



AUGUST 2019

BAABAA NEWS

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



The Barbarians were out in force again at the annual Fun Day.

PRESIDENT'S TEAM TALK

It's going to be a hectic few weeks coming up in rugby and for the Barbarians club in general.

But we are looking forward to all the events and matches and, of course, to seeing our clubrooms full as members and their guests enjoy the good fellowship. We urge all members in the wider Auckland region and those who may travel from further afield to make the effort to get along, share a beer and laugh and catch up with old rugby mates you might not have seen in ages.

Plenty has happened since the last newsletter in May. We had a tremendous annual Fun Day at Bruce Pulman Park on May 12. Many thanks to Ron Williams, Craig Glendinning, Roger Moore, Mike Speight and their team, including MC Graeme Halse, and Karl Pokino of Auckland Rugby. It's always a great experience for the participating teams, but also for all those Barbarians who came along and helped out.

Our extended thanks go again to Peter Thompson, and his lovely wife Fiona, for their continued support, via Barfoot and Thompson, of the Fun Day. Much appreciated.

We had a great day on July 20 for the club finals at Eden Park. Dennis Mullins and I were behind the bar as Ponies went back to back for the Gallaher Shield. We were absolutely flat-out, which is how it should be. Thanks to Ivan Tasi's wife Audrey for the help with the cleaning after that.

This Friday (August 9) is the Battle of the Bridge, which kicks off Auckland's defence of the Mitre 10 Cup. This clash should give a good indication of how Auckland might fare in 2019 and will provide plenty of passionate inter-provincial rivalry. Then on August 17 we have the Bledisloe Cup test, preceded by the Black Ferns and Wallaroos. So get along early (5pm) for that double-header.

Next month is the biggest of the year for the Barbarian rugby

operations, as it were. There is the Top 4 tournament in Palmerston North, always showcasing quality First XV rugby. Then the NZ Barbarians Area Schools are in action, and at the end of the month we see the NZ Barbarians Schools team run out in three games. We love watching this rugby and love our association with these two teams and the iconic Top 4 tournament. It really does encapsulate what we are all about as a club.

See you all in the clubrooms over the next few weeks as we count down to Rugby World Cup. It's a busy time for rugby and we are right amongst it boots 'n all!

Alan Whetton

President

NZ Barbarian Rugby Club



Deaths Of Members

Dr Matt Marshall (1927-2018)

Dr Matt Marshall actually died over a year ago, but his passing has only just been brought to the attention of the Barbarians club.

A long-time Barbarian, the Scotland-born Marshall was a legend in Northland sporting, let alone rugby, circles. Apart from being the North Auckland team doctor for some 34 years, he was also the New Zealand team doctor at several Olympics and Commonwealth Games, and was also a life member of Sports Medicine NZ. In 2012 he was inducted as the 23rd Legend of Northland Sport. If that is not enough, Marshall was also an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

Hiwi Tauroa (1927-2018)

Hiwi Tauroa died at the end of last year, but his passing was omitted in our previous obits.

He will always hold a special place in Counties rugby folklore, coaching the Steelers to the 1979 NPC title.

His first-class playing career for NZ Maori, NZ Universities, Manawatu, Taranaki and Auckland B as a fullback yielded 26 games from 1950-55. A schoolteacher by profession, he went on to be Race Relations Conciliator from 1979-86.

Frank Rogers (1924-2019)

Frank Rogers, who died in January, was not, as thought by many, the brother of the late 1974-75 Barbarians President Allen Rogers.

But he did play for the same Grammar side, captaining the club to the 1951 and '53 Gallaher Shield titles as a rugged loose forward, and was a great mate of the late Alan McEvoy, after whom the shield for first round Auckland premier club supremacy is named.

Rogers' first-class career was restricted, due to some stiff competition, to seven first-class games, four for Auckland B and three for the Barbarians. In later years, he was a solid supporter of Grammar, including its latest reincarnations, and enjoyed the conviviality around Barbarians bowls days.

Micky Steele-Bodger (1925-2019)

The one and only Micky Steele-Bodger, CBE, was the long-time President of the UK Barbarians.

A Cambridge University man, he was also a rugby man to his cotton socks, a fact many NZ Barbarians, including Sir Bryan Williams

and Rob Fisher, can attest. It was not just the fact he was a loose forward for England, the Barbarians and Harlequins. He loved a drink and had phenomenal stamina, but was a central figure in the prominence given to UK Barbarians fixtures, not just in Britain but around the world.

Steele-Bodger was also very helpful in the signing of the trademark licence agreement between the two Barbarians clubs in 2016.

Percy Erceg (1928-2019)

Percy Erceg was another great rugby man of the north who played nine games, including four tests, for the All Blacks in 1951-52 as a wing.

He also appeared for NZ Maori, North Auckland and Auckland in a 78-game career, winning the 1951 Tom French Memorial Cup as the outstanding Maori player of that season. Erceg went on to be a selector, manager and coach of the NZ Maori team, and was a life member of the NZ Maori Rugby Board.

Jim Maniapoto (1942-2019)

'Jim' Maniapoto was one of three brothers – the others being Huri and Manu – who played first-class rugby in the Bay of Plenty.

Jim was the third centurion out of the union – his brother Manu was the first – racking up 105 games, for 13 tries, as a lock. But he also played for NZ Maori, Auckland, Thames Valley and NZ Colts in a long career that stretched from 1962-75.

Bay of Plenty Rugby Union chief executive and Barbarian Mike Rogers had this to say about Maniapoto: "He was a great man with great mana. He will be missed. His whanau name is synonymous with Bay of Plenty and Maori rugby."

Sir Brian Lochore (1940-2019)

Sir Brian 'BJ' Lochore was one of the great men of New Zealand rugby as All Blacks No 8, coach, selector, campaign manager and mentor.

Lochore was All Black No 637, playing 25 tests (among 68 games) from 1963-71 out of Wairarapa. In the 1980s he helped Wairarapa-Bush walk proudly with the giants in the NPC first division and then coached the All Blacks from 1985-87, recording famous wins with the 1986 'Baby Blacks' and guiding the 1987 side to RWC glory. He was campaign manager for the 1995 All Blacks to the RWC in South Africa and from 2004-07 he was an All Blacks selector. A man of mana, Lochore's wisdom was always highly valued in rugby circles.



Three Barbarian knights, plus Earle Kirton, at Fred Allen's wake in 2012: from left: Sir Brian Lochore, Kirton, Sir Colin Meads and Sir Wilson Whineray.

NZ BARBARIANS WOMEN



Second five Lucy Anderson of Canterbury was strong on the carry for the first NZ Barbarians Women's team.

Our historic first Barbarians women's side took to the field in late May in a match against the Black Ferns at Pakuranga's Bell Park.

Though defeated, it was by all accounts a competitive outing and we would love to see more of the girls in the iconic scarlet jerseys, especially as the growth in the women's game is phenomenal.



Six Barbarians and former Black Ferns at the capping ceremony in May. From left: Linda Itunu, Monalisa Urquhart, Fiao'o Faamausili, Farah Palmer, Davida White and Hannah Porter.

NZ BARBARIANS AREA SCHOOLS



The NZ Barbarians Area Schools are back in action, for the seventh time in our colours, next month.

Team manager and Barbarians member Mike Smith reports that eight are returning from the class of 2018, which was very competitive in its fixture with Manawatu Under 16s. The captain will be flanker Connor Guest of Northland, out of Tauraroa Area School.

If you are in the Manawatu region on September 14, get along to the Sport and Rugby Institute in Palmie, as this is an important and unheralded national schools team.

Justin Marsh and Hone Manuel will again coach the side,

which was chosen after last month's national area schools tournament in Rotorua.

For the full squad, pick up the September issue of Rugby News magazine.

As we all know, it's a big September, with the Top 4 tourney, again held in Palmerston North, from September 6-8. The boys, girls and co-ed competitions will play out from the semifinals on the Friday to the final on the Sunday. Who can forget the remarkable second spell by St Peter's College to surge to the boys' Top 4 crown?

The NZ Barbarians Schools are back in action in late September, with three games on the slate, against the NZ Schools and Maori Under 18s (in the Game of Three Halves), Australian Schools and Fijian Schools.

Barbarian, Tongan international and current Sacred Heart College First XV coach Gus Leger will coach the NZ Barbarians Schools, assisted by Mark Hooper of Kelston BHS.



Alex Bing and Ivan Tasi at the Fun Day.



The kids from Pt England School, organised by Bruce Gemmell, enjoyed their food, drink and footy.



Technique in contact looks good at the Fun Day.

BAABAAS BRIEFS

*The newsletter editor is now the editor of iconic monthly magazine *Rugby News*.

There's plenty of provincial, grassroots, women's and sevens coverage in there. The July issue featured a double page spread of the 2019 Fun Day.

Rugby News is available at all good magazine retailers or you can subscribe by calling 0800-77-77-10 or visit www.rugbynews.co.nz

*The 2019 subs notices were sent out long ago. Please pay your subs, if applicable, at your earliest convenience, as this is a requirement of membership.

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 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.

CLUB CONTACT



Your first port of call is our 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

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WHAT'S ON IN 2019



Friday August 9
Auckland v North Harbour
7.35pm



Friday August 16
NZ Rugby Foundation luncheon,
12pm



SATURDAY AUGUST 17
(DOUBLE HEADER)

BLACK FERNS
v Australia, 5.05pm

ALL BLACKS®
v Australia, 7.35pm

Saturday August 24
Auckland 1A First XV final, 3.05pm



1ST XV

Saturday August 24
Auckland v Bay of Plenty,
5.05pm



Saturday August 31 • Pasifika Challenge:
NZ Heartland XV v Manu Samoa, 2.30pm
Tonga v Fiji, 4.30pm



Friday September 6
Top 4 First XV semis, Palmerston North

1ST XV TOP 4

Sunday September 8
Auckland v Canterbury
2.05pm



Sunday September 8
Top 4 First XV finals, Palmerston North

1ST XV TOP 4

Saturday September 14
NZ Barbarians Area Schools v Manawatu
Under 16s, Palmerston North, 10am



Sunday September 22
Auckland v Wellington
2.05pm



Thursday September 26
NZ Barbarians Schools v NZ Schools
and Maori U18 (Game of Three Halves),
Palmerston North



Monday September 30
NZ Barbarians Schools v Australian
Schools, venue TBC (Waikato)



Friday October 4
NZ Barbarians Schools v Fiji Schools,
venue TBC (Waikato)



Saturday October 5
Auckland v Southland
5.05pm



*Keep an eye on the website and your email for confirmation of further 2019 functions/events

*All events are at Eden Park unless otherwise specified.



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