19 March 2009

**DISCLAIMER**

TO THE MEMBERS OF QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION LIMITED

The additional financial data presented on pages 76 to 77 are in accordance with the books and records of the company which have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our statutory audit of the company for the year ended 31 December 2008. It will be appreciated that our statutory audit did not cover all details of the additional financial data. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on such financial data and we give no warranty of accuracy or reliability in respect of the data provided. Neither the firm nor any member or employee of the firm undertakes responsibility in any way whatsoever to any person other than the Queensland Rugby Union Limited in respect of such data, including any errors or omissions therein however caused.

**BDO Kendalls (QLD)**

  
**D P Wright**  
Partner

Brisbane  
19 March 2009



QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION LIMITED  
A.C.N. 055 120 217

TRADING PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
INCOME	\$	\$
<b>Commercial</b>		
Gate Takings		
- Reds Games	2,398,556	2,081,528
- Club Games	52,249	42,158
Sponsorships and Advertising	5,350,933	4,879,606
Events	184,362	110,595
Merchandising & Royalties	235,177	182,411
TM7 Contract Payments	62,500	62,500
Corporate Hospitality	1,808,161	1,527,580
Membership Profit	556,996	480,595
30 Year Members	49,405	49,405
Food & Beverage Royalties	391,149	299,194
Car Parking Income	28,504	13,336
Ballymore Hiring	96,730	52,259
48/10 Club	129,999	219,550
Match Day Programs	80,921	60,722
Sponsorship Leveraging Income	50,000	131,982
Other Match Income	78,190	0
Total Commercial Income	11,553,832	10,193,421
<b>Community Rugby</b>		
ARU Grants	2,046,612	2,121,612
SSD Grants	310,183	245,183
Other Funding	57,636	55,727
Total Community Rugby Income	2,414,431	2,422,522
<b>Professional Rugby</b>		
ARU Player & Support Staff Distribution	4,299,996	4,299,996
ARU College Grants	384,996	385,633
QAS Funding	166,676	0
Qld Regional College Income	32,590	19,627
Total Professional Rugby Income	4,884,258	4,705,256
<b>Corporate</b>		
Interest Received	6,674	11,034
Other Grant Income	507,000	0
Other income	40,556	53,781
Total Corporate Income	554,230	64,815
<b>Australian Rugby Championship</b>		
Gate Takings	0	74,478
Sponsorship	0	283,948
Corporate Facilities	0	15,392
Food & Beverage Royalties	0	14,660
Car Parking	0	15,348
ARU Funding	0	461,745
Total Australian Rugby Championship Income	0	865,571
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	19,406,751	18,251,585

	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
EXPENDITURE	\$	\$
<b>Commercial</b>		
Employee Costs	1,131,867	1,041,713
Sponsorship Expenses	383,947	506,793
Members Expenses	244,701	230,560
30 Year Member Expenses	203,251	117,265
Corporate Expenses	77,110	111,720
Promotions & Advertising	745,768	677,172
Events	425,983	164,343
Other	2,549	9,353
Match Day Cost - Other	205,908	-
Match Day Costs –Suncorp	1,626,219	1,453,753
Match Day Costs – Ballymore	201,145	-
Match Program Expenses	81,059	74,380
Ballymore Expenditure	662,381	657,640
48-10 Costs	92,073	79,974
Total Commercial Expenses	6,083,961	5,124,666

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A.C.N. 055 120 217

TRADING PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

	Year Ended 31 December 2008	Year Ended 31 December 2007
	\$	\$
<b>Community Rugby</b>		
Employee Costs	1,076,583	918,428
Development	95,268	58,257
Brisbane Competition Grants	268,499	252,488
ARU Premier Rugby Funding	875,660	838,971
Other Grants to Affiliates	107,503	94,965
Administration Rugby	14,022	8,320
Country Operating Expenses	407,572	524,203
RWC Project Funding	0	57,807
Total Community Rugby Expenses	2,845,107	2,753,439
<b>Professional Rugby</b>		
Player Payments	5,030,467	4,621,638
Reds Staff Costs	2,040,162	1,860,156
Reds Operating Expenses	828,855	713,337
Away Trial Match Expenses	58,125	43,624
RUPA Contribution	86,195	83,991
Academy Employee Costs	209,792	174,106
Academy Operating Costs	109,135	154,092
Queensland Regional College	195,432	110,118
Total Professional Rugby Expenses	8,558,163	7,761,062
<b>Communications</b>		
Employee Costs	108,745	116,797
Other Costs	28,723	17,406
Total Communications	137,468	134,203
<b>Corporate</b>		
Employee Costs	876,804	839,137
Office Costs	195,726	202,208
Affiliation Fees	745	4,500
Recruitment Costs	52,973	792
Audit Fees	25,000	25,019
Bad Debts	322,340	50,000
Insurance	56,357	52,035
Board Expenses	27,712	45,220
Legal & Consulting Fees	65,475	25,298
Meeting & General Expenses	152,817	83,628
Telephone	167,992	174,284
IT Operating Expenses	41,455	78,589
Total Corporate	1,985,396	1,580,710
<b>Less Depreciation – Stadium</b>	2,093,946	1,009,403
<b>Less Stadium Write Down</b>	1,529,127	2,765,202
<b>Less Depreciation – Admin</b>	399,469	334,381
<b>Less Interest</b>	185,139	110,528
<b>TRADING PROFIT/(LOSS) BEFORE INCOME TAX</b>	(4,411,025)	(4,187,580)



SPONSORS 2008



2008	2009
NAMING RIGHTS	
QR	QR
ELITE SPONSORS	
QLD Government Department of Sport & Recreation Lion Nathan ISC EnergyAustralia Virgin Blue Suncorp	QLD Government Lion Nathan EnergyAustralia Virgin Blue
MAJOR SPONSORS	
Bartercard Mazda Vodafone Coca Cola Amatil Xstrata Copper Diageo (Bundaberg Rum)	Bartercard Coca Cola Amatil Audi Centre Brisbane Mirtna Capital Nissan Motor Company
SPONSORS	
Hutchinson Builders Trinity Bentleys Falken Tyres Konica Minolta BodyScience Samuel Smith & Sons (Yalumba/Wirra Wirra Wines) Clayton Utz Farmoz Australian Agricultural Company Gilbert Footballs (Gray Nicolls) The Caxton Hotel Black & White Cabs Total Sports Travel	Hutchinson Builders Comscentre BodyScience Samuel Smith & Sons (Yalumba/Wirra Wirra Wines) Diageo (Bundaberg Rum) Konica Minolta Bentleys Australian Agricultural Company The Caxton Hotel Trinity Clayton Utz Total Sports Travel Yellow Cabs
PREFERRED SUPPLIERS	
Harts Sport MYERS Beiersdorf Unilever (Streets/Four n Twenty) Enforcer Fitness First Golf Works - Aspley QDI Skechers Out & About Marketing & Media	ISCA KooGa Mirvac Hotels & Resorts Beiersdorf Harts Sport Unilever (Streets/Four n Twenty) Gilbert Footballs (Gray Nicolls) Fitness First Enforcer Golf Gurus QDI Out & About Marketing & Media
MEDIA	
Austereo (Triple M) Network 10	Austereo (Triple M) Network 10
PARTNERS	
RICOH Consolidated Properties	



2008 QR REDS SQUAD PHOTO

Back row: Rodney Blake, Brynley Abad (Athletic Performance Coach), Quade Cooper, Josh Afu, Ben Coutts, Poutasi Luafutu, Ben Daley, Rob Simmons, Dayna Edwards, Ed O'Donoghue, Charlie Fetcoai, Hugh McMeniman, Al Gilbert, Van Humphries, Greg Holmes, Scott Higginbotham, Leroy Houston, Geoff Clark (Physiotherapist), Herman Hunt, Peter Hynes, Stephen Moore

Centre: Ben McGahan (Performance Analysis), Andrew Walker, Henari Veratau, Brando Va'aulu, Chris Stale, Lloyd Johansson, Ben Lucas, Digby Ioane, Will Genia, Caleb Brown, Berrick Barnes, Geoff Abram, Ole Avei, Dirk Spits (Athletic Performance Co-Ordinator)

Front: Damon Emtage (Backs Coach), Sean Hardman, Morgan Turinui, John Roe, Phil Mooney (Head Coach), Sam Cordingley (Captain), James Horwill, Brendan Morris (Manager), Chris Latham, David Croft, Clinton Schifcofske, Mark Bell (Forwards Coach)







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