



Upcoming Event

Northern Rivers Regional Rugby League has unveiled plans for a new pre-season competition in 2010 that will known as the Charity Shield. Games will be played 28th March, 10th, 11th April, with the final to be held on 18th April. Teams will compete for \$10,000 prize money, with the Ballina RSL the major sponsor. More information to follow in the coming weeks.

Nathan Schofield to coach Harden Hawks

Yass bred footballer Nathan Schofield has accepted a position at the helm of George Tooke Shield premiers the Harden-Murrumburrah Hawks. Schofield, who played his first junior rugby league in Yass before moving to Young and eventually Harden, will be out to coach the Hawks to back-to-back titles. The 22-year-old was part of the Southwest Brahmans grand final team in 2008 and played a key role in the Hawks' successful assault in 2009 - which included three wins over nearby rivals Binalong. Schofield will spend the next month recruiting players and drawing up pre-season plans before players take to the training paddock early in the new year. It's anticipated the George Tooke Shield will kick off in late April.

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New South Wales Under 16 Indigenous Team Announced

Congratulations to the following players who have been selected to represent NSW when they play the Queensland Under 16 Indigenous team on Saturday 13th February 2010 at Skilled Park, Robina prior to the NRL All Stars game. The CRL wishes the 13 Country based players involved all the very best.

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| 1 Carl Johnson | Canberra* |
| 2 Kingsley Dennison | Souths Juniors |
| 3 Tyrone Phillips | Souths Juniors |
| 4 Kevin Torrens | Casino* |
| 5 James Ballengarry | Bowraville* |
| 6 Nathan Rose | Wagga Wagga* |
| 7 AJ Hoskins | Coffs Harbour* |
| 8 Brodie McGhie | Kanahooka* |
| 9 Robert Kennedy | Wests |
| 10 Joshua Cullen | Wests |
| 11 Curtly Caldwell | Casino* |
| 12 Ethan Stevens | Gunnedah* |
| 13 Matt Gordan | Souths Juniors |
| 14 Kyle Baxter | Forbes* |
| 15 Swayde Dunn | Dubbo* |
| 16 Ricky Read | Peak Hill* |
| 17 Jayden Clarke | Lake Cargelligo* |
| 18 Blake Murray | Canberra* |
| 19 Brayden Johnson | Scotts Head |
| 20 Brandon Williams | Canberra* |
- * Country Players



Magpies are Peachey keen

Greg White | Coffs Harbour Advocate
Former NRL star David Peachey will pull on the Bellingen Valley-Dorrigo colours against Australian Army Thunder at Bellingen Park next month. Magpies coach Josh White has had a strong relationship with Peachey since their days at the North Sydney Bears and said the February 27 appearance is unlikely to be the last. "I'll clear him from Dubbo Macquarie and he's agreed to play another two matches for us during the main competition," he said. "There are a couple of games in mind but it will depend on his other commitments during the season." Peachey has been the public face of Country Rugby League's 'Back to the Bush' scheme which encourages ex-NRL players to turn out with country clubs. His presence will be another attraction at the second Sergeant Matthew Locke Charity Match, honouring the late Magpie player who was killed in action during 2007 while serving in Afghanistan. Proceeds will go to Legacy and to the Grub Club Education Fund, raising money to help build a school in East Timor and supply resources to schools in Afghanistan. In 2009, Bellingen shocked the Thunder and sent the visitors crashing to the first defeat in their six year history. "Our lads ambushed them last time but I reckon they'll be a lot stronger and won't give us much room to manoeuvre," coach White predicted. "They are aiming for a start at the World Cup and will bring a squad of 30 players, most of them already playing Queensland Cup or Metropolitan competition out of Sydney. "I told my blokes they'll be up against some big kahunas and with the extra depth in the club, we'll still give the Army boys something to think about." White will trial a batch of (still un-named) ex-NRL and city-based players and intends to send a handful of his younger players on in the latter stages. "It'll be a huge confidence-booster to play against men of this size and ability," he added. "All I ask is they have some fun and learn as much as they can about the faster pace than what they've had in under-18s. "And I'll be sending out all our top players at some stage, so I reckon the bench will be going like the clappers to co-ordinate it all." The day will begin with an under-15 game between Bellingen and Orara Valley Tomahawks, an under-18 clash for club juniors with the premiership-winning Sawtell side and hopefully, a ladies touch/tag match. Army recruiting staff will be on the ground and the Bellingen players will auction their jumpers at the post-match function at Diggers Tavern. "Thunder have got a couple of ex-Bello boys in their side and we're really keen to do them over again," White said. "Last year's crowd was enormous and we want everybody to come and have a good time supporting the boys. "You'll see what a great team we have and don't be surprised if this is the year of the Magpie."