

BAABAA NEWS

The newsletter of The Barbarian Rugby Football Club Inc. Level 6, ASB Stand, Eden Park, Auckland, New Zealand. www.barbarianrugby.co.nz



Rotorua BHS fullback Isaac Te Aute lit up the Barbarians-sponsored Top 4 tournament in September.

PRESIDENT'S TEAM TALK

My wife Lesley and I have just returned from the UK after following the Rugby World Cup for the past six weeks.

What a brilliantly organised tournament we have witnessed. England and Wales did the event proud.

I only saw two games live, but they will both live in my memory banks forever. The first was the quarter-final vs France at Millennium Stadium. The display of the All Blacks that night was nothing short of magnificent. To see off the French by almost a 50 point margin was a wonder to behold, given the struggles we have had against the same opponent in past World Cups.

I did not attend the semifinal vs the Springboks at Twickenham. What an epic battle that was with our boys coming through in a titanic struggle 20-18.

I just had to be at the final. What an occasion. What an atmosphere. And what a game! The clash lived up to the pre-match hype. When the Wallabies staged their comeback from 3-21 down, I, for one, was pleased. Sure, it would have been nice and comforting to see the All Blacks take command from that stage. But it would have done the tournament, the game and the crowd a disservice. The drama that ensued and the steely resolve by the All Blacks, led by the wonderful Richie McCaw and the brilliant Dan Carter, to recapture control and go on and complete a thoroughly deserved victory, was breathtaking to behold.

What can we say about this wonderful All Blacks team? They have been brilliantly led by the coaching and management team. Steve Hansen has been a revelation as head coach. His leadership, his wit, his down-to-earth Kiwi persona, have captured our hearts. Wayne Smith was always going to be a great addition, Ian Foster and Grant Fox, the master tacticians we know they are. Darren Shand and Gilbert Enoka have been superb managers with Gilbert leading the mental skills. The rest of the management team have all played their parts expertly. I had the great pleasure of travelling with the team during my Presidency of NZRU and can vouch for their diligence and expertise.

Let me also mention the contributions of a number of our esteemed members, Sir Ted, Steve Tew and Brent Impey and the NZRU board for their

valuable contributions in laying the foundations.

It was very emotional to witness the final hurrah of some of the games greats such as Richie McCaw, Dan Carter, Keven Mealamu. Tony Woodcock, Conrad Smith and Ma'a Nonu. How can we ever repay those guys for their contributions to All Blacks rugby and the memories they have left us with? So many of the other players made huge contributions to the final outcome. The performance of the team, both on and off the field, was brilliant. The public relations were superb. They covered themselves in glory and made us all extremely proud to be Kiwis.

Are they the best All Blacks team of all time?

The Originals of 1905 and the Invincibles of 1924 only lost one game between them and created the legacy, the great teams of the 1960s were unbeaten for a long time, the first Grand Slammers of 1978 made history. The first RWC winners in 1987 remained unbeaten for the next few years and the first team to win a series in South Africa in 1996 were fine teams and created history as well.

The All Blacks of the last decade since 2005, other than one glitch in 2007, have won Grand Slams in 2005 and 2008, retained the Bledisloe Cup throughout the period, won many Rugby Championships, and have now won two Rugby World Cups back-to-back. It would be a brave man who suggested that they were not.

I can hardly believe that my term as President of our great club is about to come to an end. I would like to thank you sincerely for the honour and privilege you bestowed upon me.

Signing out for the last time, cheers.

Bryan Williams
President
Barbarians RFC



WHAT'S ON IN 2015-2016


Tuesday November 24
Auckland RFU Junior Rugby
Foundation night, 5.30pm



Wednesday November 25
Club AGM, 6pm




Friday December 4
Club Christmas night, 6pm



February 6 and 7th
2016 NRL Nines



Friday February 26
2016 Super Rugby opener:
Blues v Highlanders, 7.35pm



All events are at Eden Park unless otherwise specified.
 *Keep an eye on the website and your email for confirmation of 2015 and 2016 functions/events.

NOTICE OF AGM



Notice is hereby given of the 79th Annual General meeting of the NZ Barbarians' RFC
To be held in the clubrooms. Floor 6, ASB Stand, Walters Road, Eden Park on Wednesday November 25, 2015 at 6.00pm

- Draft agenda as of November 6, 2015:**
1. Apologies
 2. Confirmation of minutes of the 78th AGM held on Tuesday November 25, 2014 (as circulated at the meeting).
 3. Obituaries
 4. New members
 5. President's report
 6. Club captain's report
 7. Treasurer's report and adoption of annual accounts
 8. Election of officers
 9. Life membership nominations: the nomination of Phil Lindesay gained the unanimous support at a committee meeting held on August 12 and now seeks the support of members at the Annual General Meeting.
 10. General business
 - * Subscriptions for 2016
 - * Review of proposed constitution
 - * Other



MEMBER PROFILE
RAY REARDON



Ray Reardon has proven, over many years, his passion and unconditional support for rugby. Even in his "late 70s", the Mt Maunganui man acts as a rallying point for Barbarians in the Bay of Plenty region and in Counties Manukau and Waikato, where he played his rep rugby in the 1960s. He has been a prominent presence at the two Bay of Plenty fun days in 2014-15, though he pays tribute to the sterling work of Ron Williams and his team.

Reardon is also a member of the Waikato-based Harlequins and was previously a Centurions member when he was living in Wellington.

"I'm a staunch advocate of the role the Barbarians and those clubs play in the community. I do whatever I can to assist in the development of the game at large. Our game is much bigger than simply bursting with pride at what the All Blacks have achieved," said Reardon.

"I don't get up to the clubrooms as regularly as I'd like, but I was there for the Barbarians-Maori game (in July)."

In his successful playing days, he was a hooker or prop and appeared for, at first, the Manurewa club, and Counties. He became great mates with Pat Walsh, and spoke at the late, great Barbarian's funeral in 2007. He also won selection in the Maori All Blacks.

Transferring to Hamilton in 1964, Reardon played for Waikato, alongside former Barbarians secretary John Cresswell, and then found himself in the capital in 1967.

"By then my boots had worn out and I got into coaching."

He took the Hutt Old Boys seniors for several seasons before trying his hand at administration with the Wellington union. Back to Auckland, he did his time with the Counties union before retiring to Mt Maunganui with wife June some 15 years ago.

Reardon worked for the Hurricane Wire and Pel Electric companies.

He still gets along to Bay Park Stadium at the Mount to follow the fortunes of the Bay of Plenty Steamers in the ITM Cup.

"I follow rugby closely. I try and support the local union. One of my sons – Russell – managed the Steamers under Kevin Schuler."

Ray Reardon, man of rugby.

TOP 4 TOURNAMENT REVIEW

As ever, Rotorua BHS was the venue for another cracking national Top 4 First XV tournament in both the co-ed and boys' divisions for the Barbarians Cup and Barbarians Shield from September 4-6.

There was a good number of Barbarians from near and far on hand to lend support and see some of tomorrow's stars today, as the SKY slogan goes.

And while a cloud hung over the Rotorua BHS victory, following eligibility questions relating to its Super 8 competition, there was no evidence of impropriety at the Top 4 weekend itself. Certainly on the field, Rotorua deserved its triumph and produced a marvellous final with Scots College of Wellington, the co-defending champion.

Following the tournament, 53 players were named to attend a New Zealand schools camp, from which 25 were chosen for the NZ Barbarians Schools squad.

For a full report of the weekend, click here:
<http://www.barbarianrugby.co.nz/secondaryschools.html>



Rotorua BHS won an epic Top 4 schools final over Scots College.

NZ BARBARIANS SCHOOLS REVIEW



On September 19 in Palmerston North, the NZ Barbarians Schools had an historic first encounter with NZ Schools and, in what proved to be a dramatic climax to the clash, lost 18-20 in the final minute, thus incurring their first loss in four seasons since inception in 2012.

In a very physical affair, it was only a late, contentious, try to No 10 Josh McKay that gave NZ Schools the win over their supposedly second tier counterparts at Palmerston North BHS.

A try to NZ Schools wing TJ Vaega gave his side a 5-3 lead at halftime, but the Barbarians made them work even harder in the second stanza with two tries to hooker Samisoni Taukei'aho and wing Freedom Vaha'akolo.

Several of the Barbarians players were called into the NZ Schools due to injury, either for this match or the subsequent three-match tour of Australia.

Three front-rowers returned from the 2014 NZ Barbarians Schools: props Antonio Ripata and Sione Asi and hooker Samisoni Taukei'aho.

For a full report of the match, click here:

<http://www.barbarianrugby.co.nz/national.html>

NZ BARBARIANS AREA SCHOOLS REVIEW

The New Zealand Barbarians Area Schools, in their third year under the Barbarians' club banner, gave a resolute display before falling 43-7 to a slick Waikato Harlequins Under 18s in their annual fixture on August 29.

Played at Fred Jones Park, home of the Hamilton Old Boys club, right next to Waikato Stadium, the Area Schools started strongly with some solid carries and go-forward.

The team showed spirit in attempting to break down the Harlequins' defence but the latter were again a slick operation, capitalising on Barbarians mistakes and taking the lead after 15 minutes. The score was 17-0 at the halftime break.

The second half saw the Harlequins step up another notch, but the Area Schools tried to hold firm. Midway through the second half, centre Roera Hartley, determined with ball in hand and with strong leg drive, carried the ball over the tryline for the first and only try for the Area Schools, converted by second five Jayden Tegg.

The squad had a hitout two days beforehand against a strong Hamilton Boys' High School XV after Thames Valley Under 18s were a late withdrawal from a planned practice match. The clash was an invaluable exercise and the boys were exposed to some high quality schools footy.

Barbarians President Bryan 'Beegee' Williams presented the team with their scarlet Barbarians jerseys prior to the big game on Saturday.

Captain of the 2015 NZ Barbarians Area Schools was Fabyan Kahaki from East Coast's Ngata Memorial College, and vice-captain was Manaia Nyman, also of the East Coast, from Te Whanau Apanui.

For a full report of the Area Schools programme and the squad list, click here:

<http://www.barbarianrugby.co.nz/national.html>



The NZ Barbarians Area Schools put up a competitive showing against a slick Harlequins outfit in late August.

NEW MEMBERS



The club has welcomed 25 new members in 2015, all of them top rugby people who have served the game at many levels as either player, coach or administrator. Twenty-two were noted in our August newsletter, but three were confirmed after we went to print. These gentlemen are:

Bevin Allen: a staunch rugby man from west Auckland; played club rugby for Waitemata and rep for Auckland B; coached Waitemata and Massey, winning the Auckland division two and three titles with the latter; his family helped build the Waitemata clubrooms

DJ Forbes: one of New Zealand's greats 7s exponents, captaining the national team from 2007-15, winning World Cups, World Series and Commonwealth Games titles; also played for Counties Manukau and Auckland at 15s provincial level

Ron Palenski: one of New Zealand's most prolific and knowledgeable rugby historians/authors with some 38 books to his name, some on our war history; chairman of Otago RFU 2003-09; club was venue for launch of his latest book *Rugby: A New Zealand History*



New Barbarian and former Manu Samoa loose forward Craig Glendinning acknowledges his entry to the club.

EMAIL ADDRESSES



The club uses email and the website for much of its communication and dissemination of information these days.

Some of you may not have an email address, but can you please let us know a possible email address for a family member or friend that could expedite our communications to you. This would also help reduce the cost of postage. Please contact secretary Ken Baguley if you wish to take this route. You will then be able to keep up with the club activities on a far more regular basis.

VISITORS TO THE CLUB

Eden Park security will only allow members and/or visitors into the ASB Stand and our clubrooms by showing your membership/visitor cards. If you need more than one visitor card to bring friends or family to the club, especially on 'game days', please contact Dean Paddy or Ken Baguley to obtain additional 'visitor' cards. Please ensure any additional 'visitor' cards are returned before leaving the club at the end of the function/event.

BAABAAS BRIEFS

**The subs notices were sent out many months ago. Please pay your subs, if applicable, at your earliest convenience, as this is a requirement of membership.*

**The club has a stack of fetching apparel in stock and this is available to members and non-members alike. Check the website for further information and prices, et cetera.*

**Congratulations go to several Barbarians who have excelled, on and off the field, and claimed honours in recent times.*

Well done to the All Blacks for their Rugby World Cup success, and in particular to Barbarians Richie McCaw, Kieran Read and Keven Mealamu amongst the players and Steve Hansen, Ian Foster, Grant Fox and Wayne Smith from the management team.

Peter Rowe of Wanganui continues to do the business for Wanganui, hoisting his century of games for the union and again leading it to Meads Cup glory, his fourth such success as a tireless flanker. He again captained the Heartland XV on its internal tour.

At the Auckland Rugby awards, Brian Wilsher, a top administrator, now on the Blues board, with strong ties to the Pakuranga club and a Barbarians member, won the Ash Edwards Memorial Trophy for his dedication to the game.

CLUB CONTACT

Your first port of call is our new club secretary Ken Baguley, who is often based at Eden Park in the clubrooms' office.

Ken Baguley's details are:

Club office number: 09-846-7241

Cellphone number: 027-246-0615

Email addresses: sec@brfc.co.nz or khb@ryh.co.nz

Home number: 09-520-1638



New Barbarian Monalisa Urquhart (née Codling), one of the finest Black Ferns locks.



Both the NZ Barbarians and the Maori All Blacks enjoyed the relaxed after-match function in the clubrooms in July.