



Newsletter: November, 2009

Where Has It Gone?

This Saturday, in the GQ open division, we face the Cougars in the first of the semi-finals at Daisy Hill in the 4pm game. The winner goes on to the Sun Bowl, a fortnight later, 28 November, again at Daisy Hill. The second semi is between the Bears and the Ravens. Congratulations to the Ravens, making their first appearance in the senior Sun Bowl play-offs. Their juniors have been a dominant force in past years and the club's strength is noted again with both its junior teams into the top four.

Talking of first appearances, the Sunshine Coast junior Spartans are a real first, first time in the competition and gaining a place in the junior semi-finals. The fourth junior team comes out of Bear country.

And, really, it didn't seem that long ago that we were getting ready to play Week One.

Sun Bowls in a Row

The opportunity for a fourth Sun Bowl on the trot for our seniors is an exciting thought but for our junior ranks, the dream of five [5] Sun Bowl championships in a row came to an abrupt halt with the loss of competition points related to registrations, and rightfully so. This must be disappointment to

those who played their heart out, those who didn't infringe rules, and those who showed in their last game

of the season that they were capable of achieving that dream.

Play-off Hosting

Congratulations to the Wildcats for hosting all games in the play-offs. The recent rain will have grassed the field and facilities for the spectator are quite good. Their club has experienced this responsibility before and I am sure they will again provide the gridiron community with a well-organized event.

"Jim Minogue Challenge"

What's happened to date? It was hoped this game, Stingrays Vs Bondi Raiders of Sydney fame, would conclude our season but there appears little chance of such happening this year at least. The Challenge is a great way to remember Jim who committed to both clubs during his years as a player and later on as coach of the Stingrays.

The committee is still in touch and planning should permit this proposed annual game to go ahead in 2010, either as a pre- or a post-season game. More detail when known.

Club Finances

2009 has been a hard year for finances with the payment of most past debts, substantial in some cases, while added to the regrettable situation where some players haven't pay fees.

"Stingray Pride" as boasted at game time appears hypercritical when fees are not addressed. This is the club's

major income source in covering registration/ insurance which all played under, honoured by payment by the club, even for those not financial. Players concerned are asked to address this matter immediately.

Lost Income?

The income from the Gridiron Australian Nationals will not be available to us in 2010 or in the immediate years following, for other bodies within our national scene have "discovered" those rewards of administering the events. This will have an effect upon our income next year so again, it is important that player payments are paid.

Awards' Night

At time of writing, there are no details as to the date/venue set in concrete for this important season-concluding event. The committee is aware of all of the advantages of holding it at the season's close, especially as to ease of contact with players but things aren't as simple as that. With the Sun Bowl scheduled for 28 November, it hasn't left much time or space.

Another factor for consideration is the cost when balanced against possible losses as experienced in the past. To that end, the format is changed from a plated-dinner to Finger Food with cost/ venue and date to be advised to players and supporters hopefully on Saturday. Details will be posted on the website when confirmed.

Stingray Pride....where are YOU?

Let's Catch It!

Geoff Hay, President