



Newsletter: 29 June, 2009

Gold Coast Stingrays Now into Pre-season, 2009:

Football is played on a field by teams, as someone described, in "mortal combat". Possibly a little bit rich but I'm sure you understand the message.

However, **clubs** are **not** made on the field. They are the product of off-field structures with all the dreams and goals of not players but administrators, committee members or presidents and just as teams will experience the highs and the lows of the game, clubs also taste success or failure in their sphere.

Those thoughts lead me to the Junior Program. A success story for our club in recent seasons has been the expansion of its junior program to fielding two teams in the GQ competition. I won't expand on the championships gained, the hard yards of the coaches, or honours won at the individual level of past years. I wish, at this time, to face quite squarely, the 2009 scene.

At present, numbers really don't add up to fielding two teams and be competitive for the full season by both teams. I'll condition that statement with the words, "at this time". Most would agree that for a team to participate in nine-man football, it demands a player roster of say, eighteen at the least, to cover the odd injury,

the sometimes unavailability because of work commitment, etc, so in fielding two teams then we'd wish to register say, forty players. We should also be aware that once player registration takes place, a player can not, for various reasons, and rightfully so, flit across from one team to the other. Gridiron Queensland policy is quite clear on this point.

The "crunch" often spoken of, is here, very near, even immediate. Can we run two teams for the 2009 season?

Training attendances list thirty-two names. Please note that no venture is made into payment territory which would add another dimension. Is thirty-two the registration list to enable us to field two teams?

Perhaps yes but, I am certain, one team would more than likely suffer a fate best described by words such as forfeit or disaster.

So what can I [that is, all of us in the club] do to help? The answer: Where you, as a club member but particularly as a junior player, know someone who may play, bring him along to training.

Please remember, we play or support this club and the game. We enjoy the game, some having it as their first sporting preference. We are not second-rate because gridiron wears ***all*** that padding. Are you willing to share your game with a friend?

Our junior program needs your support! We need your friend NOW.

The ISS Games:



On Monday, 22 June, two games were slotted into the Down Under Bowl for the Stingrays. Although this was our first club hit-out, we produced a great showing on the field as well as promoting our club strength with good sideline numbers. It most assuredly provided an exciting introduction to our 2009 season. To the seniors, a hard-fought victory and even though they lost, the juniors showed that they will again be a force in GQ. Congratulations to both players and coaches for their efforts in such water-logged conditions. The club and ISS appreciate these efforts. Results and coaches' comments may be viewed on the appropriate web page.

Player Fees:

Space was given to this matter in the previous newsletter so this time I'm only including the on-line banking details:

Bank: Queensland Teachers Credit Union

Account Name: Gold Coast Stingrays Gridiron Club

BSB: 804002

A/c Number: 1209109

The Club's Latest Sponsor:



We welcome Genesis Blinds and Screens to our sponsorship ranks. This company has operated on the Coast for only a short time but the Stingrays recommend that when you are in need of blinds or screens contact Chris at [M] 0412755935.

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