ST CHRISTOPHERS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB

River Road Express

Weekend of 28th & 29th June 2014

Volume 14 Issue 11

President's Report

Round 11 was one of our best weekends for a long while with 9 of our 14 Saturday sides winning and one holding on for a draw (13s had a bye). I would like to think it was due to my rant last week but commitment is a long term thing and won't happen overnight. The 6-4s got us off to a great start at Billy Dee and this paved the way for the next 3 sides with the 7-1s, 8-1s and 9-1s all scoring good wins. Both the 8s and 9s had been out of the winners circle for a little while so it was great to hear them sing the song. The 10-1s (sitting 2nd on the ladder) are now realising that sides are 'stepping up' to knock them off and will have to dig deeper to keep them at bay. The match of the day was definitely the 12s who made up for a last round loss to Johnnies by 'smoking' them 18 blot with the game highlight being a length of the field try by the '2 Lachie' combo.

Sunday was not as successful though the 14-4s had a real dig against the competition leaders. Wanderers were first and we were last but the boys didn't think about that and were a bit unlucky to finally go down by 8. The 15s led and got run down again while the 16s had a real tough one against 2nd placed Johhnies but now know they need to lift their intensity if they want to finish in the top 4. The 17s made it 2 in a row by knocking over Botany and nothing sounded better than our song coming out of Smith Park.

We have **Sunday games at Billy Dee** this weekend. The boys love playing at home but it comes at a cost to you parents. We need your help on BBQ and in the canteen. Please put in 45 minutes so the boys can continue to love playing at home.

Go the Saints
John Grealy

ST CHRISTOPHER'S JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB

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Bill Delauney Reserve
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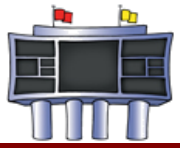
Round 11 Results



TEAM	OPPOSITION	RESULT	FOR	AGAINST
U6 Gold (4)	Tigers	Won	24	8
U6 Green (3)	East Hills	Lost	8	24
U6 Blue (1)	Berala Bears	Lost	16	36
U7 White (2)	Bankstown Sports	Won	32	10
U7 Blue (1)	Bankstown Sports	Won	20	10
U8 Green (3)	St Johns	Won	26	22
U8 White (2)	St Johns	Won	28	16
U8 Blue (1)	St Johns	Won	26	18
U9-3	Tigers	Won	20	6
U9-1	Dragons	Won	36	0
U10-3	Bankstown Sports	Lost	6	40
U10-1	Chester Hill	Drew	6	6
U11-2	Tigers	Lost	6	28
U12-1	St Johns	Won	18	0
U13-1	BYE			
U14-4	Leichhardt Wanderers	Lost	12	20
U14-2	Botany Rams	Lost	0	48
U15-3	Botany Rams	Lost	24	34
U16-1	St Johns	Lost	6	28
U17-1	Botany Rams	Won	32	22

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Under 6 Gold ~ Won 24-8 v Tigers

Harry opened up our game against the Tigers with a massive run and Ayden followed his lead but was unlucky and was taken into touch. Following some great defence, Saints gained the ball back and Noah made a dash for the try line and Riley finished off the play to put our first points on the score board. Noah and Harry worked together in defence and James had his best performance yet with an impressive run. Ayden proved his strength when four Tigers' players attempted to pull him into touch but failed. Harry made a great swerving run to also score a try. Braydon, Noah and Ayden continued to make some brilliant hits. In the next third, Xavius tricked the Tigers' defence and ran the length of the field to score another try for the Saints. After gaining the ball back following another great set of tackles, Ayden was on fire making an impressive offload to Braydon who ran his heart out to score his first try of the game. Noah was also on form making some awesome diving tackles followed by an awesome try. It was then Harry's turn to show his defensive skills as he made tackle after tackle. Braydon got his hands on the ball again and ran around the back of his team mates, up through the middle of Tigers' defence to score his second try under the posts. Charlie is improving week after week and is making some brilliant tackles. James showed a huge improvement in his game this week with his runs and tackles and was awarded Man of the Match as a result. Congratulations James!!

Under 6 Gold
Man of the Match
~ James ~

Under 6 Green
Man of the Match~Kai

Under 6.3 Green ~ Lost 8-24 v East Hills

I am so proud of our boys despite the fact that we haven't won a game yet..... There is still hope! Apart from a few runs over the side line they played well with Jake scoring his first try of the season. Leo made some great runs forward showing his speed and Seb played another great game as first receiver and improved with his tackling skills.

Harrison, Izhak and Drew all tried hard to break through the other team and are showing improvement. James put together some good runs and tackles and received our Encouragement award. Caleb and Declan once again topped the tackle count with Declan scoring his 7th try of the season!

Our youngest player Kai has improved in leaps and bounds over the past few weeks in both his defence and his drive to run through the opposition. Well done buddy, you definitely deserved Man of the Match this week!

It sure can be frustrating for coach, trainers and parents that we aren't winning any games but the little guys are none the wiser..... They show up with smiles on their faces, they have all made a massive improvement from the start of the season and they have made some great mates that will see them through their footy years at St Christopher's! I believe that next year we will have a great Under 6 team with a year of confidence behind them.... Go Saints!

Under 6 Green
Encouragement Award
~ James ~

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Under 6 Blue ~ Lost 10-36 v Berala Bears

WOW one of our better games played - although we didn't win these boys really do get better each week. Dylan finally got a try from dummy half, Tyler got a try and Khoda also got 2 tries over the line. Michael earnt himself Man of the Match with an excellent all round game and Nash found some new confidence with his new shoulder pads. Rory yelled support to the boys and also made some good tackles. Daniel, Nicholas, Joshua and Alexander were up in all the action in both runs and tackling. Darcy, apart from playing with a pre-footy injury to the day, was helping out where he could.

Under 6 Blue
Man of the Match
~ Michael ~
&
The Fantastic
Under 6 Blues

Under 7 Blue ~ Won 20-10 v Sports

Another great win this week by the boys. We got off to another slow start with Sports scoring not long after the kick off; however Itula soon scored an amazing try to even up the score after the restart and kicking the goal to match! Itula scored twice in the game which was a fantastic effort!

Throughout the game, the whole team tackled well, made try saving tackles and excellent cover defence which wouldn't be possible without the great team work that the entire team displayed this week! Lachie showed some quick thinking pick-ups from dropped balls allowing him to score twice and even managed to convert his attempt.

Overall last week's game was an exciting display of football which the boys should all be proud of. Patrick Forrester gets a big mention, who was this week's Man of the Match. Patrick has consistently showed great leadership on the park and last week he excelled! He made some great tackles, made great field position and organised the play and the team. Patrick consistently follows instructions from the coach at game time and at training. Well done Patrick!!

Another mention goes to the previous 3 weeks Men of the Match, they are: Matthew Fitzgerald against Chester Hill, Zeedan Wilson against Moorebank, Thomas Scott against Dragons. Unfortunately I wasn't there to witness your Man of the Match performances but from what I heard, you all played amazing and deservedly received your awards!

Congratulations boys, keep up the great work!!!

Under 7 White ~ Won 32-10 v Sports

Under 8 Green ~ Won 26-22 v St Johns

Under 8 White ~ Won 26-18 v St Johns

A windy cool day saw us at Belfield to face St John's Eagles, a win I had circled in the diary. After a big week of training it was Marcus Khoury's turn to lead the boys out as Captain. He led by example, scoring the first try, with a neat run from dummy half. Before the game he must have kicked 20 goals, but was unable to convert the important one on the field (maybe save them for the game next time Marcus). The boys continued to pepper their line, but we had one of those days where we couldn't hold onto the ball for more than 3 tackles. Once again Mark Bishara showed us how to carry the ball up the field straight and hard, carrying half their pack towards the grandstand. Off the back of this, Harrison managed to get over the line for a nice one and go on to convert his own try. When we broke for oranges we were up by 8 points and feeling confident about another win. Early in the 2nd half we showed some weak and lazy defence and all of a sudden the Eagles were back to within 4 points. Lucas Cassar then put on one of the Tries of the Year; he must have evaded all 8 Eagles defenders to score a brilliant try. The boys forced a mistake in the last ¼ which led to Zac Maarbani scoring in the corner. Damon Taufa also showed us glimpses of his zippy nature, going over for a 4 pointer as well. Good win lads, but now it's time to step up to the big boppers, Sports, Berala and Greenacre over the next 3 weeks. If we get one of these three scalps, I'll be super proud. C'mooooon Saints.

MOM: Zac Maarbani

Tries: Marcus, Harrison, Lucas, Zac and Damon

Goals: Harrison, Lucas, Zac and Damon

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Under 8 Blue ~ Won 26-18 v St Johns

It was Redemption Day today after last week's humiliating defeat. But enough said about that.

It was a tough week. Training for our boys was much more disciplined and drilled in to them about their team work...back to basics. Catch and pass. Up and back in a line. Tackle. Tackle. Tackle.

And I am proud to say, the boys responded with enthusiasm. All over the field our champions delivered. They tackled like demons and ran the ball up, again and again. We continued to breach the advantage line and push towards their line. Our only handling errors were a few drop balls but across the field we were the dominant side.

The final score today was 26-18. Jack scored 4 Try's and Matthew got 1.

It was a much better performance and maybe it's a good lesson for our boys...nothing comes easy. You have to put in to get the results you want.

Well done all, Cody was our Man of the Match today.

Under 9.3 ~ Won 20-6 v Tigers

We had the challenge of playing one of the toughest sides in the draw this week facing Tiger 1 at Roberts Park, Greenacre. In warm up things did not look good, the boys were not prepared, and spent half the time talking and mucking about.

From the kick off a hard slug of attack and defence set in, with little ground being made by either side. The Tigers had a huge front row, with a third of their team bigger than our largest player. The whole team did an awesome job in defence, shutting down their quicker players with a fast attack, and supporting each other in bringing down the bigger boys. Nouredeen completed an awesome 40m weaving run to get us across in the corner for our first try. Unfortunately the Tigers big front row finally pushed though our defence, to give them a 4-6 lead. Hussein and Nouredeen stood out in defence with some great tackling, taking the legs away from their fast attack. Late in the first half Matthew did a great run across their defensive line, straightening up at a gap and getting across the line for our second try.

We started the second half with a 10-6 lead and the boys showed a real energy to keep Tigers from scoring again. Solid defence from the boys kept the Tigers in their own end most of the second half, and penalties against them gave us lots of possession. Xavier was doing a great job in the centres taking run after run at their line, hitting it straight and hard until he finally busted through for his first try of the season. Tigers got a break-away run down our wing, before Nouredeen did a fabulous tackle hitting the runner head on and knocking him down and into touch. Our final try came from a fast run by Youssef to give us a final score of 20 – 6.

In attack, the lessons from training are showing in our play, and the boys are handing off, and running onto the ball much better, but we still need to stopping bunching up fighting for the ball.

This was the toughest game so far this year and was won by solid defence by everyone in the team. "WELL DONE"

Tries – Nouredeen, Matthew, Youssef, Xavier. Conversions – Matthew, Ryan

Man of the Match – Matthew.

Under 9.1 ~ Won 36-0 v Dragons

This week we piled on the points to run away with game. The defence was the most pleasing aspect of this game. At halftime it was 22-0 and the boys could have quite easily slackened off in the second half but Anthony spoke to the boys saying if they conceded any soft tries he would be disappointed. The boys responded by getting numbers into tackles and showing the defensive determination that has become a part of their game. At full time it was 36-0, the win sent me scrabbling to research our previous best scoreline. A couple of milestones: this was our biggest winning margin ever, it was also the first time we kept a team scoreless. After the game there was a sense of relief, the boys had put in massive efforts in the past three weeks but had nothing to show for their hard work. The past 5 weeks we have only averaged 11 points against us per game, this combined with a much better attacking structure shows the boys are starting to come together. Special mention to Jack Hanratty who played up this week and had a fine game.

Remember boys DEFENCE is attitude. Well done boys keep up the good work.

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Under 10.3 ~ Lost 6-40 v Sports

Under 10.1 ~ Drew 6-6 v Chester Hill

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Under 11.2 ~ Lost 6-28 v Tigers

A great start by the boys this week with Michael putting the first points on the board from a fantastic kick down the sideline. He followed through to try – a great play, well done. Ethan secured the additional 2 points with the successful goal kick. Unfortunately from there the game went the opposite way. In the first half Michael, Jack, Tom and Ethan showed great tackling. Alex, Jonathon and Tom were great in their hit ups. The score first half was 6-12. There was a chance of a comeback although our completion in the first half was 5/6, second half was 2/4 which allowed the other team to win 6-28. 2nd half great tackles by Tom, Jack and Lenny, hit ups by Alex, Braidon and Lenny. Always a great effort, continue with your great team sportsmanship and better luck next week boys.

Man of the Match: Daniel.

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Under 12.1 ~ Won 18-0 v St Johns

Under 13.1 ~ BYE

Under 14.4 ~ Lost 12-20 v Leichhardt Wanderers

Our last game was against Leichhardt Wanderers at Birchgrove oval. We played against the competition leaders and despite having two important players out of our team, we still put up a gutsy performance. It was a great effort from our boys.

The opposition got off to a good start by scoring after 5 minutes of play to lead 6-0. Our boys kept working away and three minutes later we hit back with a converted try to Jack beside the posts to make the score 6 all. The opposition then came back to score two unconverted tries before half-time to lead 14-6. The coach was quite happy with the performance and felt that if we can score early in the second half we could have a realistic chance of winning.

The second half started quite tough, with good defence and our boys weren't going to go down without a fight. The opposition scored a lucky try from a cross field kick and converted to lead 20-6. We then kept trying before Jack also put in a high kick in the in-goal, which was left loose for Keiran to force it down for a try. It was converted and the score meant that we were trailing 20-12, with 17 minutes left of play. Our hopes of a comeback were dashed when Kassem was sent to the sin-bin for an unknown reason. This of course meant that we had to play 10 minutes with 12 players. The opposition held on to win 20-12.

Overall, it was a great performance and we should feel proud of our boys. It's only a matter of time before we post our second win of the season and then there will be more to come. Go the Saints!!!!

Tries: Jack X 1 & Keiran X 1 Goals:Jack X 2 Player of the Match: Jack

Under 14.2 ~ Lost 0-48 v Botany Rams

We travelled to Kensington to play Botany who are the current leaders of our competition. This is a tight comp and I was hoping for some over confidence by the opposition. Well they had it in spades – but what I didn't count on was our lack of confidence.

Boys, it comes down to basics – you now know if you don't move up off your line kids **will** run around you. Remember we are at home this weekend so let's hear some more talk on the field, move up off your line and play as a team.

Under 15.3 ~ Lost 24-34 v Botany Rams

Under 16.1 ~ Lost 6-28 v St Johns

Under 17.1 ~ Won 32-22 v Botany Rams

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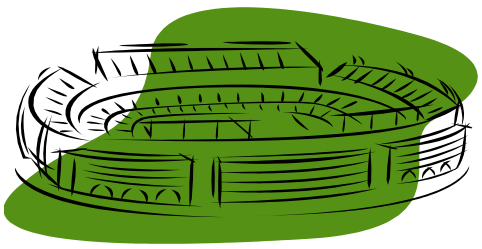
This Week's Games

Saturday 5th July			
TEAM	TIME	OPPOSITION	VENUE
U6 Gold (4)	9.45	Bulls	Bill Delauney Res
U6 Green (3)	9.00	Moorebank	Bill Delauney Res
U6 Blue (1)	9.00	St Johns	Bill Delauney Res
U7 White (2)	9.45	Bulls	Bill Delauney Res
U7 Blue (1)	9.00	St Johns	Begnell Oval
U8 Green (3)	10.30	Milperra Colts	Bill Delauney Res
U8 White (2)	10.30	Bankstown Sports	Steve Folkes Res
U8 Blue (1)	9.00	Bulls	Ruse Park
U9-3	11.30	East Hills	Smith Park
U9-1	11.00	St Johns	Begnell Oval
U10-3	11.30	St Johns	Bill Delauney Res
U10-1	12.40	Tigers	Roberts Park
U11-2	12.20	St Johns	Bill Delauney Res
U12-1	12.30	Bulls	Ruse Park
U13-1	1.50	Milperra Colts	Killara Reserve
Sunday 6th July			
U14-4		BYE	
U14-2	10.30	Berala	Bill Delauney
U15-3	12.40	Dundas	Bill Delauney
U16-1	1.45	Mascot	Bill Delauney
U17-1	11.00	Campbelltown	Bradbury Oval

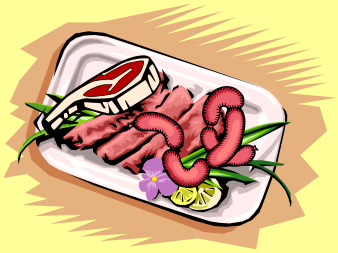


Raffle Roster

Friday 4th July:

Joker Draw raffle at Revesby Pacific Hotel
from 5:30-7:00 ~ **Under 14.2's.**

Saturday 5th July



- (a) Revesby Pacific Hotel ~ Meat Tray raffles
  from 3:30-5:30 ~ **Under 10.1's.**
- (b) Panania Diggers ~ Meat Tray raffles
  from 3:30-5:30 ~ **Under 7's.**