



Country Rugby League
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The AFL's plan to raid our player ranks came unstuck at a NAB Cup finals game held last week in Narrandera. When Gary Ingram won the longest kick competition at halftime he proudly announced that he "plays with the Narrandera Lizards Rugby League Club" who have reformed in 2010. The 10,000 plus AFL supporters stood dumbstruck.

The Lizards are still waiting to see if the AFL will honour the clubs \$1000 prize money.



New Email Addresses for all Country Development Officers

Please be advised that all Country Development Officers and Regional Area Managers have a new email address effective immediately. They will now consist of first name and initial of second name @crlnsw.com.au
For example: -
Matt Schubert is
matts@crlnsw.com.au

Appreciation Dinner for Frank Fish

A most enjoyable evening was held at the West Tamworth League Club last Saturday night when over 100 former players, Club Delegates and supporters gathered to pay tribute to the work done by Frank as a player, coach, selector and administrator for Rugby League.

Among those present were current CRL President Jock Colley (Parkes), former Presidents Vic Byrne (Orange) David Barnhill (Wagga Wagga), former Country Firsts Captain, Trevor Crowe (Newcastle) and many players that either played with or under Frank.

All Regions from Northern New South Wales were represented with a great contingent from Newcastle. There was even one former player who had to travel around the flood covered area of Charleville in South West Queensland.

Many tales were told of former days but perhaps the most hilarious comments came from Frank on his tour with the Outback Origin side to Winton in Queensland, a tour he says was possibly the most enjoyable he had.

At the conclusion of the various speeches, presentations were made by Group 4 President, Barry Pratten, to both Frank and his wife Gill and this brought an end to a great evening although tales continued well into the night.

Central Hunter Power Pre-season Carnival

With two weeks to run the carnival will culminate with a representative trial between Group 21 and the Central Coast on March 27th at Singleton. With three weeks of football under their belt the players will be in a better position to press for a spot in one of the Central Hunter Regional sides entering the Country Championships. Selectors will also have had the opportunity to find some new talent to boost the prospects of retaining the Under 18's title and mounting a credible challenge for the senior Championship.

Refereeing appointments were a joint initiative between G21's Henry Page and Shayne Hayne for the Central Coast. To cater for each game there were referees from the Newcastle Region utilised as well as the full available compliment from the Central Hunter Region. Feedback has been generally positive although the difference in the way things are done in each league has led to some confusion at times which was to be expected in the first week. Clubs from both areas have been reminded to adhere to the CRL policies regardless of whether the carnival is non-competitive.

Wagga Tens Results

McDonalds Park Wagga again hosted the annual Tolland Hotel (Wagga Brothers) TENS carnival over the weekend. Originally the day was set out in the pool format due to 8 teams entering. Due to a couple of late withdrawals the pool format was scratched and a round robin format was introduced with 5 teams (Wagga Brothers, Wagga Kangaroos, South city Bulls, Gundagai Tigers and Griffith Waratah Tigers) fighting for the \$3000.00 Winners cheque. Hot conditions confronted the teams but it didn't change the exciting football that was on display in the 10 min halves.

Tournament Hosts Wagga Brothers took on last years Group 9 premiers Wagga Kangaroos in the final with both teams unable to be split after the 20 minutes of regulation time. Golden Point was introduced for the 1st time at the TENS with Wagga Kangaroos having enough petrol in the tank to take out the winners cheque. Players to impress over the day included Blake and Brock Dunn (Brothers), Jermaine Packer and Baden Power (Kangaroos) Peter Little Junior (South city) as well as star recruit for the Griffith Waratah Tigers former Gold Coast Titan Ben Jeffries. It was a very successful day overall with general talk going around that the Round Robin format was a winner as well as McDonalds Park once again showing itself as the premier Rugby League Venue in the Riverina.

Holiday Inn Special to CRL Members

As part of our ongoing partnership with InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG) we are pleased to be able to offer you a range of fantastic Easter savings at InterContinental, Crowne Plaza and Holiday Inn Hotels & Resorts across Australia, New Zealand and Fiji! Book a stay at any participating hotel between midday, Tuesday 23 March and midday, Friday 26 March 2010 (AEDST) from just \$99 for stays between 27 March and 31 May 2010. Simply visit www.priorityclub.com/memberexclusive to book online or call Toll Free 137 399

