



# RIVER ROAD EXPRESS

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## CLUB NEWS

### From the President

#### Then there were 2!

I am pleased to report that Keg's cunning, carnivorous 9 Maroons and Heta's Warriors (A grade) are through to their Grand Finals. When the going got tough, these sides - as defending PREMIERS - stood up to be counted. The 9s were tested early by St Johns but finished all over them to take their place in the big one. They are now aiming for their 3rd straight premiership and our first under 9 win since 1996. The A grade started nervously, got on top but then let the opposition back into the game. Just as supporters were reaching for valium at 16all the boys combined for a great try in the corner which was converted to give us some breathing space. Another try at the end and it was all over. These boys are now trying to win 'back to back' A grades - very tough but very achievable.

#### We lost 3!!

Tim's tenacious 10s fought to the end but were defeated by Sports. A try after the half time bell and one straight from the half time kick off killed us. In the space of 30 seconds of football we had gone from nil all to 12 nil down. Kick offs and half time tries!! - 2 of the things on my pet hate list. Never the less it was a fantastic effort by Tim, Jo and Todd to bring 2 teams together and still be a force in the competition. Well done.

Mario's 13s led for most of the game but an ambulance break didn't help their cause. It wasn't the only reason (we did some

dumb things) but at the end of the day, you can't give quality opposition a sniff and that's what we did. The boys have promised they'll be back next year ready to trample teams. Thanks to Mario, Gav, Grant, Joe and Luke for your efforts.

Jimmy's 18s %\$#@ \*%!!!! - have you ever seen 2 different halves of football? Played to their ability in the first half, fell apart in the 2nd. Absolutely heartbreaking for everyone concerned. So many good kids, good players who really achieved this year but let themselves down in the final. Thanks to Jim, Killer, Pop, Danny, Butts, Troy and all the boys for your efforts - heads up, we'll be back!

#### This weekend - our last

To those hardy few supporters who have been coming, a big thank you and I'll see you again on the weekend. Where are the rest of you?? The guys need your support. It's easy this weekend - first game Saturday, last game Sunday. The rest of the time in between is yours! Let's get a bit of Club spirit happening. For those who haven't been to a grand final before, if you stood in the middle of the field and looked at the grandstand, we're on the right. I don't want us lookin like the Judean Peoples Front!! Wear your colours and get loud! When the wife and kids ask you on Sunday morning what you want for Fathers Day, remember that quiche eating nancies have breakfast in bed; real men take their families to the grand finals!!! Be there.

Go the Saints

*John Grealy*

### RESULTS FROM GAMES LAST WEEKEND: 25/08 & 26/08/07

Age	Opposition		For		Against
6 White	Season Finished			-	
6 Blue	Season Finished			-	
6 Black	Season Finished			-	
7 Res	Season Finished			-	
7 Grade	Season Finished			-	
8 Res	Season Finished			-	
8 Grade	Season Finished			-	
9 Gold	Season Finished			-	
9 Maroon	St Johns	W	34	-	6
10 Grade	Bankstown Sports Y	L	0	-	24
11 Grade	Season Finished			-	
12 Grade	Season Finished			-	
13 Res	Season Finished			-	
13 Grade	East Hills	L	20	-	26
14 Grade	Season Finished			-	
18 Grade	Berala Bears	L	6	-	20
C Grade	Season Finished			-	
A Grade	St Johns	W	26	-	16

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**Thursday Karaoke Night**  
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**9 MAROON GRAND FINAL TEAM**

**1. Brandon Donovan**

Small in stature, big in heart. Can be relied upon in attack and defence.

**2. Jack Amy**

A worker whose efforts don't go unmissed. Does the little things right.

**3. Luke Annakin**

The 'skywalker' who doesn't mind running around or through the opposition, wherever there's a hole.

**4. Josh Nassif**

Modelled his tackling technique on 'the axe' Gillmeister. Watch him chop opponents in half, they don't get up!

**5. Steele Brown (Captain)**

'Mr Football' who's rumoured to wear his football boots to the beach. Can tackle and

has a huge 'Changa' style step.

**6. Josh Thompson-Reynolds**

Third generation Thompson to wear the maroon and gold. Likes to clean up wide in defence and make strong runs through the ruck.

**7. Luke Phipps**

Crisp service from dummy half, knows when to run himself and how to score a try.

**8. Fatu Togagae**

A hard running forward who makes plenty of metres through the opposition forwards. Doesn't mind taking an intercept.

**9. Paul Vitale**

Another good defensive player who's hitting his straps in attack at the right end of the season.

**11. Devante Faanoi**

The impact player. Can be relied upon to pull something out of the bag when we need it.

**12. Liam Charet-Johnston**

Nephew of our 1993 Mod player of the year so we know he can play football.

**13. Tom Swiderski**

The Swizel is a back rower in the making. Runs hard and can tackle just as hard.

**14. Aseri Raikalevu**

The assassin in defence who is extra elusive in attack. Always smiling

**15. Tasi Soalo-Mofate**

1<sup>st</sup> year with the Saints and starting to reach his potential. Another great tackler.

Coach: Geoff Amy

Trainer: Andrew Brown

Manager: Nathan Phipps

**U9 Maroon -Won 34-6 St Johns**

Congratulations to the players on making their third grand final in a row. It is amazing what our team can do with equal possession. After last week's performance, we were very conscious of making sure we made as few as errors as possible and we also wanted to make sure we started well. We did just this and other than for a couple of 2-3 min lapses in each half we basically played good footy. Our defence also returned to its punishing high standard with Josh N back to his best and leading the way and Steele, Devante and Liam not far behind in the tackle count – in fact all the boys tackled pretty well and they were lucky to score their one try. In attack, we did what the Coach wanted and we stayed wide when we needed to. There was no better example of this than the try scored from a kick could have been scored by almost half the team with absolutely no defence in front of them. Steele scored 2 tries including a fantastic length of the field solo try where he beat their whole team (some of them twice!), Fatu pocketed 2 tries including one from well inside our own half, little Luke took advantage of some very sleepy defence to sneak down the blind side untouched and big Tom had a great run and barged over for a try. Other mentions go to Aseri for getting more involved both in attack and in defence and big Luke for giving it everything and making a good impact when he

came on in the second half. Let's give 100% effort and concentration at training this last week. If every one of you can walk off the field after the grand final and honestly say you gave 100% then we will be proud of you no matter what the result – but be assured that if **every one of you give it everything you have got** for the whole game then we will be hard to beat. Tries: Steele & Fatu 2, Luke P, Tom Goals: Jack, Steele, Luke P, Fatu, Devante MOM: Steele Encouragement: Fatu

**U10G Lost 0-24 Bankstown Sports Y**

Well for the 4<sup>th</sup> time this year we played one of our many rivals in this tough under 10's comp Bankstown Sports. 2 wins to them 1 to us through the year, nice time to square the ledger.

The boys were a bit all over the place at training through the week, some ready to train hard & listening, others showing their presence only (doing what young boys do). Throughout the year this had been a good sign, but also not so good. What do we think? Stay positive, it's our time to even up the ledger.

Come game day the boys looked different they were ready, maybe a bit nervous (as you should be) but ready to go and compete. With a solid warm up & some commitment to each other to Tackle hard & play hard (which they did) out they went. Last words from the coach play hard

but play fair!

1st half we dominate the field position well, due to our commitment but just can't cross for a try. After the ½ time hooter they scored. This ripping the guts out of the hard work we did in the 1<sup>st</sup> half. The 2<sup>nd</sup> half started for us like the end of the first, a try to them. Against a quality side & now not much confidence our backs were against the wall.

Now knowing the final score & unfortunately not evening up the ledger, I would like to share what the Referee said after the game when shaking his hand, "The score doesn't resemble the closeness of the game, the TEAM played very well".

Like we've said all year, you are all good footballers but can be, & will be better, if all commit to the teachings. This TEAM will play ever better.

Boys Winning is a 1 of many reasons why we play this great game but being able to handle a loss, to show the awesome sportsmanship you show week in week out & holding your head held high due to the effort you put in is also very important & rewarding. Keep smiling.

**Go The Saints**

Man of the Match: Toby Reardon

EA: Brandan Sua & Connor Davidson



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**U13G Lost 20-26 East Hills**



the boys around the park.

**7. Michael Hanratty**

The shyest of the Hanratty boys, still spewing he's only our 'idol'. Look for him setting up the plays.

**8. Tuiao Tulili**

As wide as he is high, his girlie name masks his toughness. Look for his charges into the ruck.

**9. Sean McGuinness**

Danny Buderus modelled himself on Sean. Playing great football this year.

**10. Adam Brown**

Rumoured to be playing his 20<sup>th</sup> year of A grade, traditional style front-rower who only knows one way. Will lift the team when needed.

**11. Dane Elliot**

Tough tackling back rower who deals in bodies – when he hits, they stay hit!

**12. Justin Hall**

Now in veteran class but still has one of the 'top 3' bums. Can hit the hole and will be going for 'Hunk on the Park' honours.

**13. Dave Eisenhuth**

Talks like Lockyer, tougher than Webke. The strongest man in the team with an incredible work rate. Could have been a wrestler.

**14. Dane Brennan**

In his 17<sup>th</sup> consecutive year with the Club, a 'workaholic' who never stops.

**15. Andrew Mortimer**

Another workaholic who can play any position. Last season's 'Player of the year' could be the X-Factor this year.

**16. Justin Bold**

The smartest man to play for the Club, JB is enjoying his best ever season.

**17. Dave Bennett**

Hard working forward with a 100% grand

final record. Good on the tooth.

**18. Mitchell Tubinas**

1st year with the Club. Classy centre/winger who has fitted in nicely.

**19. Matt Dawes**

In his 8<sup>th</sup> year of footy and has only ever played A grade. Has finally realised what a weapon he can be. Look for his big hit-ups and lack of bladder control.

**20. Graham McFarlane**

The fart has played wing all year and has been as safe as a bank. Knows how to score a try.

**21. Paul Gibbs**

Nearly as smart as JB but plays in the forwards.

**22. Wayne Hanratty**

Wharfie Wayne can play centre, wing or full-back.

**23. Ben Karora**

Came from Ra Ra and really worked hard in the front row. Loves Karaoke.

**24. Bryan Venn**

The great Kalil – monster

**25. Luke Weir**

Another hard working back rower

**26. Andrew William**

The Diesel only knows one way

**Coach: Heta Wherepapa** – built like a totem pole but smarter

**Managers: Hayley Knox and Marc Weller** – What a combination! Weller's good looks with Hayley's organisational abilities.

**Trainers: Allan Wren, Chris Williams, Brian Mortimer** – the unholy trinity

**Ball Boy: Trey Brown** – rain, hail or shine, he's there every week.

**U18 - Lost 6-20 Berala Bears**



**A Grade - Won 26-16 St Johns**

**A GRADE GRAND FINAL TEAM**

**1. Luke Carroll**

Long striding fullback who could have been a porn star. His ability to keep score in his head sets him apart from other footballers.

**2. Adam Henley**

Speedy centre/winger who spends "Life in the fast lane". Great front rower's nose!

**3. Brock Askell**

The 'nugget' is solid in defence and unbelievably hard to tackle. Specializes in winning A grade comps.

**4. Marc Walsh**

Classy centre in the Gasnier mould – just ask him! Loves to beat his man on the outside.

**5. Reuben Kabliyawa**

The love child of Marcus Bai and Manfred Moore. Our entertainer who can motor.

**6. Nathan Sellings**

Goal kicking five-eight. Watch him 'scheme'

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**Calender of Important Dates**

Broken Hill Tour - Friday 5 October  
 Junior Presentation - Sunday 21 October  
 A & C Grade Presentation - Friday 26 October  
 13's - 18's Presentation - Saturday 27 October  
 Annual General Meeting - Thursday 22 November

**We Want You**



Your football club needs **you** in order to thrive and survive. Please help out in 2008 if you can. Applications are now being taken for all positions:

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Marketing
- Sponsorship
- Coaches, Managers & Trainers
- Club house
- Canteen
- Gear
- Newsletter
- Website
- Social events

**WEEKLY WINNERS**

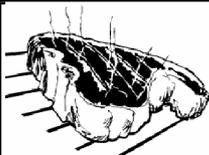
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**Field Set-up:**  
**Field Clean-up:**  
**Canteen Duties:**  
**BBQ Duties:**

<b>Revesby Pacific Raffles Drawn: 6:30 pm Friday</b>	<b>Starts at 5.30pm 31/08/07 - U/14</b>
<b>Revesby Pacific Raffles Drawn: 4 &amp; 5 pm Saturday</b>	<b>Starts at 3:00 pm 12/05/07 - U/7R</b>
<b>Join the winners list.</b>	<b>Wear your club colours.</b>

**NEXT WEEKS GAMES: ROUND 18**

**Games: Saturday 1st September 2007**



<b>U/9 M</b>	<b>9.30</b>	<b>Bankstown Sports</b>	<b>Belmore Oval</b>
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**Games: Sunday 2nd September 2007**

<b>U/14 G</b>		<b>Season Finished</b>	
<b>U/18 G</b>		<b>Season Finished</b>	
<b>C Grade</b>		<b>Season Finished</b>	
<b>A Grade</b>	<b>4.40</b>	<b>East C'Town</b>	<b>Belmore Oval</b>



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