



**Newsletter: September, 2009**

***No Longer Pre-season!***

**Three Weeks Gone.** The Stingrays opened their EmpireXchange GQ season with strong wins in all games, both junior and senior ranks and the additional game on the 22August extended the club's program to four [4] home games for the season. This Saturday, sees our second Home Round with two junior games, 12 noon and 2 pm, and only the one senior game at 4 pm, again at Runaway Bay Sports Super Centre.

To those who follow the Stingrays, details re opposition, venues and times for the season, are on our club web-site or go to Gridiron Queensland's. Check out the game action!

**Assistance sought.** Home Games, although of promotional value to the sport and the club involved, place strain upon our too often limited resources in the minor codes such as gridiron. Unable to boast any significant membership base beyond our player-ranks, limits what can be achieve as to the major sports, so an **S.O.S**, with a call being placed to any old Stingrays out there, the **S.O.B.S**, or **Stingray Old BoyS**. The club seeks your assistance, either or both, as a volunteer or spectator.....become a Stingray again.

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**Home games at a top venue.** The envy of most other clubs in GQ, we are fortunate in Premier Cleaning & Maintenance joining with Runaway Bay Sports Super Centre in sponsoring our home games at this top-class facility at RBSSC, Sports Drive and Morala Ave. The all-weather playing-field surface, change rooms and canteen with the PA take home games here that step forward, even if we are stretched tight in human resources. Our appreciation is extended to both companies for the generous financial support.

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**Sponsors Attend Training.** No, they will not be running laps around Glennon Park, doing fifty push-ups or timed in sprint trials but offered an opportunity to observe the club away from its game day. The club is pleased to offer such an evening where all can gather socially plus observe the club in training, on Thursday, 10September to its sponsors. It's also an avenue for the potential sponsor to evaluate the decision before making that commitment.

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**Player Numbers** have grown more than the committee expected this year with its no pay, no play policy being enforced. From the anticipated twenty something seniors, we have grown to near forty. In the junior ranks, they have over thirty players on the roster even though we have come back to fielding only the one team [and what a team].

That's good in one way so this is not in the complaint file, BUT it

created hurdles in the direction of game uniforms.

Our thanks are extended to Gridiron Queensland for its understanding of the club's problem, in permitting some leniency in its uniform rule, for the time-being.

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**Is gridiron growing in our state?** GQ has circulated membership clubs advising of the increase in player numbers in all divisions for this year. A new team, the Bruins from Browns Plains, along with Sunshine Coast and Toowoomba re-entering the competition, all support signs of growth.

One point I would like to add and it is in the form of a compliment to the Toowoomba Wolves who organized the games involving us in Week Two. A new team and that may have been helpful BUT it was encouraging to note the crowd numbers in attendance. It was the result, no doubt, of some hard yards OFF the field. Great work, Toowoomba!



Photo Courtesy of Mark Madison  
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*Stingray Fever....*

*Let's Catch It!*

Geoff Hay, President