

2019

**North Sydney District Junior
Rugby Football League inc.**

Annual Report

CONTENTS:

Chairmans Report - by Michael Asensio _____	3
2019 Board of Management _____	5
North Sydney District Junior Rugby Football League Life Members _____	8
North Sydney District Rugby League Referee Association Life Members _____	9
North Sydney Junior League Report _____	10
NORTHS Collective _____	12
Asquith Magpies - by Mick Tickner _____	13
Berowra Wallabies - by Bryan Summerhayes _____	16
Hills Hawks - by Amanda Brisot _____	21
Ku-ring-gai Cubs - by Bruce Walker _____	22
Lane Cove Tigers - by Andrew Gordon _____	24
North Sydney Brothers - by John Dickson _____	29
Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Stags - by Tim Beitsch _____	32
Willoughby Roos - by Martine Irvine _____	36
Grand Final Day _____	44
NRL Development Report _____	46
NSWRL Report _____	48
Men of League Report - by Ken Vessey _____	49
Development Squads _____	51
School Representative Teams _____	54
Club Contact Information _____	55
Major Sponsors and Partners _____	56



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2019 has been a successful year for the North Sydney Junior League with our overall participation numbers increasing by 11.5%. The inclusion of the girls Blues Tag teams has helped contribute to this large increase. However, it is really pleasing to see that tackle registrations also continued to grow this year by a further 2.5%. To all our hardworking volunteers that made this result possible, thank you.

The Junior League is committed to the recruitment and retention of players and as such introduced a couple of new initiatives this year. The first was our summer 'Bear Tag' competition played at Thornleigh. This competition was a great success with clubs competing in the 8's, 10's and 12's age groups.

The second initiative was called 'Baby Bears'. This program was aimed at pre-school aged children and aimed to introduce them into the junior league environment in a safe and fun way. This initiative will be expanded in 2020 with the introduction of 'Marvellous Minis'... stay tuned for more information.



2019 also saw some changes in personnel for our Junior League. The appointment of Fran Hahlos as the North Sydney Junior League administrator occurred at the start of the season. Fran quickly transitioned into the role, working hard behind the scenes to ensure that all the competitions were successful. Congratulations Fran on your appointment and a successful first season.

Fran replaced Josh Hyland who was promoted to the Football Operations Manager role with the Bears. Josh has been a hardworking administrator for our District and we are fortunate that his new role will still allow him to have input into Junior League activities. Thankyou Josh for all your hard work over the previous seasons.

To our referees, headed by Michael Quaily, thank you for your contribution towards the successful 2019 season. Referees have arguably the toughest job in the game and week in and week out they turn up and conduct themselves in a very professional manner.

Thank you to the NRL staff that work in North Sydney schools, Daniel Hutton and Daniel Vasek. Their continued efforts to grow and promote our game within our local school is no doubt a contributing factor to our positive participation figures.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

A competitive advantage we have over other sports is our low cost of participation. In North Sydney this is made possible thanks to the financial support from Norths Leagues and the North Sydney District Rugby League Football Club. This season Norths increased their investment in the junior league by also providing all clubs with goalpost pads, marquees and field signage. These additions assisted our junior league clubs in presenting professional and consistent venue set ups across all our venues.

I would also like to acknowledge the 2019 North Sydney Junior League Board, consisting of: Greg Adnum, Daniel Dickson, Matt Girvan, Lauren Miller, Bruce Walker, John Dickson, Mick Tickner, Nathan Cherry and Tony Bellia. Thank you for all the time and effort you put into ensuring the success of our Junior League.

Finally, after four seasons on the Junior League Board, I will be stepping down as Chairman and handing over the reigns. I will still be heavily involved with the Ku-ring-gai Cubs and will always be available to assist the new North Sydney Board with any future projects.



I look forward to an even bigger and better 2020 season!

Michael Asensio
Chairman



North Sydney District Junior Rugby Football League Life Members

(*DECEASED)

J. Burden *	W. Pretti	K. Nicholls	L. Faulkner *
T.V. Hicks *	M. Cameron *	D. Moran	D. Bran
C.M. James *	J. Kohne *	R. Boatswain *	G. Florimo
S.P. Kelly*	R. Saunders	P. Ragen	G. Thurgood
G.W. Bright *	E. Pearce *	G. Frankel	J. Hunt
W. Thorne *	R. Parry	D. Hall	P. Stanborough
J.K. Walker *	G. Butlin	J. Brannigan *	R. Gailbraith
J.H. Briggs *	W. Howden	B. Hanley	P. Hanley
J. Crooke *	M. Woodcock	B. Marsden *	R. Pears
F. Thompson *	J.D.N. Bluet *	W. Mansfield	C. Maher
R.C. Carey *	J. Quinn *	D. Chapple	A. Hema
G. Wells *	M. Dowel	M. Hodges	M. Kelly
B.M. Cowley *	L. Moore *	A. Patterson	
S. Loxley *	D. Matthews *	J. Leary	



North Sydney District Rugby League Referee Association Life Members

(*DECEASED)

No.	Year	Name	No.	Year	Name
1	1935	Stuart Morris*	21	1978	Brian Minnett
2	1939	Michael Hogan*	22	1980	Erle Carroll*
3		J Turner*	23	1981	Ron Hammond*
4	1942	John Burdon*	24	1983	Brian Daveron
5	1945	Ray Smyth*	25	1985	Steve Betts
6	1950	Arthur Galbraith*	26	1986	Anthony Brown
7		Aubrey Leane*	27	1989	Col Jones
8	1951	Dave Haldeman*	28	1990	John Byrne
9	1953	Herb Carrick*	29	1991	Bill Lalor
10	1955	Tom Bellew OAM*	30	1992	John Boyle
11	1956	Alf Jones*	31	1993	Michael Quailey
12	1959	Bert Cowley*	32	1994	Robert Kiddle
13		Sid Morris*	33	1997	Martin Ryan
14	1960	Ernie Tinsley*	34	2003	Stan Watson
15	1963	Ron Carey*	35	2006	Michael Haynes
16	1966	John Montgomery OAM*	36	2008	Jon Stone
17	1967	Brian Barry	37	2013	Scot Murray
18	1969	John Quinn*	38	2017	James Charman
19	1975	Geoff McManus	39	2019	Wayne Edwards
20	1977	John Porteous*			



2019 BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

CHAIRMAN - MICHAEL ASENSIO

Michael has a very strong connection to the North Sydney Junior League. Michael played for the Pennant Hills Stags from 1986-89. Michael's love for the game has led him into a career in Rugby League and has worked full time in the game with various stakeholders including the NRL, NSWRL and ARLD since 2005 until current where he has held roles at all levels of the game starting off as a Game Development Officer and moving up to his current role as the NRL Pacific Programs Manager. Michael was one of the Co-founders of our newest Junior League clubs the Ku-Ring-Gai Cubs where he holds the roles of Secretary, Registrar as well as coaching one Cubs sides. Michael was elected onto the North Sydney Junior League Board in 2016 and was elected chairman of the North Sydney Junior League in 2017 till current.



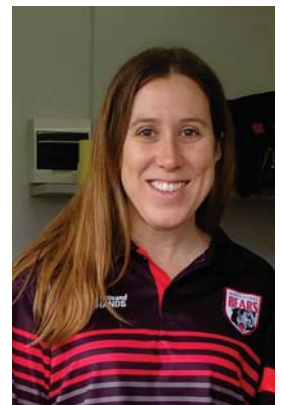
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN - DANIEL DICKSON

Daniel has been associated with the Brothers Junior rugby league from the age of 4 years old. Playing from juniors to A grade, he now coaches alongside his brother, John, the under 16's. He aims to use his business experience to make the brothers club a self-sustaining club that is supported by a close community network. And a real bears fan at heart. Daniel has been on the board since 2017 till current.



TREASURER - LAUREN MILNER

Lauren has been involved within the North Sydney Junior League her whole life with her family heavily entrenched at Asquith and Berowra from a young age. Lauren then returned to Berowra when her son Ollie started in the under 6s 5 years ago and became involved in the club since day one and has held numerous roles as a manager and trainer in that time. Lauren has been on the committee for Berowra since 2016 and has previously been the secretary and is currently the Vice President of Berowra. Lauren's background in accounts has helped the district as the treasurer of the Junior League in 2019. This is Lauren's first season on the board.



2019 BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

BOARD MEMBER - GREG ADNUM

Greg has had a life long association with the Berowra Wallabies JRLFC playing all of his rugby league with Berowra from the age of 4 and finishing when he was 40. Greg has held many positions with Berowra from coaching to vice president and was awarded Life Membership of the Berowra Wallabies in 2003. Greg has 2 boys currently playing with Berowra for the past 10 years and is very passionate about junior rugby league as he believes that it gives boys and girls a strong foundation for their future. By being part of a team it gives you lifelong friends and Greg's main aim is to get more young people playing this great game. Greg was voted onto the junior league board in 2018.



BOARD MEMBER - TONY BELLIA

Tony first became involved in the North Sydney District seven years ago when his sons Marco and Joseph decided to play for Willoughby Roos. Within the first season Tony started to become involved within the club and has held various roles within the club from Assistant coach, trainer and manager and then moved into a number of committee roles since 2016 where his current role is Vice President of Willoughby Roos. His passion for the local community through his profession as a Real Estate agent and his love for the Willoughby Roos has been a massive driving force in the increased participation numbers at the Roos since becoming involved. He was really excited with introduction of their first girls team this year, loved managing the Bears u14s rep team and has been a massive personal sponsor of the Roos for the last 5 years. This is Tony's first season on the North Sydney Board.



BOARD MEMBER - NATHAN CHERRY

Nathan played his junior Football in the North Sydney Junior League for Penno for 7 years. Once Nathan started to have a family and his children wanted to start playing rugby league Nathan became back involved with Penno in 2013 and currently has four children playing in the Junior League. Nathan is an Operations Manager for an engineering company with over 100 employees and has a great attitude and has a passion to see our Junior League grow. Nathan has been on the Junior League board since 2018.



BOARD MEMBER - JOHN DICKSON

John was born into the District with his Father being involved with Brothers for a long time. John first started as Ball boy at Brothers and playing as a 4 year old and continued to play till he was 36. Since then John has been coaching or a trainer at the club for the last 10 years and has been active in helping build the club to where it is today. John is committed to the yearlong season at Brothers with him being a driving force in ensuring Brothers continues to grow in both Male and Female participation as well as their summer oztag competition. John owns a building company and is always willing to lend a hand to grow the game of Junior Rugby League in North Sydney. This is John's first season on the Board.



2019 BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

BOARD MEMBER - MATT GIRVAN

Matt has been involved with the North Sydney area for over 10 years. Matt started to volunteer with the Football Club in various roles in 2005 and still volunteers to this day. In 2012 Matt has taken his love for the bears even further and was one of the key personal in the reinstatement of the Lane Cove Tigers in 2012 into our Junior League. Matt has also been a key member of helping set up the Ku-Ring-Gai Cubs in 2015 and also helping at the Hills Hawks club back in 2014/15. Matt was President of Lane Cove Tigers from 2012 to 2016 and is currently the club registrar, Matt can also be seen most season's coaching the U6s for the Tigers. Apart from Matt's roles at Lane Cove, Matt has also been involved in the North Sydney Development Programs and the North Sydney Harold Matthews programs since 2013. Matt has been an active member of the North Sydney Junior League Board since 2014 till present.



BOARD MEMBER - MICK TICKNER

Mick first became involved in Asquith Magpies with his son 10 years ago and then again 5 season ago when his son Khobe started playing under six's. Since arriving back at Asquith 5 seasons ago Mick has been involved in the club as a trainer and coach for 4 seasons and two years ago became president. Mick has the responsibility of being the president of our largest club in the district with teams from under 6s all the way to under 20s as well as NSWRL major competition sides. Mick has continued to work hard with the older ages within the club to ensure there is always a game of football to be had if you are living in the Hornsby region. Mick's current occupation is a train driver and also holds numerous roles within state transit. This is Mick's first season on the board.



BOARD MEMBER - BRUCE WALKER

Bruce has a long history with the North Sydney area. Bruce played first grade for the North Sydney Bears for seven seasons from 1971-1978. Since Then Bruce became involved as a referee in 2013 in North Sydney Before being the founding member along with Michael Asensio in establishing the Ku-Ring-Gai Cubs in 2015. Bruce has been president of the Cubs since they formed in 2015 and has been a major driving force in the continued growth of the cub. Bruce is currently the NSW Manager for the Men of League organisation and has been a great ambassador for Rugby League on the North Shore for a number of years. This is Bruce's First year on the North Sydney Junior League Board.





NORTH SYDNEY JUNIOR LEAGUE REPORT

The 2019 Junior League season culminated in an amazing display of teamwork, determination and sportsmanship at the Grand Final Day held at historic North Sydney Oval on Saturday 31st August. With grand final games held in all age groups from U9s to U16s, the finest teams of our district battled it out for the highly coveted title of Premiers.

North Sydney Junior League is again the fastest growing Junior League in NSW, with good growth in participation numbers for the third consecutive year. Since 2015 our playing numbers have increased from 749 to 1095 in season 2019, that's an increase of 31.5% in 5 seasons. Hills Hawks almost doubled their player registrations in 2019 alone and Lane Cove Tigers maintained an impressive retention rate of 75%. With the support of the district, our volunteer run junior league clubs have been defying the odds of youth sport participation.



Following the successful introduction of the North Sydney Bears inaugural Harvey Norman Women's Premiership side in 2018, our Junior League has continued the growth of female participation in the North Sydney region going from 25 to 115 players in one year. This female growth came in both tackle and tag format of rugby league and is set to continue into 2020. Asquith Magpies welcomed their first all-female U16's tackle team to the NSWRL combined conference and four of our junior league clubs, Ku-ring-gai Cubs, North Sydney Brothers, Pennant Hills Stags and Willoughby Roos formed girls league tag teams in the U11s and U13s competitions.





NORTH SYDNEY JUNIOR LEAGUE REPORT

There were a number of special milestones in 2019 for our district, including the Ku-ring-gai Cubs celebrating their 5 year anniversary. To commemorate this achievement the club commissioned leading indigenous artist, Vicki Golding, to produce a unique artwork that pays tribute to the local Durrumurragal people and was featured on every player's custom designed jersey. The artwork also reflects the culture of the club as a place where children, parents, coaches and volunteers can come together to connect, communicate, train and most importantly play the great game of rugby league.

With the sad passing, this year of much appreciated and highly dedicated junior league life member, Fred Thompson, the district was proud to continue his memory in the U11 Grand Final Fred Thompson Memorial Shield. The 2019 shield was won by a strong Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Stags team and we look forward to continuing this tradition for many more years to come.

With the start of Spring, we launched our second year of the fast paced and extremely fun Bears Blues Tag held at Pennant Hills High School. The competition is open to mixed teams in U10s & U12s and began on Monday 4th November. Summer tag competitions are the perfect way to keep your footy fitness in the off-season, make new footy friends and have a heap of fun doing it.

2020 is set to be a big year again for North Sydney District Junior Rugby League with a number of new projects and exclusive initiatives planned. Alongside the North Sydney Bears, our juniors continue to thrive.





Est. 1955

NORTHS

MAJOR SPONSOR

Thank you to NORTHS collective for supporting our junior league players and their clubs and raising the professionalism of our game day experience.





ASQUITH MAGPIES - BY MICK TICKNER

2019 was a great year for the Asquith Magpies Junior Rugby League. The year started with a big focus on driving recruitment within our local area. This enabled us to get additional teams in some age groups and also the ability to enter new teams into the competition.

We started the year with a New initiative called Mini Magpies. This was a program that was held 8 weeks prior to the season kick off and was aimed at 3-6 year olds who wanted to try rugby League for the first time. We were fortunate enough to convert 100% of all eligible aged children into our U6 Teams.



Many new families joined the club and overall registrations for the year were strong and we were able to field:

- Two U6's teams
- Two U7's teams,
- Two U8's teams
- U9's, U10's, U11's, U13's and U15's.
- Our very first all girls U16 tackle team in the Northern conference
- U16's Northern Grizzlies team which is a joint venture between Asquith Magpies and Berowra
- U20's Team





ASQUITH MAGPIES (CONTINUED)

Highlights of 2019 included:

- The Introduction of "Marty" the Magpie, our team mascot. Marty was a welcome addition to our already exciting game day experience, which to anybody who came to Storey Park soon realised it was the best experience in the North Sydney Competition.

- This year we hosted family fun days with NRL inflatables, the 2nd Annual Mad Mascot race, and half time dance off's for kids to enjoy. We were also fortunate to get some of the North Sydney players to Storey Park to assist with game day duties and helping out with our teams

- Home games were always a highlight for all kids as they excitedly got to run out of the dressing sheds to their teams chosen music.

- We again supported the Mark Hughes Foundation and hosted a "Beanies for Brain Cancer" Weekend raising \$4000

- Our regular away trip to Tamworth for the National Primary Games. This year saw our u8s, u9's and u13's all compete and represent the club with pride. This is definitely a highlight on the calendar not only for the kids but for the parents as well as it a great opportunity for everyone to socialise and is a must for all teams.

- The formation of the U16 Northern Grizzlies Team. Last year both Asquith and Berowra struggled for numbers in this age group and would not have been able to field teams in 2019. Early discussions preseason enabled this combined team to enter the competition and go on to have a very successful year. This Northern Grizzlies concept will now be rolled out to further teams over the coming seasons.

- Our U16s girls started slowly with just enough girls to field a team but grew in numbers as the year progressed. The girls had to travel far and wide for games at differing times through out the year but their enthusiasm never wavered and we hope to build on that for next year



Jim Walker





ASQUITH MAGPIES (CONTINUED)

Our highlights were amplified by some of the amazing results we achieved in 2019:

- The U9's, U11's, U16's Grizzlies and U20 teams all managed to secure a Grand Final position. The U20's came home with the Trophy whilst the other teams were very unlucky on the day.

- The U10's and U13's teams were fortunate to play in the semi finals but were just beaten on the day.

- Asquith Magpies also had strong representation in the North Sydney Development Squads, and other representative squads.



A very big thank you to the Football Club Committee, Coaches, Managers & Trainers in 2019 and all other volunteers who enable our kids to play this great game of Rugby League. 2019 would not have been possible without the valued contribution from our team sponsors. Our sponsors included.

- Fernwood Fitness Hornsby
- McCarroll's VW
- Kokoda Residencies
- Solid Scapes
- Pedders Suspension
- Fretus Waste
- RLC Plumbing
- New Dimension Oz
- Vision One
- Pharmacy 4 Less
- Roblink Transport
- Polcom Communications
- Ash Stripes Signs
- 5 Star Real Estate
- Ferraro's Pizza
- Lucky Magpie
- Tyres & More
- Bite Me Bakehouse
- Magpies Waitara



We thank all these valued sponsors for their contribution and hope they will continue into 2020.





BEROWRA WALLABIES - BY BRYAN SUMMERHAYES

As Berowra recovered from the December hail storms it was a slow start to 2019 for all clubs in the area, but come season launch the Wallabies fielded ten teams from U6s through to U20s. We've seen great improvement in all of our teams over the year and to me it was really rewarding to see the skills, teamwork, fun, friendships and club spirit continue to grow, and welcome new families to join in all the action rugby league can offer. Some of the highlights include:

Our 'Joey's' pre-school program continued to grow participation rate of boys and girls in the 3-6 age group with ten players graduating to U6s. With some eligible to play U6s again next year, this is a great introduction for both players and parents to rugby league. It was also exciting to see the launch of the Baby Bears programs across the district.





BEROWRA WALLABIES - BY BRYAN SUMMERHAYES

In the Minis, we again fielded two U6 teams alongside teams in the U7s and U8s. Continuing our super hero theme from last year, these teams took the field this season sporting a new Captain America jersey design which was a great hit with the players. The players exhibited some great skills and showed tremendous development throughout the season which will form the basis for seasons ahead. Watching the enjoyment and progression of our mini's is always a highlight of any season.



In MOD footy we fielded teams in the U9s North Sydney competition, and two U12s in the Northern Conference competition. For the U9s it was their first year of competitive footy and the team grew in confidence, and skill as the season progressed, finishing fourth at seasons end before losing a tight semi-final. In the U12's it was year of development as they went up to a full field with 13-aside under MOD rules and moved to the larger Northern Conference competition. Fielding teams in the Gold and Silver/Bronze competitions both teams



acquitted themselves well. The U12 Golds finished third and progressed to the preliminary final before losing to Narrabeen Sharks; whilst the U12 Bronze made up of U12 and U11 players, finished fourth and progressed to the second round of the semi-finals before losing in extra time to Avalon Bulldogs. A big thank you to Brett Carter and Dan Ferrington for taking on the coaching roles for these teams in 2019.

To finish out our Saturday sides, at International competition level, Berowra fielded a team in the U14 Silver division of the NSWRL Northern Conference competition. With everyone returning from 2018 and with some new recruits over the summer, the team had a very successful year, finishing minor premiers and headed straight into the grand final after beating Narrabeen Sharks 18-0 in the major semi-final. Unfortunately, the team fell one short losing the grand 16-12 against a committed Ku-ring-gai Cubs team, who should be congratulated on their success. Whilst not winning the silverware it is a huge achievement for a group of players that trained and worked well together all year.





BEROWRA WALLABIES - BY BRYAN SUMMERHAYES

Moving to Sunday footy, in 2019 Berowra and Asquith having recognised that there is currently a drop off in player involvement from U16s onwards, met and decided that a 3-year trial formation of a joint venture between both clubs, to be known as the 'Northern Grizzlies', provided the greatest opportunity for players to be able to continue playing rugby league in our area. With 20 players registered across both clubs the team hit the paddock for a tough preseason in preparation for competing in a combined NSWRL North Eastern U16 Silver division competition. The season started well with a 36-14 win over North Sydney Brothers at Warrina Street oval, which was the perfect start to build confidence across the playing and coaching group that the new concept would work. The Grizzlies then went on to win ten of a possible twelve games and finished minor premiers; and were straight into the Grand Final after beating Leichardt Wanderers 34-20 in week one the semis. The team fought hard, however with a couple of key players out for the big game, the team found themselves down 14-4 and a man short with eight minutes on the clock and eventually ran out of time, losing 14-8. In the inaugural season for this team it was a fantastic effort by Cheyne Brown, the coaching staff, players and parents to get to the Grand Final. Thanks to Mick Tickner, Paul Pollard, Greg Adnum and the committees of both clubs in supporting the team.



The U20s under the guidance of Jason Mazgay played in the NSWRL Combined Gold competition and continued their development playing some exciting football across the season, narrowly missing out on finals footy on for and against. After three years with the U20s Jase is moving up to coach A'Grade in 2020. We look forward to more footy at Warrina each Sunday.



Several our players were also honoured with selection in North Sydney development squads in 2019, congratulations to all these players. The following players should also be congratulated on their achievements - Damian Nati (North Sydney SG Ball Squad for 2020); Max Sedgman (North Sydney SG Ball Summer Squad 2020); Cody Mirabile-Kumar (making the Fijian Harmony Cup Squad 2019); and Corey Adnum (making the NSW Blues Harmony Cup Squad 2019).





BEROWRA WALLABIES - BY BRYAN SUMMERHAYES

Off the field

Vale – Doug McKinnon

The Berowra Wallabies were saddened this year by the passing of Doug McKinnon, our first Life Member, on Tuesday 20th August. Doug played 186 games for the North Sydney Bears, player number 553, including 29 first grade games and was instrumental in founding our football club. He had the thrill of playing with some of the Bears greatest players, Irvine, Carlson, McCaffrey, and Hawick. After retiring from grade with the Bears in 1962, Doug was living in Berowra when he met local builder Bill Whiddon,



through playing cricket at Berowra Oval. In Doug's own words, the pair "soon became good friends mainly through his tragic support of the North Sydney RLFC with whom I had played until a couple of years before." In 1967 Bill first proposed the idea of forming a rugby league club in Berowra at a time when it was largely unheard of. Following an inaugural meeting at the district hall the Berowra Junior Rugby League Football Club was formed with Bill as President, Doug as Secretary and Johnny Hoy as Treasurer. From that initial committee, Doug became a mainstay of the Berowra JRLFC committee through those early years from 1967 through until 1985; holding the position of secretary 7 times (1967-1970; 1973; 1984-1985) and Treasurer 5 times (1971-1975). Doug and his wife Fay (who was also a committee member, holding the position of Treasurer in 1985-1986) frequently opened their home up to hold committee meetings. In 1969 when Berowra fielded their first A'Grade side in the North Sydney JRL competition, Doug was the team's Captain/Coach. He continued his playing days with the club through until 1973 before taking up numerous coach and manager roles for many years. Doug is pictured here (second player standing on the left, circled) in Berowra's very first A'Grade team taken at Berowra Oval in 1969.

Changing Rooms

Our U16 and U14 players had the opportunity to participate in the 'NSWRL Changing Rooms' program run by Paul Langmack at NSWRL in partnership with Youth Insearch, with assistance from expert presenters from industry accredited support networks of Mental Health and Wellbeing organisations. This initiative was aimed to equip our players with the necessary life skills, and educate them on the availability of appropriate resources, required to navigate issues they may one day encounter off the field such as dealing with low self-esteem, domestic violence, mental health, illness, injury, social inclusion, disabilities and other life challenges faced by youths of today. It was a fantastic program and well received by our players and parents.





BEROWRA WALLABIES - BY BRYAN SUMMERHAYES

Men Of League & McGrath Foundations

We continued our support of the McGrath Foundation with our Women In League Mother's Day round, and Men Of League round both raising money for these worthy charities. Of note, following our MOL round, we hosted our 5th annual fundraiser for the Men of League Foundation. It is one of the Wallabies favourite social and sporting events in the season bringing our club and community together for such a wonderful charity that does so much for our Rugby League Community. The night was a great success raising over \$4000 to help Ken Vessey and the MOL team with their work. In August our committee members and volunteers attended the North Sydney District Junior Rugby League Volunteers day at North Sydney Oval. Lisa Jenkinson was recognised as our nomination for the Men of League North Sydney Junior League Volunteer of the Year Award. Lisa lives and breathes Wallabies spending most winter weekends at Warrina Street oval from setup to pack up cheering on our teams. Congratulations Liza, we're lucky to have you at our club.



Women's State Of Origin

A number of our juniors also got the opportunity to attend a training session with the NSW Blues Women's State Of Origin team before watching them play at North Sydney Oval.

Thanks for Season 2019!

As a club we would like to thank all our players with how they have represented our club, whether that be displaying excellent sportsmanship on the field, supporting and helping out junior teams or helping raise money for charities, you have all helped build a fantastic culture at the Wallabies. On behalf of the players and committee we would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our coaches, managers, and trainers for all for their time, effort, knowledge, patience and dedication in working to get your teams to realise their full potential. Off the field, thank you to everyone involved on the committee, and all our volunteers who cooked the snags, set out the field, manned the table and ran the line. Thank you to all the parents for supporting your kids and teams all season. All of the above season highlights would not have been possible without the valued contribution from our sponsors. Your generosity and involvement have given children in our area an opportunity to build lifelong friendships and skills through playing rugby league. Thank you to all our club and team sponsors: Berowra Village Tavern, Cleanaway, Kohinor Scaffolding, Ultimate Security, Bite Me Bakehouse, Mt Kuring-gai Butchers, All Metal Roofing, EMO Trans, Assured Conveyancing, GeeTee Motorcycles, MGF Air Conditioning, Paul Donnelly Insurance, RCC National, Reliable Lock & Safe, Brooklyn Barge, MB Roofing, MP Trees, Kris Dickerson Air Conditioning, Mechanical Plumbing Group, Specialized Construction, North Shore Electrical, Genuine Air, Bakers Delight Berowra, Bush Telegraph, and Bendigo Bank. Finally, thanks to the Norths Group, Josh Hyland, Fran Halos and the North Sydney District JRL Board for their ongoing support of our club and junior league in our district. We look forward to season 2020 competing against all the fantastic clubs across North Sydney!





HILLS HAWKS - BY AMANDA BRISOT

The Hills Hawks had another bumper year in registrations with a 67% increase in registrations on last year.

We added an U15s side to our line-up which was a wonderful outcome for the club, giving the young ones a team they could look up to.

The Hills Hawks, with the help of North Sydney District, ran their first Little Hawkies program, encouraging kids as young as 4 to enjoy the wonderful game of Rugby League.

We are also incredibly proud of U12s side who, following a tough season on 2108, come back to finish the 2019 season as Minor Premiers and in the first time in the team's history, secure a spot in the Grand Final.





KU-RING-GAI CUBS - BY MICHAEL ASENSIO

2019 marks the 5th anniversary of the Ku-ring-gai Cubs Rugby League Club and to celebrate, all registered players received a custom designed jersey with stunning Indigenous artwork.

The Cubs commissioned leading Indigenous artist Vicki Golding to produce a piece of art that pays tribute to the Durrumurragal people, who lived in the Ku-ring-gai area for thousands of years while also telling the story of the Ku-ring-gai Cubs first 5 years.

In the artwork, our teams are represented by the circles, while our players, coaches and parents are represented by the symbols around the circles. The Ku-ring-gai Cubs will always be a place where children, parents, coaches and volunteers can come together to connect, communicate, train and play our great game of rugby league.



The Cubs continued to grow in 2019 with the club fielding teams from under 6 to under 14s. We were unable to field an under 11's tackle team, however we did have an U11 girls tag team which was a significant boost for female participation and will no doubt see further participation in 2020.

Thank you to all the parents who continue to support the Cubs and those who volunteer their time on canteen duty at home games. Thank you and congratulations to our secretary Michael Asensio who does a tremendous job for the Cubs. Michael Asensio was named the Ku-ring-gai Cubs and North Sydney District 'Volunteer of the Year'. An award that acknowledges all the hard work and long hours that he dedicates to the club.

A big thank you to the 2019 Committee members: Charlotte Maltby, Jenney Ekanayake, Ben May, Mark Maltby, John Erdman, Chris Kuznetsoff and Michael Asensio.





KU-RING-GAI CUBS - BY MICHAEL ASENSIO

Congratulations to all the Cubs players who were selected in the North Sydney Development squads. U12's Archer Rayner, Archie Harris, Archie Tunks, Finlay Lloyd and Max Di Veroli. U13's Ethan Maltby, Alexander Ward, Marshall Le Maitre and Thomas Kinninmont. U14's Aden Ekanayake, Leo Gibb and Zac Fiorenza.

Other highlights for 2019 included:

The Cubs had four teams playing on grand final day, U10S, U11 Girls tag, U13s and U 14s. Winning the U13s and U14s competitions.

Friday night games for our 13's and 14's.

The Bruce Walker award was won by our U14's player Luke Bentley. This award is given to the player who most shows the clubs values of Respect, Honesty and Teamwork.



Our teams also had plenty of opportunities to be part of NRL and North Sydney games including:

Our U6s and u7s played at Brookvale Oval, to celebrate the NRL Indigenous Round and also were part of the NRL retiring players parade on Grand Final Day.

Our U10's played at the SCG during the Semi Final between the Roosters and South Sydney.

Finally, the Committee at the Cubs would like to thank Josh Hyland, Fran Hahlos and the North Sydney Junior League Board for their continued support throughout the year.

Go Cubs go!

Bruce Walker
President Ku ring gai Cubs





LANE COVE TIGERS - BY ANDREW GORDON

I'd like to thank our fabulous Coaches, Trainers, Managers, volunteers and parents for your hard work, patience and care that you give to our kids, you are all what makes our club a great community asset and a place where our kids continue to have fun and improve their sporting and social skills.

2019 was another great year of growth for the Lane Cove Tigers fielding teams in the Under 6's, 7's, 8's, 9's, 10's, 11's, 13's and Under 14's. Our Under 9's were PREMIERS of the Silver Competition and our Under 10's, Under 11's, Under 13's and Under 14's challenged hard into the Semi Finals.

Thank you also to the team at the North Sydney Bears District and NSWRL for all your help and congratulations on running a well-oiled season.

Andrew Gordon
President, Lane Cove Tigers Junior Rugby League

UNDER 6's



With only one u6's team this year, our baby tigers were ruthless from the get-go! The older kids led the way in both defence and attack, but the tiger cubs quickly caught along. And in no time, they too were pushing up, supporting and scoring tries! The fun continued on to our Tuesday training sessions, with a combination of soft drills, tackling bags and bull-rush to see us out, ready for the big game on Saturday- the cycle of fun!

Tiger Tiger Tiger... ROAR ROAR ROAR!!!
Steve Romanous

UNDER 7'S

The 7s had a really fun year!! With one of the larger squads we definitely were not struggling for characters throughout the season.

We started with a great mix of player that already played in the u6s and players playing their first season. As the season progressed it was great to see all of the individuals grow in both their skills and love for rugby league. It is always rewarding coaching Junior Rugby League and I am excited to watch the 7s progress each year.
Travis Pearce





LANE COVE TIGERS - BY ANDREW GORDON

UNDER 8's

After struggling for numbers in 2018 the coaching staff put in a concerted effort to target friends of our current squad involved in other sports. This resulted in the addition of six new players and a healthy total of 12 players in this year's U8's team.

We had an amazing season with all kids developing their skills, having fun and the new families becoming active members of the club by volunteering.

On the field the team went through season unbeaten and got the opportunity to compete in the Tommy Bishop Shield pitting themselves against the best teams in NSW.

Alex Hahlos



TIGERS U/9's (Finish – PREMIERS Under 9 Silver)

Started out with the return of all but 1 player which was testament to the environment the kids play in. The club and parents providing a fun and enjoyable atmosphere for the kids.

Our application and skills improved again from the start of the season till the end. The effort was there but just falling short at the end of matches due to tiredness where we had no reserves 90% of the time.

We were able to sign a few more players around the middle of the year which helped our numbers and gave the team a real lift. This culminated in making and winning the Silver grand final. Fantastic effort. Great bunch of kids who really bring different strengths to create an awesome team. Hopefully we will see all the team return next year. Thanks for another great season

Matt Antonelli





LANE COVE TIGERS - BY ANDREW GORDON

UNDER 10'S (Finish 3rd Semi Finals)

At the start of the season we struggled to field a full team having moved on to the bigger field and injuries, we are thankful to our u9s for stepping up and filling in when required. However, we kept chipping away on recruitment and had 3 additional boys join us during the season, allowing us to finish the season with a few subs each week and putting us in a good place to further build numbers for next year.

With 6 boys new to Rugby League it was great to see them get up to speed so quickly, but most pleasing was to see the whole group gel as a team and have a lot of fun at training and games each week. All the boys really improved their skills over the season, were really consistent and competed really well week in and week out.



All in all, the we had a great year, bowing out in the Semi Finals to a really strong Roo's performance with a final highlight playing on Brookvale Oval before the Sea Eagles Vs Sharks finals match and a relay race at half time. I am sure a few of the Dads had equally as good a time as the kids on the night. It was another great year and we're looking forward to getting back into next year.

Clem Lyons

UNDER 11s (Finished 4th. Semi Finals)



The Under 11s welcomed back familiar faces with the majority of the squad coming back to the mighty Tigers club. Our regular boys were joined by some newcomers to the club with a good number of boys choosing to play both union and league for Lane Cove this season which is fantastic. Five new boys had their first taste of rugby league this year and took to the sport like ducks to water, well done boys!

It was great to see the boys maturing in body and mind this year and starting to really hone their rugby league skills and team play. It was especially good to see their discipline in defence improve in the back

end of the season with the best team performances coming in the final few rounds to earn a place in the finals. The highlight being our final match of the year where the boys went toe to toe with the all-conquering Stags in the game of the season.

Michael Doumit





LANE COVE TIGERS - BY ANDREW GORDON

UNDER 13's (Finished 4th. Semi Finals)

U/13's is a tough age for Junior Rugby League, particularly in the North Sydney area. It's the age where kids head to High School and playing sport for their school on weekends takes priority. Some boys bravely try to juggle both School and club commitments, but reality is numbers drop and it is tough for some of our clubs to field a side.

This was certainly the case for two very proud clubs in Lane Cove Tigers & North Sydney Brothers. While both clubs tried to chase down the numbers to field teams individually, it became all too apparent that it would be too big of a mountain to climb.

Not prepared to register their boys in other sports, some caring parents from both clubs reached out to discuss a merger. They wanted to see their kids play the game they love; the U/13 Grizzlies were born. There were challenges. U/13's is the first year of international football so the boys needed to learn some new rules. The Boys hadn't played together before and our first training session was 2 weeks prior to the seasons start.....would blue & orange really go that well together on a jersey??????

Calling on those qualities of discipline, resilience and teamwork the side began to not only improve week to week, but enjoy themselves more and more. As we neared the Semi Finals it was so pleasing to see some members of the team mature into leaders and focus the boys on the task at hand. The Grizzlies managed to make the Semi Finals of the combined Norths/Manly Gold division where, after being locked at 6 all at halftime, Narraweena were a little too powerful (this year). We are all very proud of the team, a great achievement in its own right and even greater considering the sides initial challenges. Huge thank you to Andrew Gordon, Clint Gaddes and Mark, Sean and Serena Brennan who made the Grizzlies happen.



Greg Haynes



UNDER 14's (Finished 3rd. Semi Finals)

The LCT U14s had another great season and were a pleasure to coach going deep into the 14 Gold Joint North Sydney-Manly Competition Semi Finals. Their on field performances were entertaining to watch and the team displayed sportsmanship, commitment and high levels of skill. Several of the team made the Under 14 North Sydney Bears Rep Squad congratulations again to those boys.

Con Moutevelis





LANE COVE TIGERS - BY ANDREW GORDON

A big THANK YOU to our amazing 2019 Tigers Sponsors



PLATINUM SPONSORS



GOLD SPONSORS



SILVER SPONSORS



BROTHERS



NORTH SYDNEY BROTHERS - BY JOHN DICKSON

2019 was another successful year for the club both on and off the field. Our season launch at the Mosman club was a great way to start the year. We welcomed many new families to the club across a whole range of age groups. Our playing numbers were 2nd across the district. We fielded a girls league tag team for the 1st time. This helped us to a nearly 500% increase in players since 2016 (33 players) to 150 plus playing in 2019.

As we have done in previous years we used our sponsorship money and money raised for our State of Origin lunch to fund our 'KIDS PLAY FOR FREE' initiative

One of the best parts of any season is seeing a whole new group of U6's start their rugby league journey. You could tell how much fun these kids were having by the smiles on their faces. By the end of the season, all the kids scored at least one try and almost everyone made at least one tackle.



BROTHERS



NORTH SYDNEY BROTHERS - BY JOHN DICKSON

The U7's had strong numbers of both returning and new players and had a great season showing how far they had come from 2018. Great job to John Maddelena on his first year as coach.

We formed an U8's side during the year. These boys played some great games. The boys who had played before led the way and the new kids picked up the game quickly. Watch this space for some up and coming young footballers. Another congrats to Scott Jones on helping us create this new age group.

Our U9'S had a successful year, it was a team of mostly returning players, the new players that joined were welcomed to the Brothers Family and this showed as they made it to the finals. They played a tough side and had a narrow loss. A special mention to Andrew Calless for the way he managed to get all the kids to get even game time each week.



BROTHERS



NORTH SYDNEY BROTHERS - BY JOHN DICKSON

U11's are a great mix of new and old players. They made it to the 1st week of the finals. A very solid year and they have a great base to build on

U12 This season was a good season for the boys. We had our core group of players who have been together for years. We welcomed new team mates and they fitted in fantastically and this showed by the boys making it to weeks 2 of the finals.

U13's girls Blues tag. A big congrats to all the girls who took part in our very first all-girls team. We had a great season. In our second last game we won the second half of the game. A very proud moment for the coach and family supporters. Look forward to seeing all the girls again next year.



U15 after the success of 2018 this was always going to be tough year. They had a good year and made it to the 2nd week of the finals. A very very good effort considering they were in the Gold competition. Well done boys

U16's had a tough year but full credit to the boys for sticking in there right to the end. We finished the season with a very convincing win...a great way to head into next year. Proud of you guys.

As a club we would like to thank all the parents and caregivers who make it possible for the kids to get to training and games. We would also like to thank our Club sponsors who make it possible for our 'KIDS TO PLAY FOR FREE' . We also thank All the Norths board members and Josh Hyland for a successful 2019.





PENNANT HILLS CHERRYBROOK STAGS - BY TIM BEITSCH



2019 was a massive year for the Mighty Stags.

Key achievements for the year included;

- Our under 11's going through the season undefeated and winning the Grand Final in resounding fashion

- Overall registrations increasing over 50%
- The club fielded its first female only teams in the Under 11 and 15's Tag competitions.



- 5 players were chosen in the North Sydney Under 12 Development squad with Lachlan Vella and Jai Satuala going on to star in the teams win over the visiting Tamworth team at North Sydney Oval.





PENNANT HILLS CHERRYBROOK STAGS - BY TIM BEITSCH

- The under 9's went down in the Div 2 Grand Final after a great year.



- The Under 12's narrowly missed out on qualifying for the Combined Competition 2nd Division Grand Final after an amazing semi final run from 6th place.

- Players were given the opportunity to participate in expert Jiu Jitsu training to enhance their tackling skills. Thanks to Ryan Comerford for organising this awesome opportunity.



- Sponsorship was well up on 2018 which allowed the club to subsidise the girls teams and League Tag competition.





PENNANT HILLS CHERRYBROOK STAGS - BY TIM BEITSCH

- We enjoyed 2 twilight rounds, especially our annual Mothers Day round where mums were spoilt with massages, snacks and a VIP tent.



- A sold out Chopsticks and Chip Kicks fundraiser was a raging success
- Numerous teams had the opportunity to play before NRL games. It was a massive thrill for our players (not to mention our parents) to meet their heroes and tread in their footsteps



- The Greenway Oval development has been signed off and will be completed in 2020.





PENNANT HILLS CHERRYBROOK STAGS - BY TIM BEITSCH

Thank you to all the volunteers who make the club a success. Without the coaches, managers, trainers, canteen workers and committee we would not have such an amazing club.

A special congratulations to Simone Dahlen who was made a life member of the club which is a reward for her years of devotion and hard work at the Stags. A big congratulations also to Lee Cherry who was the clubs Volunteer of the Year.

On to a bigger and better 2020!!



WILLOUGHBY ROOS 2019 SEASON

UNDER 6s

The under 6s had a cracking year with lots of tiny but talented kids joining the team this season. Coach Josh was a little unsure how the team would go due to the gentle nature his team had and didn't know whether they would be able to embrace the game. He need not to have worried as from game 1 the players tackled their way through the season with only one loss and a couple of draws.

Each player improved with every game they played, their skill level increased immensely, they made a lot of friends along the way, scores tries, tackled the opposition (and even tackled each other at times) and most importantly had a lot of fun.

We are all looking forward to season 2020!

Josh Taylor and Matt Nunn



UNDER 7s

Under 7's year started with five new rookies coming in to the team to join the 5 players from last season. We welcomed new players Tommy, Holly, Sachin and Cyrus (coach nightmare -identical twins. Lucky their boots are different colours) and Jaxon.

Pre-season started well with The Roos fitness campaign.... that hurt some legs! Training progressed with all players learning and building on the basics of ball skills and tackling so everyone would have fun and stay safe.

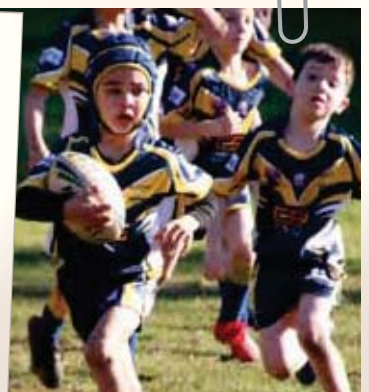
The team played well together and worked best as a pack in defence and attack. Eddie B continued on as a try line finder specialist with 94 tries under his belt. "Veterans" Liam, Ridley, Eddie D and Harvey continued with their 2018 progress by building on what they had learned from last season. All showed improvement in attack and defence. All contributed to the scoreboard and all pulled off some cracking tackles throughout the year. Holly proved Rugby League is not just for boys. Apart from being an absolute pleasure to coach she showed the skill in defence and bagged 22 season tries. Jaxon was a untapped juggernaut and even though he was disallowed his 1st try for being extremely excited and NFL'ing his "touchdown" he went on to cross 7 times in damaging style. The double trouble twins, Sachin & Cyrus, learnt fast and crossed for 5 tries between them and showed much improvement in the last month of the season. Tommy was a silent assassin and when he found his feet, he opened his account with a hat-trick of tries.

By the end of the year all were playing well and it was great to see them organising themselves and playing as a team. All things needed next year when they take to the field by themselves.

We all had a great time with 11 wins, 5 losses and 2 draws. We all look forward to 2020.

Scott and Karenza Horwood

2019 SEASON



UNDER 8s

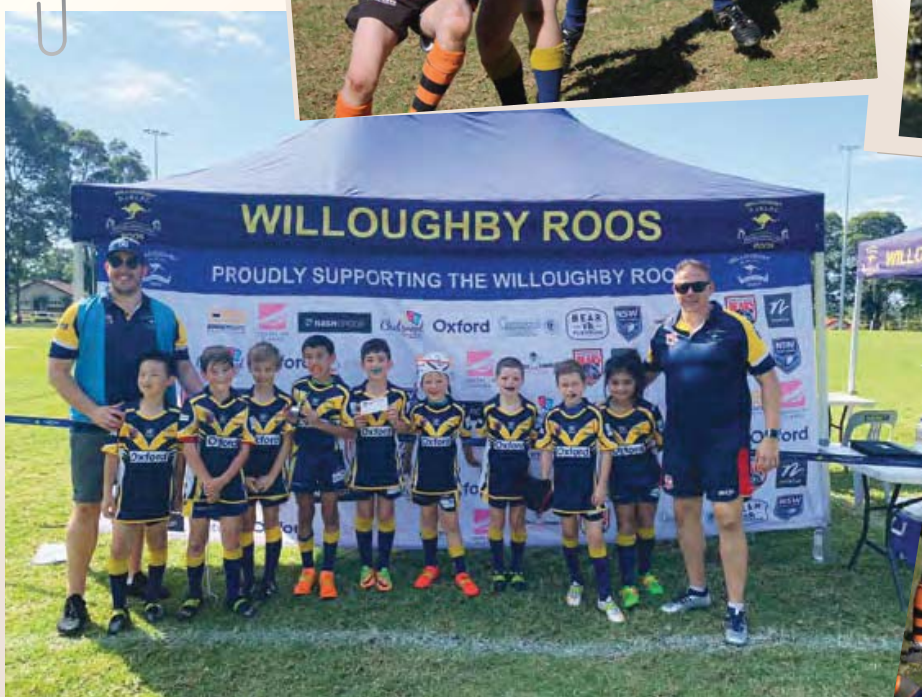
When we started planning out season 2019, we weren't sure how it was going to go. The team were playing on a bigger field, more players, the introduction of first receiver but the biggest challenge was for the coach and learning to let the team play themselves. The team took on the new rules like ducks to water, and from the first round we knew we were in for a good year.

And what a year it was! The Roos got some great newcomers this year, which just seemed to complement the core team and got through the season only losing two games, which in an amazing effort. While there were plenty of great tries scored across the park, the work the team did to develop their defense this year was exceptional. The 'Roo Wall' became an impenetrable force for most teams with the team working hard for each other to defend their line and showing true Roo Spirit.

It was a longer season for the Roos as the team went to the Tommy Bishop shield in Mid-September, an all Sydney U8s Carnival, which gives the team an opportunity to play against some tougher teams from across the city. The Roos did exceptionally well, winning two games, and narrowly missing out on a quarter finals berth by going down to the Barela Bears by a try. This was a massive effort by them, and I am so proud of the effort they put in against much bigger kids and teams, with no-one in the team taking a backward step.

It's been great coaching the Roos this year, watching their game develop as they start to hone their skills and looking forward to doing it all again in 2020. Go ROOS!

David and Jodi Zimmer



UNDER 9s

This year the U9 Roos had 20 registrations of dedicated and committed players, 12 returning from previous years and 8 new recruits. A week before the season started, we had 17 registered players - right on the cusp of too many for one team and not enough for two. However, a last-minute recruitment drive saw an additional 3 players join.

Whilst we didn't make the decision lightly, we split the squad into 2 teams – the Blue team and Yellow team. With this came its own challenges namely how to allocate the teams. On one hand honouring the existing playing group as much as possible (who had formed friendships over the previous years) and on the other hand ensuring that the new recruits were supported by experienced players to make their introduction to rugby league enjoyable and rewarding.

To do this we did the following:

Trained as a squad: We wanted to develop a camaraderie amongst the players and at training they trained as a squad, not as teams. Attendance to training was very high throughout the year and it wasn't rare to have 20 kids turn up on training night.

Fair player rotation: We established a rotation system where we did our best to fairly rotate experienced kids each week into our new side. This was probably one of the most difficult challenges of the year as you also need to navigate other external influences such as player absences and kids with dual Saturday sports with conflicting game times.

The devoted coaching staff ran great drills, activities and games aimed at developing fundamental skills. Over the course of the season we were encouraged by the improvement in the competency, skills and fitness of the kids. This was particularly impressive considering that we had such a large squad with a mix of old and new players with a varying range of skill levels.

On a final note special mention goes to the following, as without their support we would not be able to deliver a quality rugby league experience and successful season to the players in the U9 Roos Squad and their parents and carers:

- The Willoughby Roos committee
- The sponsor of the U9 Roos Squad, Nash Group
- The Junior League District (Fran and Josh) for understanding the complexities of running two teams and being as accommodating as much as possible whenever possible
- The U9 Roos Squad coaching staff who volunteered their time over the length of the season and made an enjoyable environment for the kids

Andrew Kam, Jason Taylor, Darren Shuback and Lee Giddins

2019SEASON



UNDER 10s

The Willoughby Roos ESS U10s had a very successful 2019 season with back to back Premiership wins.

With a combination of our core team from 2018 season and some new faces to Rugby League proved to be a winning formula for the Roos U10s.

Our dedicated coaching staff helped the core team improve on all levels of defence and attack and helped the new players find their natural ability within this new game.

Highlights of the 2019 season:

- Billy Bowen crowned highest try scorer in the North Sydney District with a whopping 35 tries this season.
- Fergus Burke and James Davis who both reached the Top 10 in tries scored. An excellent effort by both players.
- Hayden Joonseo, Raphael Antunes and Lewis Wootton scoring their first tries ever!
- Anthony Abdo receiving player of the match at Grand Final.
- Tolly Irvine's gracious winning speech post Grand Final.
- Special mention to Houston Horwood, Alex Trent, Thomas Chan, Max Hill, Loughlan Diver, Myles Christy, Bernat Szabo and Brayden Ford who showed great determination and Sportsmanship to not only become Premier's but also achieving Minor Premiership for the 2019 season.

A big thank you to Scott Horwood and Hayden Gregory for their on-field support and off the field, we would like to thank all the parents and the Roos Committee for their support. We can't wait to see what the 2020 season brings.

Martin Irvine and Vicky Perdikaris



UNDER 11s

The Roos U11s started and ended the 2019 season with 3 core values – Respect, Pride and Teamwork. Respect for teammates, opposition, game officials and parents. Pride in ourselves and club. Teamwork in everything we do at training and on game day.

We had 7 new players join this year, over half the team, most coming from local rugby unions teams. This brought a range of new skills and dynamics and forged new friendships across both codes. Thank you very much to all the parents and clubs for encouraging kids to play rugby league. It's just fantastic.

The competition was close with regular swapping of positions on the ladder. We consolidated throughout the season, getting stronger in attack and defence. It was a great achievement making it to the semi-finals.

Some notable highlights from our season were a touching Mother's Day celebration at training, playing under lights at a special home game event and cheering on our fellow Roos teams in the Grand Final at North Sydney Oval.

We are very grateful to have been involved with a team of such professional young athletes. Thank you to the dedicated parents and support of a wonderful club.

Hope to see you in 2020.

John and Anna Inskip



UNDER 12s

The Willoughby Roos Under 12's had a slow start to the season. Our small playing roster regularly played short of the required starting thirteen on match days, unfortunately losing players because of conflicting match times with rival codes and school commitments. Positive results were hard to find.

As the season progressed, our enthusiastic group of passionate players, parents and coaches began to attract new players, strengthening the team week-by-week. As the fun and enjoyment at training increased, so did the participation on match days. The results eventually turned around, and the team commenced a long undefeated run towards the Grand Final.

Simply unbelievable!

The Grand Final proved to be a successful day for all involved. Many players and their families described the experience as one of the truly great days in their lives. The game against the well-coached and determined Hills Hawks was played at a frenetic pace, the skill level across the park was high for all to see. Both teams played extremely well and displayed wonderful sportsmanship during the game. They boys played their hearts outs. There were many winners on the day from both teams.

Well played to one and all.

Vinny Graham, Brett Matthews and Craig Inskip



UNDER 13s Girls League Tag

What a season for the first ever all girls team to represent the Willoughby Roos.

With girls ranging in age from Year 5 to Year 8, they managed to come together (with some occasional push-back!) and form a great and cohesive team who came along in leaps and bounds throughout the season.

A testament to the girls is that they didn't have a lot of wins but they turned up to training and games pumped up and ready to learn.

The team also represented the great spirit of the Willoughby Roos club itself with many players from other teams as well as the Marty, Vicky, David & Jodi turning up to support the girls week in, week out.

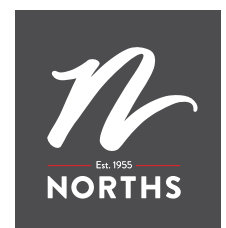
This gave the team a real sense of being a part of something bigger than themselves and it will no doubt be the thing that brings the Tagaroos back again in 2020.

Dave Spanton, Hayden Gregory and Vicky Perdikaris





THE WILLOUGHBY ROOS WISH TO THANK ALL THEIR SPONSORS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY.



GRAND FINAL DAY 2019



GRAND FINAL DAY 2019 (continued)





MEN OF LEAGUE - BY KEN VESSEY

Well once again 2019 was a highly successful year for the Northern Sydney Men of League Foundation Committee's interaction with the North Sydney District Junior Rugby Football League Executive and the Clubs. On behalf of our Committee, I would like to thank everyone for their ongoing cooperation and support shown to us, in our efforts to care for the men, women and children in the rugby league community who were facing difficult times.

In 2018 the Men of League Foundation distributed \$1 million worth of assistance and ytd 2019 \$700,000 assistance to members of the rugby league community, including persons in the North Sydney Junior League territory. Funding for this assistance is derived in many ways, including funds raised at the Men of League events in your District. It should be stated you all are our "eyes and ears" in drawing our attention to any persons' in the rugby league community that are suffering hardships through illness, injury, disability, financial, bereavement or loneliness.

Please keep this in mind and never hesitate to contact us.

During 2019 we had many individual contacts with several Junior League Clubs' plus the following events:

29 June 2019 the Berowra Wallabies Clubhouse Annual Fundraiser – once again this was highly successful in every respect; the generosity of the Club's Executives, Members and Supporters was overwhelming





MEN OF LEAGUE - BY KEN VESSEY

14 July 2019 we made our yearly "Back to the Game" trek to North Sydney Oval to watch a thrilling Canterbury Cup derby between the North Sydney Bears v Newtown Jets; once again we thank Greg Florimo and Josh Hyland for their invitation and hospitality

4 August 2019 we held another well attended and highly successful Annual Awards for the Best Volunteers nominated by all of the Clubs plus the Referees Association; once again the event was held at the Molly Dive Stand, North Sydney Oval; a total of nine trophies were presented plus Michael Asensio (Ku-ring-gai Cubs) taking out the Special Volunteers Award. Special guests included Luke Simmons, David Perry, Perry Lopez, Stephen Lowndes and Dave Trodden.



Once again many thanks to everyone who assisted in making 2019 a great year and we look forward to an even bigger year in 2020.

Ken Vessey
Wellbeing Coordinator Northern Sydney Men of League Committee





NORTH SYDNEY NRL GAME DEVELOPMENT

The 2019 season for game development was once again a success, seeing our junior league grow for the third time in a row, maintaining strong ties with our schooling network and developing new initiatives to engage new recruits and keep the ones we currently have in our game.

Both Primary and Secondary students across the North Sydney region have engaged and participated in various school sporting programs, starting off with our February NRL School Blitz assembly visits focusing on respect, wellbeing and Junior League awareness. NRL sporting school programs increased this year as well as targeted programs aimed at getting more schools to participate in NRL gala days, PSSA and other school competitions.

Along with the primary programs the NRLD team ran a total of nine gala days. Our flagship gala day being the Florimo 7's tackle Gala day, saw the first ever primary aged senior girls tackle comp ran in North Sydney. Our massive tag days in term four were a hit once again, growing two out of the three days ran across the North Shore. PSSA sport was at the forefront of our priority in 2019. This year and I believe for the first time ever, we secured League Tag in every single PSSA zone across our region. This has opened us up to thousands of new students and has given us the opportunity to provide a platform for many more to play a modified version of our game during school sport.





NORTH SYDNEY NRL GAME DEVELOPMENT

This year has seen the launch of our flagship program League Stars, which is a non-contact skill-based participation program. It provides the perfect introduction to Rugby League for Primary School aged children and focuses on nurturing each individual, empowering them to be proud of their unique strength and brings them into the Rugby League family. This program is usually conducted as an after-school program, but can be ran before school and on weekends. North Sydney was able to top the list nationally for the most participants in one program, through Normanhurst West PS having a staggering 107 students completing the six-week program. It's important to mention that only four of those participants were junior league players, which shows how this new program can be a powerful tool for club recruitment. This year we have seen six more League Stars ran across the region and we will look to increase this number term by term into next year.



In 2019 North Sydney was able to reach 100% coach compliance for the first time. Special thanks must go out to all who coached this year and to all new coaches who came on board and completed our coaching course. We would like to acknowledge all who participated in our coach development program, which aimed to upskill coaches across the junior league at training. We will look to build on the success of this year and continue to provide more opportunities and development initiatives for all coaches moving forward.

On behalf of the NRL Game Development, thank you to the teachers, schools, parents and volunteers who afford their time to organise and coach teams as well as Josh Hyland, Fran Hahlos and the North Sydney Junior Rugby League board and the Junior League itself, who continue to support and endorse NRL Game Development events within the North Sydney region. We look forward to continuing our work and growth in participation within the North Sydney Junior Rugby League in 2020.





NSWRL REPORT - BY BEN JAMES

The 2019 season has been a highly successful one for Junior Rugby League. The NSWRL and its 11 Affiliate District Junior Leagues have successfully provided and administered both contact and non-contact Rugby League competitions for over 42,000 participants this season. This figure, once again, demonstrates an overall increase in participation in comparison to previous seasons. From these participants, we have seen over 3000 teams compete within approximately 375 competitions from as young as U/5's to Open Age Football.

An exciting addition this year into the traditional Junior League Club and District structures was the introduction of the girls Monarch Blues Tag competitions; a non-contact format of the game with competitions going ahead in the Under 11, Under 13, Under 15 and Under 17 age groups. This exciting new format under the existing club structure has provided an opportunity for newcomers to become part of their local club and experience the excitement of this fast-paced format. It has also provided clubs with the opportunity to grow their member base and engage more with the wider community. With promising numbers in its first year, there is no doubt that these competitions will continue to grow in team numbers into the future.



The NSWRL Conference Competitions this year saw a total of over 400 teams participating in over 70 competitions from 10 Junior League Districts. The Conference Competitions concept provides participants with the opportunity to compete against teams in a divisional format, ensuring teams of similar ability levels can play each other on a weekly basis within their respective divisions. This weekend is the culmination of these competitions with the final two teams from each competition progressing to their respective Grand Finals. The NSWRL wishes every team good luck for a great game that is played in the true spirit.

Pivotal to all participants and teams getting on the paddock and participating in any competition this season, are the volunteer members of Junior Rugby League clubs from their affiliated Districts. Volunteers are the lifeblood of Junior Rugby League and their week to week, and season to season contributions ensure that all members of the Rugby League Community are provided a high quality Junior League experience. The work you do is one of the main reasons why this game continues to be, the greatest game of all.

Thanks for a great season and we hope to see you all in season 2020!





UNDER 13'S DEVELOPMENT SQUAD



Players:

Jack Stringer, Alexander Ward, Byron Gaddes, Gabriel Wilkinson, Hamish Seggie, Tom Gordon, Alfred Roy, Beau Brennan, Ryan Oliver, Eid Rayek, Gordon Durie, Ronan Gennusa, Thomas Kinnimont Daniel Cavric, Ethan Maltby, Hayden Barlow, Izaya Ngatai-Mauri, Jack Haynes, Marshall Le Maitre

Game 1: Bears 20 (Marshall Le Maitre 2, Ethan Maltby, Alexander Ward, Daniel Cavric tries) defeated Roosters 0

Game 2: Bears 28 (Ronan Gennusa, Jack Stringer, Gabe Wilkinson, Alexander Ward, Daniel Cavric, Eid Rayek, Hayden Barlow tries) defeated Manly 16

Game 3: Bears 32 (Gabe Wilkinson 3, Xander Ward 2, Daniel Cavric, Gordon Durie, Eid Rayek tries) defeated Dragons 0





UNDER 14'S DEVELOPMENT SQUAD



Players:

Archie McGurk, Jack O'Connor, Josh Kingston, Jake Mulcahy, Alex Young, Anthony Moutevelis, Joe Dillon, Thomas Adnum, Malakye Enasio, Cooper Christopher, Liam Collins, Leo Gibb, Piero Parisi, Zac Fiorenza, Daniel Bovis, Nicholas McMahon, Isaac Truskett-Jones, Austin George, Nick Ashdown, Aden Ekanayake, Hamish MacDonald.

Game 1: Roosters 28 defeated Bears 8 (Nicholas McMahon, Alex Young tries)

Game 2: Bears 16 (Joe Dillon, Josh Kingston, Jack O'Connor, Liam Collins tries) defeated Manly 4

Game 3: Dragons 16 defeated Bears 4 (Archie McGurk tries)





UNDER 15'S DEVELOPMENT SQUAD



Players:

Jack Andia, Aden Clarke, Bryn Edwards, Jackson Evans, Tom Fletcher, Jarson Ngatai-Mauri, James Panetta, Luke Pollard, Jack Rule, Kristian Altea, Isaac Altham, Bailey Hughes, Matthew Ludlow, Madian Malas, Finn McCarthy, Jamie Miletic Kyal Cruickshank, Joe Hutton, Harry Moxham, Alex Tziogas, Ben Herbert, Luca Keck, Will Kennedy, Isaac Ramble, Zac Syron, Harry Woog

Game 1: Roosters 40 defeated Bears 12 (Joe Hutton, Jamie Miletic, Tom Fletcher tries)

Game 2: Bears 16 (Tom Fletcher 2, Harry Moxham, Isaac Altham tries) drew with Manly 16

Game 3: Dragons 12 defeated Bears 8 (Jack Rule, Jack Andia tries)





SYDNEY NORTH UNDER-11S PSSA TEAM

Sydney North Under-11s PSSA team, made up of players from across North Sydney, Central Coast, Manly and Balmain areas.

In 2019 the team was dominated by players from the North Sydney Junior League including:

- Hunter Chan (Willoughby Roos)
- Harper Enasio (Asquith Magpies)
- Dean Gauslaa (Berowra Wallabies)
- Lachlan Paxton (Pennant Hills/Cherrybrook Stags)
- Hunter Pollock (Pennant Hills/Cherrybrook Stags)
- Noah Taylor (Asquith Magpies)

They had a successful tournament, finishing 3rd out of 12 teams.

Only one player, Josh Nati (Pennant Hills/Cherrybrook Stags) was selected for Sydney North Opens PSSA team.

Following the tournament Harper Enasio was one of 17 players picked in the NSW Representative Opens Rugby League Squad





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Home Ground: Warrina St Oval
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Home Ground: Turramurra Memorial Park
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