# Oatley Rugby



Annual Report



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## 2014 Committees

#### **Executive Committee**

President Richard Rice
Secretary Ed Devlin
Treasurer Mick Bradley
Public Officer Mick Waudby
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Minis Vice President Richard Ekholm

Executive Committee Members

Rod Dunn
Anthony Scoon
Damian Mullins
Mick Waudby

#### Seniors Committee

Seniors Vice President Ron Mackay

Treasurer Mick Bradley / Anthony Scoon

#### Juniors Committee

Juniors Vice President Karsten Schocher Treasurer Mick Bradley Secretary Mick Heal Chris Griffiths

#### Minis Committee

Minis Vice President Richard Ekholm

Registrar Meaghan Peacock

Canteen Ed & Angela Devlin Courtney Malouf

## **Presidents Report**



It was a mixed year for Oatley Rugby in 2014.

The minis section of the club did well recruiting strong numbers in the Under 6's but still struggling for number in the 7s. The kids really seemed to be enjoying their year with a strong finish to the season at the Southern Districts Gala day. A big thank you to all the coaches involved and to Richard (Beachie) Ekholm for all the hard work that was put in this year both as our Mini's VP and the Southern Districts Mini Co-ordinator.

The junior club fielded six Teams, with a couple of teams making the Grand Final. The U12s becoming premiers and the Under 10's missing out. The under 11s also won the Plate final which was another great effort. Unlucky to those teams that did not make finals but I am sure they can all consolidate and go one better next year. This was Karsten's first year as Juniors VP and I think everyone can congratulate him on a job very well done.

The senior club had another good year financially and socially but unfortunately just could not realise its potential on the field. A great run to the finals by 3rd grade but unfortunately knocked out in the first week of finals football. The foundations are there for the senior portion of the club to enter a golden era if it can set aside politics and start to focus on the field there are some great times ahead. A big thank you once again to Ronald McKay and Anthony Scoon who have guided the club so well in recent years.

A few people who need some special mentions

- Ed and Angela Devlin for fine season in the canteen for both Junior and Seniors
- Mick Waudby for organising the Golf Day, Public Officer and putting together this Tome, plus all the behind the scenes work on the website.
- Mick Bradley for running the club's finances as well as the Sown Oats.
- The Juniors Committee for all its hard work.
- · The Seniors Committee
- · All those that helped organise events
- Coaches and Managers from the 6s through to the Golden Oldies.
- All the parents, helpers and unnamed a for getting people to games and never saying no when we needed help.

A big Thank you to all and to those I have not mentioned or have left out apologies.

Therefore, we come to the end of another year of Rugby, which had so many great Triumphs both on the field but also off it. Registration payments were up, Trivia night was a great success The Executive Committee recognise room for improvement. We dropped the ball on a number of occasions especially in the terms of communication and event organisation. As such, I would hope next year's committee appoints Social committee to help spread the load and make the most of the resources available within the club. Our brand is very strong and sponsorship is at an all-time high so we need to convert this into success in other areas of the club. All of these things are and will be addressed before the start of next season to ensure a strong club commercially and financially going forward.

I hope to see you all again next year as well as some new faces.

Stay safe. Yours in Rugby

Richard Rice - President.

### **Minis Team Awards Winners**



#### Mini and Midi Award Winners

Oatley Rugby Club Under 6 2014 Most Improved - Dean Morson
Oatley Rugby Club Under 6 2014 Most Improved - Liam Baker
Oatley Rugby Club Under 6 2014 Coaches Award - Marley Thompson
Oatley Rugby Club Under 6 2014 Best & Fairest - Jack Campbell

Oatley Rugby Club Under 7s 2014 Most Improved - Josh Rex
Oatley Rugby Club Under 7s 2014 Managers Award - Jett Morris
Oatley Rugby Club Under 7s 2014 Coaches Award - Callum Gidney
Oatley Rugby Club Under 7s 2014 Best & Fairest - Lachlan Marshall

Oatley Rugby Club Under 8s 2014 Most Improved - Dante Macri
Oatley Rugby Club Under 8s 2014 Managers Award - Zac Scullinno
Oatley Rugby Club Under 8s 2014 Coaches Award - Sam Dahan
Oatley Rugby Club Under 8s 2014 Best & Fairest - Will Mood
Oatley Rugby Club Under 8s 2014 Best & Fairest - Nate Glendinning
Oatley Rugby Club Under 9s 2014 Most Improved - Kalan Thompson
Oatley Rugby Club Under 9s 2014 Managers Award - Luke Marson
Oatley Rugby Club Under 9s 2014 Coaches Award - Aden Carmichael
Oatley Rugby Club Under 9s 2014 Best & Fairest - Alex Purser

Oatley Rugby Club Midi Player of the Year 2014 - Nicholas Walker

Oatley Rugby Club Mini Player of the Year 2014 - Alex Purser

## Minis VP Report



2014 saw a small in increase in Oatley Minis Numbers from the previous season. A decision was made before the season started to do no cost registration for under 6's and 7's. Which I believe helped attract more players to pull on the boots and find out what Rugby is all about. With one of the main focuses of Minis Rugby being participation, this was an excellent result.

Though these is no weekly competition in Minis rugby, across the four age groups we were competitive, winning some, losing some, but most importantly getting out on the paddock and enjoying playing rugby. Thanks to the coaches and managers from each team for their dedication, patience, and time. It is very rewarding each week to see to smiles on the faces of a wonderful bunch of Little Fellas, and without the volunteer that do give up their time, this would not be possible.

We did get a visit from Waratah's Peter Betham and Rod Horne one night at Training which seemed to go down very well both the players and parents alike.

Oatley Rugby had record number participate in the March Past at Waratah's v Red's Game. Our number were bolsters with a number of juniors who also attended. An excellent night out.

For the first time in a number of seasons, we were able to host two minis rounds at Evatt, and I would like to thank all of the parents and supporters that helped out in the with setting up, packing down the fields, BBQing, and working in the Canteen. It was unfortunate that we had several days of extremely heavy rain leading up to the last weekend in August, and as such were unable to run the Gala Weekend at Evatt. In fact due to the heavy rain the Gala weekend was shortened to a single day, was moved to the Ridge and played only on the Sunday. Oatley were competitive but not victorious in any of the age groups.

I would like to thank all of the parents for their support of Rugby, and sincerely hope that you enjoyed you time on the sideline throughout the season, There are probably a heap of other people that I need to thank, and have forgotten but anyway I need to recognises and thank the following

- Derick Martins and Steve Purser for coaching and managing the under 9's.
- Darrel (PG) Glendenning and Meaghan Peacock for coaching and managing the under 8's.
- Austin Morris, Karen Marshall and Michele Gidney for coaching and managing the under 7's.
- Tom Rice and Michelle Schafer for coaching and managing the under 6's.
- Meaghan Peacock for being an excellent registrar, and ensure all of our paper work was accurate and up to date.
- Anthony (Ants) Scoon for sorting out all the kit for the little fellas, and his immense patience.
- Ronald (Big Jock) McKay and Sandy Palmer for their help whenever we BBQed.
- Karsten Schocher for being the most organized individual I know.

I hope you will be all back again for another rugby season in 2015

Cheers Beachie

## **U7** Report



The Under 7's had a great 2014 season, consistently playing and training well. The boys had some retruning players, newstarters and a change of coach late in the season but all players showed improvement, learning loads of new attacking and defensive skills which they began to implement on the field. All of the boys tried their hardest at every game, scoring numerous wins and some well fought losses against their toughest competitors, Burraneer.

The U7's great strength is that they are all good mates and genuinely love playing as a team. This is something to value and we hope that they continue to enjoy bith the game and the friendships made as they move to U8's next year.

Austin, Beachie & Karen

## 2014 Junior Coaches and Managers

Team	Coaches	Managers	
U9	Derick Martins / Steve Purser		
U8	Darrel "PG" Glendenning	Meaghan Peacock	
U7	Austin Morris / Richard "Beachie" Ekholm	Karen Marshall / Michele Gidney	
U6	Tom Rice	Michelle Schafer	



## Junior's VP Report



Being my first crack at leading a voluntary junior sports community I went into the season with lots of positive energy, coupled with some in trepidation, with the aim of ensuring the Juniors can get on with playing Rugby and enjoy the experience of being part of a great Rugby club that is Oatley Rugby. There were plenty of times where my enthusiasm had to be tempered by the realities of work and home demands but all in all it was personally a very rewarding year

Certainly a huge amount of learning was the order of the day but with so many willing supporters from across all levels of the club, myself and the Juniors managed to come through the season in pretty good shape.

A big shout out to Richard Rice for covering for me during my long absences away during the middle of the season. Specifically for running the Juniors Trivia Night. It was a tremendous success in terms of its attendance and the subsequent funds that it raised. Thanks Richard. Enough about me, what can be said of season 2014.

This was the first year in my memory that all Oatley Junior teams played in Sunday competitions. Ungraded Saturday competitions with few teams playing wasn't an attractive option for the Juniors and now that we have moved exclusively to Sundays the Juniors can get on with focusing on retaining and recruiting players without the unwanted confusion of which day we may be playing on.

All up six teams where entered into Sydney Juniors competitions. U10, U11, U12, U13, U14 & Opens all managed to get squads onto the park which is no mean feat for a club geographically located in the southern suburbs of Sydney. We can't take our existence for granted and must remain ever vigilant in keeping teams' viable year in year out. We are reminded of our challenge constantly and no more so when the news came through this season that Engadine is the latest casualty from our village to go the way of Blakehurst and others. From next season they will no longer exist, falling victim to ever shifting demographics and perhaps a weak brand at the national level. This year the U13's were a merged entity with Rockdale and Menai bringing players into the squad. The team was aptly named the Oatdale Warriors and now provides a template for future mergers, where necessary, especially as we move into a more competitive landscape for player participation with the other three major sorting codes.

The U10's had an extremely successful first year in the Sydney Juniors comp. Initially graded into the D's competition their early round results saw them regraded into the C's competition. They progressed all the way into the Grand Final, though defeated proved themselves worthy finalists. Another challenge awaits them in 2015 when they will move up into the B's competition. The team has strong numbers and a fantastic team culture, thanks to Chris & Cliff as coaches and Wayne as manager, so the short term future is looking bright for the U10's.

After winning the U10's D competition in 2013 with strong support with player numbers from the U9's this year U11's faced the daunting task of moving up to the C competition and not having the U10's able to support as readily the year before. Player numbers was the real challenge for the team as they proved competitive on the field. By season's end the squad number increased, which allowed all the focus to be on playing Rugby and to their credit they finished the season with a Plate final win. Another top flight effort from Aaron and Sean. Next season will once again bring the challenge of securing a sizeable squad so the focus for the next Juniors committee is to recruit hard in the U12's age group.

Moving to the Sunday competition for the U12's was a pill that took some swallowing at the end of last season but what an outcome for the team this season. Graded into the D competition



## Junior's VP Report (con't)

they made into 4th spot and after successive finals wins they made into the Grand Final, which they subsequently won. Premiers, what a fantastic achievement from a team that was at the receiving end of some tough results last season in the ungraded Saturday competition, lost their coach at the start of the season and struggled for player numbers for most of the season. A huge cheer for the coaching / management team, Lino Craig & Mike, who were richly rewarded for their unrelenting hard work throughout the entire season. Certainly expect next season to be more about Rugby than player numbers and coaching issues, what a great story this team is.

The U13's with all their success from earlier years were not immune from the challenges of player retention that afflicts Rugby clubs in our region of Sydney. Through the foresight of their team manager and coach a merged team plan was put in place at the end of last season. Playing in the A competition was a huge challenge for the team given the make up their squad found it difficult to train and play a regular side week in week out. To their immense credit they finished in 4th spot, beating the no.1 team Lindfield in their late flourish to make the semis. Unfortunately they bowed out in the first week of the semi's but will take a lot out of the season that showed they can be competitive with the best U13 sides in Sydney. For next season their mountain will be putting together a week in week out 23 player squad. Damian and Paul have already commenced working towards that end so I'm sure there will be no what ifs asked come next season.

For years Lancelot has had to contend with limited player numbers. Well this year his chicken have finally come home to roost. His patience and hard work was rewarded with a U14's squad of in excess of 23 players, happy days. The team moved up from their original grading in the C's competition to the B's comp. Their capability and quality of Rugby played was demonstrated by their 4th placing on the table. A tough outing at Newport in the semi final, the home team ably assisted by a fiercely parochial home crowd playing the part of the 16th player, saw their season come to an end. Lancelot, Kerry and Ross took the loss pretty hard, but along with the Juniors were extremely proud of their team's achievements. The U14's are another great success story for this season and it's great to see they are finally in a strong position to start a new season with a bang.

The Opens may not have achieved as much on field success as some of the other Oatley Junior teams but what's is important to note and be proud of is they were the only Southern Districts village club that fielded at team in the Opens competition. Mark, Scott, Ross et al did a fantastic job of pulling this team together and keeping a squad together for the full season. At the 16, 17, 18 years age there are plenty of distractions for young men so a massive pat on the back for the team hierarchy for their efforts this season. Next season promises a better position on the table as a significant percentage of the team were 16 years old this season and the team will no doubt gain from the benefit of already having a year of Opens Rugby under their belt.

To all the boys that were selected in Representative teams, that's a fantastic achievement and one you should be very pleased with. Oatley Juniors will continue to support our players and their representative aspirations. It's important for young men to strive to achieve greater goals, a mantra that will hold them in good stead in their non-sport lives.

The teams wouldn't function without the support from parents who act as Coaches, Managers, Linesman, Trainers, Canteen helpers, Laundry providers, etc. So a big thank you from the Juniors for giving up your time and putting in the very welcome effort that gets our teams onto the paddock each weekend.

## Junior's VP Report (con't)



It's not just about the Rugby at Oatley so it was great to see that the Juniors participated in great numbers for this year's March Past, a good indicator on club / parent relationship. The Trivia night was a resounding success with most teams represented by a table of parents and support from the Seniors and Exec. A late season Bunnings BBQ fund raiser proved to be a winner and a huge thanks goes out to Ronnie, Mick W, Ants and especially Mike H. He was instrumental in its success on a day where nearly all Juniors teams were off all over Sydney playing semi-final games.

A significant proportion of our operating income comes from our sponsorship from Maso's. We are very grateful for the sponsorship from a fantastic organisation that has for many years supported Oatley Rugby. If you aren't already, make the effort to get down to Maso's, it has a family friendly environment that has all you can ask for from a club.

With the Juniors presentation day a few days away we can all look forward to a great end of season celebration at Oatley Park, where we will take the opportunity to recognise player and team achievements. The day is planned to leave all that attend that playing junior Rugby at Oatley is fun, inclusive and the best place to spend your winter months if Rugby is your thing. So from the Juniors it's now time for is all to reenergise, enjoy the summer break and get ready to kick off 2015 with renewed vigour and anticipation. The door is always open for new ideas and talent so don't hesitate to contact the club if you wish to do more than support your child from the sidelines.

See you all back at Evatt in March 2015. Yours in Rugby

Karsten Schocher
Juniors Vice President







Oatley Junior Rugby Club - Coach of the year 2014 - Lino Fa'amausili
Oatley Junior Rugby Club - Coach of the year 2014 - Craig Taylor
Oatley Junior Rugby Club - Supporter of the year 2014 - Matthew King
Oatley Junior Rugby Club - Clubman of the year 2014 - Ross Bernays
Oatley Junior Rugby Club - Goal Kicker of the year 2014 - Kerei Ranginui
Oatley Junior Rugby Club - Junior Player of the year 2014 - Zach Stewart

## 2014 Junior Coaches and Managers

Team	Coaches	Managers
U10	Chris Griffiths / Cliff Hook	Wayne Gentle
U11	Aaron Malouf	Sean Petroni
U12	Lino Fa'amausili / Craig Taylor	Mike Heal
U13	Paul Jeff	Damian Mullins
U14	Lancelot Tasipale / Kerry Sargent	Ross Williamson
Opens	Mark Bernays Scott Shad	

## 2014 Junior Team Award Winners



Oatley Rugby Club Under 10s 2014 Best Back - Ronan Schocher Oatley Rugby Club Under 10s 2014 Best Forward - Mitchell Brell Oatley Rugby Club Under 10s 2014 Best & Fairest - Callum Hook Oatley Rugby Club Under 10s 2014 Coaches Award - Ethan Griffiths

Oatley Rugby Club Under 11s 2014 Best Back - Lajuan Vito Oatley Rugby Club Under 11s 2014 Best Forward - Phillip Livanos Oatley Rugby Club Under 11s 2014 Best & Fairest - Alexander Morson Oatley Rugby Club Under 11s 2014 Coaches Award - Garth Sinclair

Oatley Rugby Club Under 12s 2014 Best Back - Elijah Fa'amausili
Oatley Rugby Club Under 12s 2014 Best Forward - Faatali Lui
Oatley Rugby Club Under 12s 2014 Player of the Year - Riley Taylor
Oatley Rugby Club Under 12s 2014 Coaches Award - Andrew Blackburn

Oatley Rugby Club Under 13s 2014 Best Back - Salesi Malu Oatley Rugby Club Under 13s 2014 Best Forward - Lucas Jeff Oatley Rugby Club Under 13s 2014 Best & Fairest - Conor Molloy Oatley Rugby Club Under 13s 2014 Coaches Award - Flynn Isaacs

Oatley Rugby Club Under 14s 2014 Best Back - Jye Leigh McRae Oatley Rugby Club Under 14s 2014 Best Forward - Christopher Icanovski Oatley Rugby Club Under 14s 2014 Best & Fairest - Kanui Wilson - "Chopper" Oatley Rugby Club Under 14s 2014 Coaches Award - William Whiston

Oatley Rugby Club Opens 2014 Best Back - Jarryd Bradley Oatley Rugby Club Opens 2014 Most Improved - Luc Harries Oatley Rugby Club Opens 2014 Best & Fairest - Mitchell Whittet Oatley Rugby Club Opens 2014 Coaches Award - Nick Bennett

Oatley Rugby Club - 100 Club Games 2014 - Dylan Heal Oatley Rugby Club - 150 Club Games 2014 - Nick Bennett

## **2014 Junior Team Honours**



Another stellar year for Oatley Rugby Juniors Teams.

The standout achievements, which the Club is extremely proud off is:

**U12s - Premiers** 

U10s - Runners Up

U13s - Semi-Finalists

U14s - Semi-Finalists

**U11s – Plate Premiers** 



2014 U12 Premiers







We had a great start to our year with most of our boys from the under 9's backing up for a new season and taking the step up into the Juniors and nearly full field Rugby. This backbone of last year's team really helped us with a good level of experience in the team to start the year. Recruitment this year also brought with it some new players, all of who came to the game relatively inexperienced but willing to learn and gave a massive contribution to the team success.

The playing roster for this year was:-

Returning Players in 2014	Games Played	New Players in 2014	Games Played
Harrison Evans	18	Myles Baratta	18
Isaiah Fa'amausili	4	Mitchell Brell	18
Thomas Gentle	18	Connor Chapman	14
Patrick Glasheen	15	William King	18
Ethan Griffiths	18	Cole Taylor	12
Nicholas Grosvenor	13	Lisiate Tupou	20
Callum Hook	19		
Indiana Rice	20		
Kai Roberts	17		
Ronan Schocher	18		
Aidan Snook	12		
Ryan Williams	18		

We started the year in D Grade and quickly realised our opposition was not as strong as our team were fast becoming. After 4 rounds we had racked up 208 points for and only 10 point against and all undefeated. Sydney Juniors quickly realised we had something special and promptly re-graded us up to C-Grade where we found some much stronger opposition.

This special nature of this team was really evidenced by the fact that 8 of our team were selected for the Southern Districts under 10 merit team to play in the State Championships early in the year, the reality is they probably could have selected more.

Even though we were re-graded that did not stop our winning ways. The boys quickly realised that they had much stronger opposition and the games became a lot tighter. Even though the opposition was stronger and the games were tighter over the course of 13 competition rounds the boys had a win loss record of 12 wins to only 1 loss, scoring a total of 412 points for and only 76 points against.

Semi-finals beckoned and we went into the first semi-final against a strong and the only undefeated opposition of Hills Red. In a tight game of Rugby the opposition knocked us over for our first non-scoring game 0-19. The boys learnt a lot from this game.

This led to a local derby in the major semi-final against Sylvania. This was a tough game and Sylvania gave it their all leading the game into the final minutes, but the boys stepped up and stole the win with a try in literally the final minute to take the game 22-19 and into their first Grand Final. This was by far the toughest game of the year so far, and the boys showed some mettle to get out of trouble, never giving up and getting the win as a result.

## U10's Report (con't)



The Grand Final was played in terrible conditions, torrential rain and with the ground flooded. By terrible I mean super fun muddy Rugby weather. The boys again came up against their nemesis in Hills Red. This was a very tough game and the boys gave their all. The game was tied up at 5-5 with less than 5 minutes to go, and while the boys probably had the better of their opposition during the major part of the game, the Hills boys made us pay with some late penalties and mistakes in the final minutes going against us. This led to Hills getting superior field position as a result and scoring two late tries to take the win. The final result being a 5-17 loss in their first Grand Final.

While we missed out at the final hurdle this year the boys can hold their heads up really high, knowing that they were only beaten by one team this year, and knowing that in nearly all games they dominated their opposition. This bodes really well for next year when we will be up against some strong opposition again, probably in a higher grade again.

A big highlight of the year was our forward pack. Our forward pack really dominated in every game this year, with the boys forming a solid scrum and a willingness to scrap for the ball at the breakdown. The forwards laid down a very strong foundation for the rest of the team in every game which really contributed to our success.

The backs also had a great year, forming some solid partnerships and defensively were outstanding in every game. Once the forwards won the ball the backs generally made the opposition pay with some entertaining running rugby, rarely seeing the need to resort to kicking.

We also had a small group of Ironmen this year, those boys who played 100% of all competition games throughout the season in Callum Hook, Ethan Griffiths, Indiana Rice, Richie Tupou, Ryan Williams and William King.

A big thanks to all of the parents for this year, I can honestly say we have a great bunch of parents who were there in support each and every week this year, even with all of the travel. Your support in making sure the boys got to training and to the games each and every week meant we were able to field a full side each week.

Thanks also to Luke Baratta, Ryan Evans, Matt King and Peter Chapman for their help on games days running water and also assisting with Assistant Referee and Ground Official duties. Also big thanks to Jim Williams, Sam Tupou, Kevin Glasheen and Stephen Roberts for helping out at training throughout the season, it's great to have extra hands when running the drills.

A massive thank you Karsten Schocher & Wayne Gentle for supporting the team as Managers this year, we have been spoilt the last few years with great managers and this year was no different.

Karsten, Wayne, Cliff & Chris are really looking forward to all of the boys returning in 2015, and helping continue to build on the special team we have had for the past few years.

The awards in 2014 could have gone to any number of players, with special mentions going to Richie Tupou, Harry Evans, Indi Rice, Ryan Williams, Myles Baratta, Kai Roberts & Cole Taylor. Any number of these boys were in the mix for these awards this year, with only 1 or 2 votes breaking deadlocks for each award.

Best Forward – Mitchell Brell Best Back – Ronan Schocher Best & Fairest – Callum Hook Coaches Award – Ethan Griffiths

Co-Coaches – Christopher Griffiths & Cliff Hook Co-Managers – Karsten Schocher & Wayne Gentle

## **U11's Report**



This season the team made the move to "C Grade" up from "D Grade" in 2013. It was a challenging start to the season as the team struggled to maintain the numbers for a full team and shared players from both the U10's and U12's. By round 7 we attracted some very talented players giving us a full complement of permanent players with this we gathered some momentum and were able to hold our own against some of the teams on the top of the ladder.

Unfortunately the slow start to our season put us at a disadvantage and we were not able to make the top 4 despite consistent on field performances. We finished off the season 6th on the ladder and qualified to play off in the Plate Grand final against Dural Blue. The team put in a great performance in less than perfect conditions on a field that resembled a mud wrestling arena. The team displayed great teamwork with many nail biting moments and we came out as winners 19 to 12.

Well done team you did yourselves and the club very proud.

A special thank you to the U10's and U12's who helped out at the beginning of the season, also thanks to the Thank you to a great coaching effort by Aaron and his trusted assistant Craig who got the forwards humming. Also thanks to our volunteer Ground Marshals and Marty who returned for our home games to provide first aid to any who needed it. Lastly but certainly not least a huge thanks to all the parents for the effort they put in to get the boys to training and the Sunday matches all over Sydney is greatly appreciated. We have a great team and had a great season we look forward to your continued support and involvement next season.

Game stats: 3 Wins 4 Loses 2 Draws

Player	Games Played	Points	Player	Games Played	Points
Phillip Livanos	15	9	Alexander Morson	11	0
Kymani Smith	15	9	Daniel Belcheff	9	5
Nathan Shayler	15	5	Iverson Matai	8	2
Harrison Georgakopoulos	15	2	Jack Irwin	7	2
Ciaran Williams	15	1	Soloman Tuqiri	7	2
Lajuan Vito	14	16	Indiana Rice	3	0
Garth Sinclair	14	7	Ryan Williams	3	0
Reuben Palmer	14	5	Maximus Idini	2	0
Billy Psiahos	14	5	Ivan Tolic	1	0
Stephen Roberts	14	3	Ronan Schocher	1	0
Joseph Petroni	13	5	Cortel Fa'amausili	1	0

U11's season awards:

Best Forward - Lajuan
Best Back - Phillip
Best and Fairest - Alexander
Coaches award - Garth

Sean Petroni - U11's manager.

## **U12's Report**



#### OatleyU12's win Grand Final!

What a fantastic and outstanding season for the U12's rugby team.

We welcomed 6 new players Andrew Blackburn, Ben Newcombe, Khoder Abbas, Luke Roberts, Max Kovacic and Roman Hamid who joined our mainstay players of Corey Theoharous, Dylan Heal, Elijah Faamausili, Faatali Lui, Ivan Tolic, Matt Christall, Max Indini, Riley Taylor and Robbie Benjamin. However, we also said good bye to Kane Baratta and Jordan Gerhard.

There were cameo appearances by Tainui McFadden who helped out tremendously when made available and a welcome return by Ender Samuels and Nicholas Shade just prior to the July school holidays. We also welcomed back Charlie Foster who last played with the group back in 2011 and Cortel Faamausili from the U11's who started the season as the U12 halfback.

The start of the season also saw the departure of Justin Baratta. We thank Justin for all his effort in coaching this group of boys throughout the years. His departure open an opportunity for Craig Taylor to join the coaching group together with myself and Micheal Heal.

There were number of factors which contributed to the U12's success this season, but I think the 2 latter games against Hills define the character in this group.

We were severely beaten by Hills 38 - 0 in round 10. Prior to this round, Oatley were second on the table and had won 6 of the 9 games played but the defeat to Hills was a reality check for both players and coaches. It revealed the gap between us and the competition leaders. The loss was the catalyst needed for the group to seriously review our strategy and apply a 'back to basic' combative approach in our training.

The second half of the season commenced 4 weeks after round 10 with a loss to Forest Green but there were glimpses that the boys were beginning to apply what they've been practicing into their game. Training intensity was raised and several more lead up games to the grand final showed more glimpses of those practice drills being applied effectively within the games together with a renewed attitude of 'not surrendering'. This was evident in the games against Lindfield where Oatley defended their try line as if their lives depended on it ..... and won! It showed strong character and a growing belief within the boys which they were able to duplicate on Grand Final Day in the last dying moments of the game.

I am proud of what this group have achieved this year. It was a 'collective effort' put in by players, coaches, trainers, manager and the ever constant support from family and friends.

Well done to all!

#### **Backs Report (Submitted by Craig Taylor)**

I was extremely impressed with the performance and progression of the backs this year. We worked at building more structure into our attack, increasing our handling skills and supporting each other in attack and defence. I think the big change this year was the move away from relying on individual performances to playing as a team. As the season went on, it became more and more evident that the boys were becoming more comfortable as an attacking unit. I was confident that we had the best backs in the competition, the biggest, fastest, most skilful and the best defenders. We often talked about the fact that it was their job to win the game and week after week, the boys did exactly that. Their success, indeed the team's success, is based on that 'team' mentality. Well done backs on this season, now we start building for a bigger and better 2015!

Craig Taylor Backs Coach

## U12's Report (con't)



#### **Player Profiles**

Matthew Christall (Fullback/Wing) – Matt saved his best rugby for the finals where he started to show his real abilities. His match against Lindfield in the semi-final was easily his best for the season. Matt has good pace and footwork and is particularly impressive when he takes the ball back through the middle, putting the bigger boys under pressure.

Corey Theoharous (Wing) – Corey continued to show us flashes of wonderful rugby this season both in attack and defence. There were times when Corey would position himself beautifully and then then streak down the sideline with the ball and similarly in defence when faced with an important one on one tackle he would come up with a great ball and all tackle. We look forward to seeing more in 2015.

Khoder Abbas (Wing/Fullback) – Khoder joined us part way through the season and showed us quickly that he could play well above his size. On many occasions he showed that he was one of the hardest hitters in the team. His enthusiasm to be involved is to be commended. In attack, Khoder goes at one hundred miles an hour. With this years' experience, he will be a much better player next year.

Robert Benjamin (Wing/Centre) – Robbie found himself moved out to the wing more often this year, but he showed his character by putting his head down and doing his best each week. Robbie was really consistent all year; however I was really impressed by Robbie's work off the ball. He's always chasing through, talking, backing up and doing the 1% tasks that lead to teams winning Grand Finals.

Max Kovacic (Wing/Centre/Fullback) – Max joined us in the second half of the year and improved with every game. Thrown into multiple positions, he did his best in each one. Max has great speed off the mark, a great step and is willing in defence to put his body on the line. If his rugby continues to improve at the rate it did this year, Oatley will want to sign him to a long term contract.

Riley Taylor (Centre/Halfback) – Riley had an outstanding year, including representing Southern Districts. He led the team on and off the field and with words and actions. A hard running try scorer, he also delivered many bone crunching tackles. His performances when thrown into the unfamiliar halfback role in the semi and prelim finals were crucial to getting the team to the grand final.

Elijah Fa'amausili (Centre/No. 8) – Elijah is an outstanding rugby player who has a natural sense of the game. He just seems to know where to be on the field to make that decisive run, that critical tackle or to steal the ball from the opposition. A boy of few words, he has the respect of his teammates with his actions. Elijah is a match winner and a real talent.

Andrew Blackburn - Captain (Five Eighth) – This was Andrew's first year of rugby and he should be extremely pleased. He started the season with a bang, but it was actually his efforts at the back end of the season that I was more impressed with as he became more familiar with the game, the team and the role. This led the team to performing as a unit much more effectively.

Cortel Fa'amausili (Halfback) – It's not until Cortel was absent that you realise how important to the team he is and how good a player he is. It took a few attempts before we could find a substitute! Cortel gets to the breakdown fast, gets in and gets the ball and provides great service. He tackles well above his size and is the quiet organiser of the team.

Billy Psiahos (U11 wing) – Billy filled in for us for a large portion of the season and was extremely valuable. Always keen for another game of rugby, Billy was a pleasure to have at the game. He is a good runner of the ball, a strong defender and very game aware.

Ciaran Williams (U11 Halfback/Wing/Fullback) – Ciaran didn't get many games with us, but was invaluable in making sure that we weren't short. He is a talented player who was able to slot into a number of positions and handle them all with skill.

## U12's Report (con't)



Tainui McFadden (Hooker/Halfback) – Tainui also filled in a couple of times for us when we were short early in the season. Part of our 2013 team, Tainui accepted a contract to play soccer this season but hopefully there will be a contract dispute and Oatley can steal him back for 2015.

#### Fowards Report (submitted by Lino)

The forwards began the season quite well but then went on 'cruise' mode and were guilty of relying too much on the backs to do most of the work. However towards the end of the season they improved immensely and began to clearly understand their role as forwards as well as the impact they can have on a game when they decide to 'show up'.

We knew they had a solid scrum throughout the season but we did not know how stronger they had become until proven in the first half of the final game where they managed to push Hills and put them on the back foot.

Their attitude to get involved at the breakdown had improved throughout the season. Their attitude to play as a team and support their team mates was also becoming evident towards the end of the season. When they were challenge to bring their 'A' game, they certainly delivered. Well done.

#### **Player Profiles**

#### Ben Newcombe (Openside Break Away)

A new comer to the game but played as a season player. His defence continued to improve each game. Made fantastic tackles. His speed from the scrum into defence was amazing. His support play to his team was very good. Improved as the season progressed. Keep it up.

#### Charlie Foster (Hooker)

Charlie is one courageous boy. Has developed into a great hooker and has developed some very good skills. His attitude on the field can be summed up by one incident in which he went head to head with the biggest attacking player and tackled him to the ground. That take guts! Keep it up. Hope to see you back next year.

#### Dylan Heal (Prop)

Dylan was one of the most improved players of the year. A vocal leader in the forward pack and a player who got more involved in the contact area in the second half of the season. Dylan is building in confidence as he begins to understand his strengths and the damage he can impose on the opposition. Keep it up.

#### Ender Samuels (Prop)

Ender was able to get back into his form from last year after missing the first few months of this season. We are grateful he came back as he is a very good rugby player. He's a strong player and when given the opportunity to run at full pace with the ball can create havoc for defending players. Here's hoping he can return early next season to build up on this season's achievement.

#### Faatali Lui (Lock/kicker)

What a year Faatali has had. He improved in his fitness and just became unstoppable with the ball in nearly every game. In the grand final game he scored 2 tries, one of which was the game winning try. When he's got his game face on, he is unstoppable. Was consistent throughout the year.

#### Ivan Tolic (Lock/kicker)

Ivan continues to grow in confidence each season. Is able to make a lot of meters when he gets his hands on the ball. Became more confident and involved in the contact area towards the end of the season and landed an impressive conversion in the grand final.

## U12's Report (con't)



#### Jordan Gerhard (Lock/BreakAway)

Jordan began the season where he left off from last year. Strong ball runner and is able to make the tackles. Mid season we said goodbye to Jordan and his family as the moved up to the coast. All the best Jordan.

#### Luke Roberts (BreakAway)

This is Luke first year with this team and I was very impressed with the way he played as well as how he conducted himself at training. A very good ball runner but stood out in defence and at the breakdown.

Well done.

#### Max Indini (Hooker)

Max continues to improve as a rugby player. He became more confident in the contact area as the season progressed. Looking forward to working with you again next season to build on this seasons acheivements.

#### Roman Hamid (Lock/Break Away)

This was Romans first year with this team and was sadly cut short due to a season ending injury. However what we saw in Roman was a young player with potential. He's very good in both attack and defence. Also came to support the boys whilst he was injured. I look forward to seeing more of him play next year.

#### Nicholas Shade (Prop)

School commitment meant that we didn't see Nik until round 10 however his return showed a player who had improved immensely from last year. His technique at the breakdown was very good as well as his solid work during scrummaging. Being part of the team meant that Nik was also an example to the other players on proper and effective playing technique. Well done.

#### Nathan Shayler (U11 Lock/BreakAway)

Nathan is a very good rugby player especially in his role as breakaway. Can sometimes play like a back and played extremely well in the Grand Final. A player who always give 100% when he hits the field. Well done.

#### Lajuan Vito (U11 / No.08)

Lajuan is an extremely strong attacking player who can become a nightmare for defending teams. Scored a number of very good solo tries and has also added an offload to his repertoire. Is also an aggressive defender which makes attacking players very nervous. Can possibly play in any position but was most effective as a number 8. Played a pivotal part in the lead up and grand final games.

#### Daniel Belcheff (U11 / Prop/Second row)

When Daniel gets his hands on the ball he's a wrecking machine. Strong runner. Great off loader. Was able to adapt quickly to the U12 game strategy. Played a pivotal part in the lead up and grand final game. Needs to be promoted to the U13's next year.

#### Thank You's:

To Mike, a big thank you for your continual effort and dedication to this group of boys. Especially the recruitment drive at the beginning of the year, keeping us all informed with game times and other rugby correspondence as well as your support in coaching the forwards.

To Craig, firstly thank you for joining the coaching group and secondly for doing a fantastic job in coaching the backs. I look forward to working with you next year and whatever surprise plays your backs can throw at my forwards. Bring it on!

# 2014

## U12's Report (con't)

To Paul Newcombe, Paul Foster, Luka Indini – thank you for your support at training. Your support not only helped the boys improve their rugby skills and game sense but also minimise some of the pain in my hip!

To Jon Blackburn, thank you for your support at training and also running the water for the boys during game day. I'm not sure what you are saying to the boys on field but whatever it is keep it up...it worked!

Thank you to Jack Taylor for running the sidelines during game day as well as Christian Blackburn for helping out at training.

To Kane Barrata and Jordan Gerhard - its been a pleasure coaching you both.

All the best in your respective rugby clubs if you continue to play this fantastic game.

To all the parents - a big thank you for your continual support to this group of boys through out this season.

Also a big thank you to Karsten Schocher and the committee for their ongoing support this year.

And one last big thank you to my wife and five boys for their patience and continual support.

Apologies in advance if I have missed anyone.

Lino Faamausili U12 Coach.

Name		Games 2013	Games 2014	Total Games 2013/2014
Ah Chong	Tyler	7	10	17
Bradfield	Andrew	9	11	20
Gordon	Remoni	11	10	21
Hart	Zachary	5	10	15
Herbert	Sebastian	5	12	17
Humphreys-Jones	Tavish	6	12	18
Isaacs	Flynn	8	11	19
Jacksmith	Cameron	9	8	17
Jeff	Lucas	12	12	24
Johnson	Liam Anthony	9	8	17
Kepu	Siagoa	12	6	18
Kossenberg	Patrick	13	0	13
Latu	Benjamin	8	7	15
Mailangi	William	7	6	13
Malu	Salesi	11	10	21
Manakofua	Sione	6	5	11
Masima	Isaac	6	5	11
Molloy	Conor	12	12	24
Mullins	Darcy	12	12	24
Pakalani	Samuel	11	10	21
Patolo-Vitale	Christian	9	8	17
Schmidt-Uili	Ethan Tuiala	13	9	22
Schoupp	Aaron	9	8	17
Taufa	Trevor	9	8	17
Valevatu	James	8	7	15

## **U13A's Report**



#### Oatdale Warriors Under 13A's - Semi Finalists for 2014.

This was both a challenging but rewarding year for this team. Lack of numbers at training and on game day made season 2014 quite a logistical nightmare and proved frustrating for both players and parents alike.

By way of background, Oatley Under 12's got by last season because both Rockdale and Menai players helped us out on a Sunday after playing their comp on Friday night. This season saw all three clubs struggle for numbers with no Friday night comp in our age group, so the players from Rockdale and Menai joined Oatley to make up the Oatdale Warriors. We played some great rugby at a high standard throughout the year, unfortunately turning in a sub-par performance in our semi-final to finish fourth for the year.

#### "We know what we are, but know not what we may be." ~ William Shakespeare

This is a quote we would like this very talented group of players to reflect upon over the summer break, before turning up to next season's training with a determination to discover their full potential as a team. For various reasons we lost a number of players prior to and during the season and this made it difficult to field a team for our away games. This makes it difficult for other players and parents and is something we will be working to avoid next season.

When we did get a team on the paddock we played some really good rugby and everyone involved with this team formed the view that we have the potential to be A-Grade Premiers – the best rugby team in Sydney.

There were a number of highlights for the Oatdale Warriors this season:

- · Undefeated at home
- Beating both of last year's Grand Finalists
- · The only team to beat Lindfield, the back-to-back Premiers
- Making the A-Grade Semi Finals for the first time
- A highlight for this age group was that despite this comp having 5 Northern Beaches teams (plus Easts, Lindfield and ourselves) only one made the top four, with the three other teams taking their place.
- Uncovering some new talent and attracting some new players
- The Southern Districts rep team excelled themselves, reaching the final of the State Championships

There were also a number of low lights, like having less than 15 players for too many games; having to forfeit because we didn't have 12 players at a game; needing to call for uncontested scrums because we didn't have a qualified front row; having on average 8 players turn up to training each week. Even before the dust settles on this season we have embarked upon a recruitment drive for new players so that we can field a team each week at training and on game day.

"Desire is the key to motivation, but it's determination and commitment to an unrelenting pursuit of your goal – a commitment to excellence – that will enable you to attain the success you seek." ~ Mario Andretti.

## U13A's Report (con't)



When we reflect on the season we had, it is almost unfair that we made the semis. This is A-Grade – the teams we play train once or twice a week, every week and always field a full team. For us to make the semis of such a high-standard competition without training and regularly having 15 players (let alone a couple of reserves) – it almost feels a little unjust. Next year we will field a full strength team each week and do the training required to go all the way. We will be successful next year because we will deserve success. Bring on 2015.

I would like to thank all the boys, parents and friends for the assistance you have given to this team over this year. I would particularly like to thank the people who helped out with the team, by ferrying boys around, running water, being AR, ground marshal, running the kicking tee and assisting Paul with the coaching.

Finally, a massive thank you to the volunteers of the Oatley, Rockdale and Menai Rugby Clubs – the Under 13's boys did us proud on the field and we both acknowledge and greatly appreciate all the volunteer work to make playing club rugby possible.

Enjoy the off-season everyone – may 2015 see this talented rugby team realise its full potential.

Damian Mullins and Paul Jeff



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## **U14B's Report**



Well, Well, Well

First of all a big thank you to Karsten and the committee for taking the reigns this year and making it a pleasure to coach our team this year.

Big thanks goes out to our other coach Kerry -Big Kez! The Truck and Trailer drill is now a starter and stayer...

Big thanks goes out to our manager and confident Ross... Great job this year. I know it was a big commitment as well as fulfilling your refereeing duties.

Huge thanks goes out to the Dads that helped out in training and on game day with line touch, ground Marshall and water duties.

Another big thanks goes out to the parents who also put their hands up to do the scoring on gameday. Big thanks to all the parents for bringing the boys down to training and gameday.

The final Big thank you goes out to the team who have trained their asses off this year.

A goal was to reach the semis this year and we did, We have the potential to win a Grand Final in the near future.

We were promoted from C grade to B grade which is no mean feat in itself so a massive improvement on last year so a big round of applause for the team on reaching its goal this year.

Saying that, we need to continue to work hard in order to reach our full potential.

So have a great break from Rugby, keep your training up and hopefully see you all back again next Season...

mili mili mili mili mili....

Team...

Ben Chion Chio

Winger

Was injured in the trial game against Burraneer.

Wishing him well and expecting him back next season for a big one.

Kanui Wilson Chopper

our specialist hooker, a no nonsense player who toughs it out week in week out.

Great in defence and in attack.

Another great season under the belt.

Chris Karatzas

Flanker, Second Row

Improving with each game. Great defender and not scared to run with ball in hand.

looking forward to seeing you next year.

Cooper Cheney

our specialist Scrum Half...

What can I say- Great organiser and a fearless defender.

I can see you playing for the Wallabies if you keep up the great work.

**Curtis Sweet** 

Fly Half, Winger

First season playing.

Picked up the game quickly as he had to play fly half for half the season as our incumbent was injured. Great defender and good hands.

Solid season

Danny Hulton

Flanker, Second Row

First season playing

Took a while to learn the game but with more playing time will improve

played flanker and lock.

expecting great things in the future.

## U14B's Report (con't)



Domenic Mirabito
Flanker, Second Row
Another great season
great defender and always doing what was expected.
Great team player

Ethan Fa'amausili Winger, Flanker

Hopefully next season will be played in the arvos so you can get more gametime.

Great defender and attacker when he could play lol

Eisa Tasipale

Fly Half

Copped an injury in the first trial and came back ready to rip in.

Great team player. Improved in defence and loves barking orders.

Jack Henry Boyling

Fullback, Flanker

First season with our team and fit in quite nicely.

Moved from the back to the forwards looking for more action and got what wished for great defender, good hands and ran well with ball in hand.

Jackie Ou "duck"

Second Row

First season of rugby and was injured halfway into the season.

not afraid to tackle and also ran the ball with gusto.

Looking forward to a great season next year

James Mckenna

Specialist Prop

Another solid season mate.

Great runner of the ball, Great defender and a huge asset to the team.

A player you can count on to get into the nitty gritty of what's needed for the go forward.

Just need the mongrel to come out more...

Jarred Christall

Second Row, Hooker

Big improvement mate.

Great seeing you tackle the big boppers this season.

Even played hooker when we needed you.

keep working on the passing drills I gave you so you can show me next season.

Joshua Samuel Maestrelli

Winger

First season playing rugby.

The team lariken.

Great ball runner and defender.

looking forward to a great season next year.

Jye Leigh McRae

First season with our team and made the outside center position his.

Great ball runner and great defender.

Great communicator on the field.

looking forward to seeing you back next season.

## U14B's Report (con't)



Kerei Ranginui

Inside Center

First Season Playing with our team.

Inside center. Strong defender and worked well with his outside center Jye.

Executed some of the best tries this season.

90% conversion rate.

looking forward to a big season next year.

Kurt Chalker

Solid season playing flanker.

great ball runner and a good defender.

one of those players that just keeps going and going...

Can't wait to see what you bring to the table next year.

Marley Smith

Winger.

Great season mate.

A player you can count on when a try saving tackle is needed to be made.

Great with ball in hand

see you next year.

Oscar Schmidt-Uili

Specialist Fullback

Another great season

Great defender and a Team player.

Great with ball in hand and a great talker on the field directing the team around the park defensively.

Ray Chrichton

Flanker

Moved from the backs to the forwards as we needed more strike power up the front.

His mongrel nature also fitted his position defensively.

This is your calling

See you next year.

Riley Williamson

Scrum Half, Fullback

First season with the team.

Always playing to the best of your ability which is what motivates me to be the team's coach.

A player that doesn't take a backward step and a heart of a lion.

You need to come back next season.

Richmond hangatiki Makapelu

Second Row

First season playing with the team.

Never say die attitude in training and gameday.

great ball runner and defender.

Continue to work hard and everything will fall into place.

See you next season.

William Whiston

Specialist Prop

First season playing with the team.

Always did what he was advised.

Always gave 100% which is testament to your character.

A pleasure to coach.

A great ball runner and a great defender.

See you next season.

## U14B's Report (con't)



Whiteriana Koopu Inside Center, No 8 First season playing with the team. great ball runner and defender. Great impact player. Always did what was advised. See you next season.

Zachary Cepuran
Flanker/ Second Row
First season playing with the team.
Great defender and ran the ball well
Injured in the semi final
Hope to see you next season

Christopher Icanovski
Prop/ No 8
Great season mate.
Lead from the front and did not take a backward step.
Great ball runner and defender.
Stepped in as Captain when Cooper was injured and handled the task with ease.
See you next Season.

Best Back- Jye Leigh McRae
Our most consistent performing back this season.
Great defender, Great hands and a great communicator on the field.
Best Forward- Christopher Icanovski
Scored a bundle of tries.
Made the most meters this season
Excelled when he was Captain

Best & Fairest- Kanui Wilson-"Chopper" our no nonsense player always working tirelessly for the team never say die attitude

Coaches Award - William Whiston Hard working player Great team splayer always did the hard yards for the team

Lancelot Tasipale



## **Opens Report**



After a very difficult season in 2013 where we lacked numbers and played short regularly, we were able to build up our squad to 35 players this year. We were competitive in a lot of games but injuries, work commitments and suspensions made it hard to get the same squad together each week.

Whilst we only one 3 games, to the boys' credit they tried hard all year and we were very competitive in all games. The major highlights of the year were our success at Southern Highland Sevens-where we made the final and were the best club side in the tournament and also the high number of players who earned rep honours.

There is a lot of talent in this team and they are very young with the bulk of the side being 16 or 17. With a bit more commitment and discipline this side will be very successful next year.

This is a great bunch of young men who enjoy playing with each other and have a lot of fun on and off the field.

I would like to thank everyone who helped out this year with the 18's and Southern Districts 17's. If it wasn't for them we would not have got a side on the park each week.

Finally, I would like to thank the coaching/management team-Ross, Pierre and Scott for all their hard work throughout the year.

#### **Oatley Opens Rep Honours**

#### Southern Districts 17's

Samuel Itua Shaun Thorton Nano Ualesi Ngametua Teanini Mitchell Whittet Tony Rumore Rhys McWhinney Cayleb Mladenovic Dane Stephens **Drew Denford** 

Tama Jerome Papua

Sam White Luke Auciello Keitel Bramston Alturo Fa'amausili Ambrose Milgate Nicholas Bennett Rohan McWhinney Luc Harries **Etienne Couret** 

Southern Districts 16's

Zach Stewart

Southern Zone 16's Zach Stewart

Sydney Juniors 17's Train on Squad

Dane Stephens **Drew Denford** 

Sydney 17's Dane Stephens

**ARU Gold Squad** Drew Denford Tony Rumore Samuel luta

**Sydney East Schools** 

Samuel luta Shaun Thornton

NSW CHS 16's Zach Stewart

**NSW CCC Dane Stephens** 

## **Senior Award Winners**



Player of the Year Clubman of the Year Rookie of the Year Player's Player Colt of the Year President Award Supporter of the Year Supporter of the Year Gareth Reynolds
Courtney Middleton
Marc Carberry
Joe Tataha
Joe Tataha
Phillip Gollins
Linda Vidot
Courtney Vidot

#### 1st Grade

Best Back Marc Carberry
Best Forward Andrew Norris
Coaches Award Andrew Martin

#### 2nd Grade

Best Back	Jarrod Gollins
Best Forward	Josh Bray
Coaches Award	Joe Cooper

#### **Game Awards**

		100 Games	Nathan Athvale
		100 Games	Mark Bernays
3rd Grade Best Back Best Forward Best Forward Coaches Award	Jerome Stefano Hamish Wright Matt Hamilton Nathan Athvale	100 Games	Steve McLea
		100 Games	Setaleki Teuhema
		200 Games	David Morris
		200 Games	Andrew Norris
		300 Games	Craig Williams
		400 Games	Jason Myers

#### 4th Grade

Best Back Daniel Malouf
Best Forward Matthew Williamson
Coaches Award Malcolm Williams

#### Colts

Best Back Cody Close
Best Forward Paea Kolomalu
Coaches Award Eddy Dos Santos

## **Seniors VP Report**



Here we are again....the Year that was!

Overall the 2014 was another reasonable season in both on and off the field activities.

1st Grade had a pretty turbulent season which ultimately reflected in the results with us finishing at the toward the bottom of the table. At the start of the season we brought on board Coach John Hillary for 1st grade, this however was not meant to be with John leaving to peruse other interests mid season. We then welcomed back PG in an interim coach capcity to see us through the back half of the season. Whilst the results weren't the best the team played with the determination that you would expect.

1st Grade number 8 Matthew Battishall is in the running for the Suburban Rugby Barraclough Medal. 2nd Grade had a somewhat disappointing season. We welcomed back Matt Robson into the coaching position for this grade aided by Phil Gollins, bad luck boys! They ensured that a team was fielded each week. Whilst the results weren't the best the boys certainly made up for it in charisma.

3rd Grade had a successful season that gained them a spot in the finals. They went out in the minor semi in a very wet match against UNSW where they narrow missed out losing 15 to 17. We welcomed the dynamic duo Bryn Randall and Jason 'How many games' Myers back to coach and run the side.

The ever ageing 4th Grade (no offense guys!!) certainly displayed the commitment of a far younger squad. Unfortunately this commitment was not replicated into results. Better luck next season guys!

The Colts side had a challenging season struggling often with numbers each week. We welcomed Bushy into the coaching position this year and did an excellent job fielding a team each week. I am hopeful that we can regroup this side and attract some new faces down for next season to enable us to push forward again. Within the Colts we also had a contender for the Subbies Colt of the Year in Koolio Eteaki this is a great achievement as it encompasses not only 2nd Division but 1st and 3rd. Well done mate!!

Next year the seniors division of Oatley Rugby will require to undergo somewhat of a transformation change with us potentially taking a step down to 3rd Division. It remains to be seen what impact that this will have in general however I am confident that we will be able to gain traction in this division and continue in a positive successful manner.

A mention to the players that kept the boots on after playing their grade and backed up each week, without you blokes we would have been struggling especially on the further afield away games. The commitment shown by all the Managers and Coaches throughout the season is who each week tirelessly send emails, text messages, make phone calls and whatever else is what makes it possible to field 5 teams each week, thanks again guys.

The match day supporters made up of friends, family etc was great to see throughout the season, let's see if we can get even more numbers on the hill next season.

We successfully ran a number of events throughout the season, Golf day, Triva night, bus trips, Ladies day, Old Players and Sponsors day, Presentation night and Sports Lunch. These events were all well attended with these going down well. Thanks to those who helped make these events possible.

I would also like to thank all that made the year possible through the assistance of setting up the ground on home match days, assisting in the canteen, running touch, taking down of the ground etc etc.

Without this continued assistance we wouldn't be able to function as a club......Guys you know who you are, Thanks!! Also a special mention to Bob the photographer who travels the length and breadth of Sydney each week....thanks Bob!

## Seniors VP Report (Con't)

This being my third year sitting on the Club Executive I would like to thank entire committee for providing me with the continued guidance and support thought the season. In terms of next season I may return as an ordinary member stepping down from the Seniors Vice President Position.

All the best and thanks for making the year possible.

Cheers, Ronnie.

## 2014 Senior Coaches

1st Grade – John Hillary/Darrell Glendinning

2nd Grade - Matt Robson/Phil Gollins

3rd Grade – Jason Myers/Bryn Randall

4th Grade – Luke Barker/the rest

Colts - Stephen Bush

## 1st Grade Report



What can I say about the season apart from Failure? At the start of the year the club on everyone's radar was Oatley and what a disappointment we were. As a coach coming on board mid season the damage was half done and the task of trying to restore some pride within the group was challenging. There seemed to be a change of attitude from what I had noticed throughout the season which was a positive sign with seven games remaining. The possibility of making the finals was still on our radar however with a group of guys that were down on moral and players booking holidays and weekends away the challenge for us was to get some consistency within the team and start enjoying our rugby again.

The remaining games we were against teams all above us on the ladder which again posed a massive challenge for us as a group however we knew that if we worked hard together the results would come. We started well with a win against St Ives then the result of holidays and weekends away didn't help our cause with struggling to field our strongest side for the next two games with those results going against us. The season was far from over but the challenge had become greater for all us.

The next couple of games were going to indicate how the season was going to finish and after a loss then a win there was still hope and we were certainly not giving up. The trainings had improved by now and we had started getting that consistency we were working towards however the remaining games were against the teams in the top four. As you could imagine these were massive challenges for us but everyone loves a challenge and we were no different. Unfortunately for the team we didn't get the wins we were after but we certainly showed plenty of fight for a team that had a mixed season.

The club found a couple of great additions in Carbs who is a natural half back but found himself settle in at second five eight. Luke Ruaporo was another player that exceeded everyone's expectations coming from 4th grade the year before to cementing a position in our forward pack and certainly stepping up to the task.

Unfortunately though from a success point of view there was very little but as I am every time I coach I am proud of how the boys stuck together till the end and we learnt some valuable lessons along the way.

I would like to thank the players for their efforts once I came on board and hope that you all come back next year to the club. To all other grades that helped out throughout my time I thank you as well. To Phill Gollings who was always there on a Saturday helping out when I needed him I thank you too and to all other coaches thanks for the season for what it was.

To everyone else at the club good luck and I wish Oatley Rugby all the best in the future.



## 2nd Grade Report



On behalf of all involved; players, coaching staff & managers I would like to thank the efforts & support of Mum's, Dad's, Girlfriends, Partners, children & pets throughout the year. It has been a pleasure running out onto that field every Saturday with you all cheering us on.

I would also like to thank the seniors committee In-particular, Anthony Scoon, Richard Rice and Ronald Mackay. Your tireless efforts behind the scenes and on game day are what keeps this club going, for that we thank you.

Fortunately, this seasons talent pool enabled the selection of a second grade team who we could argue as the best in the competition, though our end of season result on the ladder does not truly reflect this. We had a number of new faces to the club as well as a number of talented colts who would step up with The Big Boys, Which for the first time in a long while gave us alot more depth accross the park in all grades.

Special thanks goes to Phil Gollins, who decided to join the old boys coaching ranks. Certainly without Phil's comittment throughout the season at both training and game day it would not have been nearly as fun, organised & successful. On behalf of Oatley Rugby, we say thanks Phil and we look forward to you being back on board again next year.

#### Now for the Rugby part:

With the collaborative brilliant rugby brains of Phil Gollins & myself! we were able to facilitate a game plan and an enjoyable team environment which made this playing group enthusiastic, tighter & tougher which was clearly evident by the number of yellow and red cards recieved throughout the season. A new suburban club rugby record I believe!

A new environment & squad proved testing to our start to the season, which was later hampered due to suspension, injury & other commitments. On our day 2nd grade had the ability to out play any rugby team. And that proved to be the case on a number of occassions missing the desired result by less than 5 points on more than 5 occassions ultimately cost us our finals hopes by late in the season.

The Squad: With enough Irishman in the team throughout the year to make anyone uncomfortable; the Cooper boys & Roundy when not in the bin were the formidble prop combinations in the club & this proved to be the case with each of them playing their part in 1st grade throughout the season. Special mentions go to Jarrod Gollins (Your father made me an offer I couldn't refuse), Chris Rae, who unfortunately attained a season ending injury not before showing career best form & Screetch for his comittment week in week out wether in 1st grade or 2nd grade or playing multiple grades throughout the day.

2014 in summary certainly tested our depth, commitment & set a platform for the clubs future. Whilst it was challenging both on the park & off the park. I believe we have the right attitude & people within the clubs community, to go on to bigger & better things next year.

Cheers Robbo



## **Colts Report**



Season started off with a few new faces at preseason training, a few coming from league and willing to learn

First trial game was a bit hit and miss in terms of the opposition 2 teams unable to provide enough players for a colts game. Ended up playing against a combined 2nd/3rd grade side and held their own to score a few good tries and showed the making of a team with potential.

Second trial game against Blue Mountains colts was played in challenging heat but Oatley were still willing to throw the ball around and run at any opportunity. Just like the previous trial game we were missing a few key players with injuries and overseas travel but still managed to field a very good side. Again a few new faces aided the cause for the day.

Drawing near to the first game we had a very competitive team with a few new faces pushing current players to excell to hold their positions. It was very disappointing to lose a player the day before first game to head back to league as he felt Union was "too fast".

First game came and went with no injuries, apart from already injured players, and a bonus point win occurred. Only blemish was 2 red cards to 2 established players, one was eventually overturned. Round 2 and we struggled to have enough players to field a team, through injury and suspension, though managed to come away with a win with only 13 players.

Round 3 rolled around and my team was severely diminished, thanks largely to a festival which had 7 players attend, suspension and overseas travel. Thanks must be given to those who made it and others who helped out, although we lost with only 12 players.

Round 4 and we had a full squad and the team was ready to go. Weather was not the best but we managed to win with the last play through a charge down try. Team spirit was high.

Round 5 and we were up against the team we beat in the previous year preliminary final. Game plan worked to perfection having a 15-0 half time lead, after that it all went down hill. Losing one of our best players to a serious back injury and being unable to get our hands on the ball resulted in the opposition making a comeback to win 29-15. Let's just say the team morale was low.

The rest of the season went by the same way with not being able to field a full team every week due to injuries, suspensions and players leaving the team/club.

We were still able to make the play offs with the last 4 games and hoping other results went our way. This also depended on us beating the previously unbeaten team in the competition who had also scored maximum points in every game. This was an interesting game where both sides were decimated by a festival and overseas travel and saw them with 12 players and Oatley with 14. Both teams played hard and scored bonus point wins with Oately being the only team to beat Lindfield.

Following week we needed to beat UNSW to sneak into 4th spot. However with only 12 players available due to differing reasons we lost and so was our last hope for finals.

There were some stand outs for the season with Koolio nominated for Subbies Colt of the Year for the second time. Joey Tataha getting Oatley colt of the Year for the second time in a row. Taylor Snook selected for the Subbies Colt 7's team at the start of the year.

If there was a little more commitment from all players and a few more options in reserve the year could have ended up differently.

There are still few core players available for next year and hopefully the club can entice a few new faces to the colts environment to help restore the colts side to where it should be and provide the club with the next generation of senior players

Stephen Bush

## **3rd Grade Report**



Twas the night before trials and while all were asleep, the fat bastard contemplated the team he would meet Alas he did say whilst he looked at the sky I'm sure Robbo will shaft me, mmm I feel like a pie

Trials came and went and too my surprise
There were plenty of numbers, but shh be wise
Training as usual was a lonely affair
Although beer and sausages got a few there

Samoans and Skipps and a few mixes more Ensured 3rd grade would valiantly soar

We were doing ok with a few early wins But before we knew, we were destined for the bin As expected, no shows began to bore Fitness was waining, and all were sore

76 players in all, believe it or not But still a semi-finals spot we got The final was, a game to forget We decided to party without regret

Another year! enjoyable and fun And maybe next year, a few more runs! 3rds as always the lifeblood of a club Ensures Oatley Rugby remains a Hub!





## 4th Grade Report



As with previous years, fourth grade remains an integral part of Oatley Rugby Club. We are the first to have our playing fees paid, first to the ground on Saturdays, we actively assist on match days, and we continue to support all club social and fundraising events. Long may this continue!

And so another year over, another crop of new players, old players, injuries and dramas both on and off the field.

The season started well, with an excellent turnout of players for training sessions from early January.

For both Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 630pm till 8pm come rain hail or shine, up to 25 fourth grade players turned up to get fighting fit. Under the watchful gaze of both Flea and John Hillery we ran drills, sweated beer, and gradually became a lean mean rugby machine.

And then the season began.....and so did the injuries....!

Long story short, at some points during the season we had more players injured than we had on the paddock. Injuries included Dane "Ibus" Parsons with broken fingers, Brendan Sarroff with spine /disc damage, Alex Simpson with head /neck damage, Craig "300 games Sticks" Williams with a dodgy ankle, RJ Dunn with a dislocated endone followed by a damaged shoulder, Matt Zirps with a bust leg,

Dean "Midget" McBride with damaged ribs /back /leg, Ed Devlin with a fractured skull, Danny Carnevale with dodgy ribs, Adam "Choppy" Stenson with major ligament damage, and Mick Bradley with a bruised ego after missing a dead cert conversion in the final game of the season. In addition, we lost Flea following a crisis of conscience when he resigned due to "artistic differences" – but we won't go into that. Suffice to say we were a better team with Flea than without him, so he may be back next year (work permitting). Worst loss of the season though was with Hamish "Monty" Godbolt with a dislocated hip following an awkward landing after a hard tackle…

This year saw 2 main challenges in fourth grade. Firstly, we had some excellent numbers of players turning up to training and to games. This was a good challenge to have, as the old rule "if you go to training you get a run" was pushed to breaking point. Thankfully, and continuing the fourth grade tradition of being a breeding ground for new (and old) talent we saw Matt Williamson, Dave Streamer, Luke Ruaporo and Alex Simpson among others moving up the grades. This freed up space for some of our new players including Steve Rice, Dave Cobbs, Karl Forster, Dave Close, and Sateki "Sudoku" Tupuo, as well as the aforementioned Mick Bradley.

The second challenge we had was the practice by some other clubs of stacking their fourth grade teams with players from higher grades. Week in, week out, same old story of playing teams who only had a handful of genuine 4th grade players. This is a practice which next year's Executive Committee will be tasked with raising to NSW Suburban Rugby. At the end of the day, we turn up to play 4th grade rugby and, when necessary, we back up higher grades like 3rds and 2nds – not the other way about.

Having said that, and to support our case, the fourth grade finals this year saw Barkers Old Boys having to forfeit due to only having 11 players able to play. This may serve as a catalyst for Subbies to take some action.

As for the season – well, we finished 2nd bottom, however as mentioned above, given we were playing more senior grades each week, this does not adequately reflect the skill, commitment and performance of the players.

## **Golden Oldies Report**



What is 1500 years old & smells like a cross between aniseed & dencorub?

The Sown Oats playing roster after our home carnival at Evatt where thanks to Pierre (Escargo) Couret's leftovers from the French international's booze supply we were certainly showing the joi de vivre expected of a Golden Oldies host team.

This day was perhaps the highlight of the calendar with some 29 players turning out against the Wallopers, Burraneer Disreputable Dolphins & Engadine Flatulence (who have now adopted the more appealing moniker of Limping Lions, they're still a bunch of old farts).

Home game heroes abounded with Richard (The Fat Controller) Rice waiving his Red train ticket at all & sundry for numerous Port Bin offences. Thanks to Vicky for keeping the boys portrated (this is the port equivalent of hydrated) not panting our ugly mugs. The last game of the day a Ba Ba's vs Sown Oats ended with the Ref calling time as hand bags were thrown at 2 paces by a couple of the angrier young men (Good one Dunny). All was forgiven and hands shaken & beers drunk at the speeches where we raised several hundred dollars for a couple of injured Engadine players.

Welcome to the new players who made their debut this year: Tony (Horlicks) Hall another international from the wrong white crowd, who made every game & was consistently our best on field hence the BOOB award. Ian (Knuckles) Connolly & Kiwi Mick Paumok reprising their athletic excellence from the Black & Blue Old Fellows. Buzz & Grey (juniors dads were strong in the home game & would be a welcome addition to our away squad. Dave Carr & Clive (Speed Bump) Puckett also made their come backs after debilitating injuries last year. Dave Dews cameo was a welcome surprise to many & there was a Voldemort return (we cannot mention his name as his wife will have to kill him) suffice to say Danny Carnevale can keep a secret.

Our attendance at away games was on average 5-6 players which is a little disappointing given a roster of some 37 players. Those who made it on a regular basis enjoyed the fraternity of the Golden Oldies and were welcomed by all sides we played with & against.

Mick Waudby has suggested we get more organised for next year by "signing up to a team app on play thingy". Spoken like a true Golden Oldie Mick.

I will have something out early Feb and of course there is off season training most Friday evenings to catch up at our seniors sponsor The Peaky Inn.

Thanks to the Club for their support this year & best wishes to all the Oatley Rugby family for the Festive Season, look forward to seeing you on the paddock in 2015.

Dictatorially Yours, Mick B



## **Bunnings**



One of the Oatley Rugby BBQ's held at Bunnings....

Kirrawee
Taren Point &
Bankstown



Thanks for all those who helped give their time and help in supporting the Oatley Rugby Club.

#### **Thank You**





Ronnie and Mick just prior to the fire























# 2014 ORC Annual Report



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2014 ORC Annual Report designed by Mick Waudby @ JETM Designs