



Did You Know that 13 of the 17 NSW State of Origin players chosen for Game 1 2010 are Country Players. Their names as follows: - Kurt Gidley, Brett Morris, Matt Cooper, Timana Tahu, Jamie Lyon, Brett Kimmorley, Michael Weyman, Michael Ennis, Josh Perry, Ben Creagh, Jamal Idris, Tom Learoyd-Lahrs, Brett White. Seven of these players played in the recent AAMI Country V City game in Port Macquarie on May 7th.



Development Officers' of the Week

A massive thankyou and congratulations must go out to all the Development Officers who helped out in the week leading up to Country V City. Staff ran a Telstra Skills Clinic on the Tuesday with Country Origin players in attendance also on game day. Kylie Hilder, Graham Boland, Pat Preston, Mike Donnelly, Kel Mechin, Natalie Russell, Tony Hardy, Mike Castle, Amy Barraclough, Jamie McCormack and all the sub staffers. Well done! It was a very successful week.



Country Rugby League
Level 5, 165 Phillip St
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Phone: 02 9232 5867
Website: -
www.crlnsw.com.au



Happy Birthday Thirroul Butchers

Thirroul JRLC is celebrating 80 years in style with a Butchers Ball to be held on Sunday 13 June at Panorama House Bulli Tops. Tickets are \$90 each and include a 3 course meal, 5 hour drinks package, live band, transport to and from venue (local). All past players and parents are invited to attend this prestigious event. If anyone has any old memorabilia please contact the club. All enquiries can be made to secretary@thirroulbutchers.com.au or call 0418 613 612 and visit the website www.thirroulbutchers.com.au.

80th Celebrations kicked off at the Dragons Come and Try Day at Gibson Park in February with St George Illawarra Dragons Matt Prior (former Thirroul Junior) and Nathan Fien (Butchers Dad) in attendance. All players received an 80th t shirt when they registered and also a special Butchers footy to mark the occasion. Thirroul JRLC continually grows every year, with 70 registrations in 2001 and now boasting around 275 players. This is due to the great work of committee members and parents. The Club prides itself on a Family orientated environment and the numbers speak for themselves.



Matt Prior cuts the 80th Birthday cake



Butcher boys on Gibson Park

River V City Club Program

Living in such a remote area of NSW and not having Rugby League shown on free to air television means the development of the game comes down to what the Country Rugby League development staff can provide in way of promotion and development. In the Broken Hill region we have nine primary schools and two high schools that are serviced by Country Rugby League staff, this region has been dominated by AFL for the past 25 years.

With the redevelopment of the Outback Rugby league (formally Group 12) we now have 375 registered players and expect a big increase in playing numbers again in 2010. The One Community visit (ambassador) to the Broken Hill region last season had such an impact in our local schools that our 2010 schools participation numbers have increased on that of last year we were also able to take forty high school students and four teachers on the ten hour return trip by bus to take part in the Far West High Schools Gala Day in Cobar in early March.

Having two former NRL stars visit the region to play in our annual River Clubs Verses City Clubs games on the 22nd May allows the Outback Rugby League to build a big community and media focus on the game. The work that the rugby league community is doing in the region and will assist with our ongoing school development and education programs. We have scheduled a Naden Shield primary school competition game between Menindee Central School and the Wilcannia Central School during that week, where we will promote the One Community's Eat Well, Play Well, Stay Well, program. There has been a lot of interest come out of last year's Eat Well, Play Well, Stay Well program and all of our local schools have indicated that they would like to continue with any follow up programs. Our local high schools have shown some interest in having the program conducted for their students as there is a real problem with obesity and eating habits in the region.

Our annual River Clubs verse City Clubs Challenge on Saturday the 22nd May will see year 7 and 8 students from Willyama High School take on students from Broken Hill High school. These players are a direct result of our ongoing development program in the two feeder primary schools Alma and Burke Ward primary schools over the past three years. Our Broken Hill Academy squad will play the Wilcannia and Menindee academy development squad U/19's, our senior game will see the River Clubs Menindee and Wilcannia combined to take on a combined City Clubs Saints and Geebung's this game was an annual event in the late 80's. This game will feature former NRL stars David Peachey and Robbie O'Davis and is sure to create a lot of interest in the region. This has been happening for the past couple of seasons in other NSW Country areas with good results for the games development in the bush.

The directors of the Outback Rugby League have joined the NSW government Tackling Domestic Violence programme players from each club have signed contract agreements to play rugby league under Tackling Domestic Violence programmes code of conduct. The minister for Communities the Honourable Linda Burney who over sees the programme will attend the game to launch the Tackling Violence Cup Competition.

The game will also assist players from the Outback Rugby League Academy program to raise fund for local players to go on the Country Rugby League Academies Fiji tour in September 2010. For some of these players this is an opportunity that they may never get again many have never been outside of their communities, the games will be played under lights at the Jubilee Oval Broken Hill.