



Welcome to Gold Coast Stingrays 2009 Season.

A warm welcome is extended to those returning for a new season and a special welcome to those who are Stingrays for the first time. This year the club will commit to fielding both junior teams again along with the one senior with Home Games at Glennon Park, Nerang. Gridiron Queensland has advised of a later start to the season. Naturally that will affect the date for the Sun Bowl. Draw TBA.

As at last GQ meeting, teams within the juniors remain as per 2008. In the senior ranks, two new teams have been given a tick to submit membership applications [Toowoomba and the Bruins at Browns Plains] with Sunshine Coast having until this month to clarify their position.

In our pre-season, two games are "planned" in June, as part of the Down Under Bowl, against the visiting US High School graduates. GQ has also planned a June match against Arizona on the Sunshine Coast. Information re both events can be checked on respective web-sites.

Coaching Staff are also putting the final touches to the club's pre-season camp. There are some changes to the last year's program with only the Saturday night live-in and with Runaway Bay Sports Super Centre as the venue. More details will follow.

Club Policy re Fees: Player Fees have been set for 2009: seniors @ \$400.00 with equipment concessions to apply; juniors @ \$200.00.

Up-front payment is preferred and on-line banking facilities are available to those who wish to use. Details re this procedure:

**Bank: Queensland Teachers
Credit Union**

**Account Name: Gold Coast
Stingrays Gridiron Club**

BSB: 804002

A/c Number: 1209109

Where you are unable to make the full payment up-front, you have a responsibility to contact David Kirby [Treasurer] or your coach to formulate an acceptable payment schedule. Note that full payment of fees is essential before you are allowed to take the field. This policy will be enforced.

What do I get for my fees?

Along with other entitlements, the major items are:

- Under Armour apparel within the player package
- Club shirt within the player package
- GQ and Club membership
- GA insurance for 2009

Payment Schedule

The following payment schedule will apply where fees are **not** being paid up-front or you have

not arranged a regular payment program as referred above.

Senior Player fee listed [Junior player figure in the brackets]:

- 28May, \$150 [\$100 junior]
- 30June, \$100 plus \$50 equipment rental where applicable to seniors [\$50 junior]
- 30July, \$50 [\$50 junior]

There is purpose in the schedule. For example, membership of GQ and GA insurance pertains to May figure while the final payment is your Player Package.

Club Sponsorships:



The club is seeking sponsorships. If you can introduce your club to a potential sponsor, big or small, please contact me personally or phone on 55733991. The club will then arrange a presentation to those concerned. You can generally catch me at training.

The club has gained a \$1000 sponsorship from Melba's [in vouchers] with a "financial return for customer support" at a local Hotel in the pipeline. The committee has yet to finalise this second proposal.

Junior Nationals:

These championships will be held from 30May-07June at Runaway Bay Sports Super Centre. Event coordinator on behalf of Gridiron Australia is Luke Chapman. You

are asked to support this fund-raising event for the club through volunteer roles. This event could return a considerable income to the club but your support is needed.

Chiefly, assistance is directed to the provision of Chain Crews/ Ball Boys. Fee subsidy is paid at \$25 per game.

Sun Devil Selection

Congratulations to Shannon and Daniel Arnold on their selection in the Queensland Sun Devils who are worthy and current holders of the national trophy of the Junior Nationals. The game schedule for this event is Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday with finals on Saturday, 06June. Support our worthy representatives by watching them play.

Bunnings at Harbour Town:

This Sausage Sizzle is a fund-raiser for the club and posted as Sunday, 17May. A Volunteer Roster re staffing of this event will be discussed at training. Were it not for these fund-raisers, junior fees especially could not be kept at \$200.00.

Entertainment Books:

Last year the club raised over \$500 in this venture. The books are "Buy One/ Get One Free" style promotional from Fast Food Take-aways, Ice-cream outlets to Restaurants, etc. Those who have participated in this fund-raiser have found it quite beneficial and money-saving. More information can be obtained from Ben

Walker. Cost stands @ \$50.00 per book. Return to the club is \$10.00.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Note for 2009 from GQ:

- Visor approved but must be *clear*
- Gloves recommended as *grey*
- *GA unified* game rules possible this year
- *Cut-blocking* in 2010
- *13June, Tri-Series* versus Arizona, Sunshine Coast

Training

Congratulations to those who are attending training. Some may not realize this but it's an important time for '09 Stingray Roster.

New players and/ or experienced players interested in joining us, often come down to training to just have a look, check us out, and then decide if they like what they see! If you only saw a few players, I'm certain you'd not be impressed. No amount of talk from me or the coaches will convince them that this is the club to be at. For example, last week three people "visited" the club, all with vast experience, a couple with past US college experience even to involvement with Arena Ball or Europe NFL team. As I said, thank you to those who were present at our training but no, perhaps I can't or shouldn't take that point

further. Those who haven't joined the squad to date, please adjust your social calendar. You're important to the club.

"Stingray Pride" is basically two words, two words that anyone, even my grandson, can mouth or shout at any time desired. Real Stingray Pride is something else. We have a great club, some of you have made it that way, one which has a proud record not just on the playing-field but also for its administrative structures and organization, developed over the years by very dedicated people.

2009 is NOW in your hands.

Geoff Hay

President, 13May, 2009

