



Centurions Rugby Football Club (Inc)
PO Box 11-101 Wellington New Zealand
www.centurionsrugby.co.nz

Newsletter March 2020

Annual General Meeting

The 81st AGM of Centurions RFC will be held on Monday 30th March in the Centurions Clubrooms, Sky Stadium.

Agenda

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Obituaries
- 4 Confirmation of the minutes of the 80th AGM.
- 5 Matters Arising
- 6 Presidents Report
- 7 Adoption of Financial Report
- 8 Election of Officers
- 9 Appointment of accountancy firm to review financial accounts.
- 10 Confirmation of New Members
- 11 General Business

If you are unable to attend, apologies may be sent to the Secretary,
gr_brooking@xtra.co.nz

Presidents Message



Welcome to another exciting season of rugby.

It appears that it will be a very uncertain season, with the Tokyo Olympics in doubt meaning that the Men's and Women's Sevens teams may not be playing.

As well some of the Super 15 games may have to be deferred or cancelled due to the Covid virus. Hopefully this may mean that Club Rugby will receive a bit more attention from the media this season.

The Hurricanes have made a successful start to the 2020 season, with two wins from their first three games, despite missing a couple of their big name All Blacks.

The schedule of the home games for the Hurricanes is attached at the end of this Newsletter, and we welcome all our members to the Clubrooms when they attend these Hurricanes games.

The Centurion rugby 2020 rugby programme is at present being worked on and we hope to have these finalised with coaches and managers appointed in the next couple of months.

Centurions have again supported the Gareth Head Clinic for 13 year olds, both boys and girls, from all Wellington Rugby Clubs. This programme has been running now for 18 years and is held in February/March and is expertly run by Ken Laban,

Norm Hewitt and their large group of volunteers, and greatly enjoyed by the over 200 boys and girls attending.



In conjunction with the WRFU, Centurions have been having discussions as to how the Development Team can be strengthened.

In the previous few seasons, Centurions have entered a team in the Festival Cup competition, along with the Wellington Maori and Wellington Samoan.

We play teams such as Horowhenua-Kapiti, Wairarapa Bush, and Hawkes Bay B.(Saracens.) However it has become increasingly difficult for Centurions, and to a lesser extent the Maori and Samoan teams, to put a competitive team on the field. Last season we needed to select players from the Premier Reserve Grade to fill the team. However we have always performed very well, even winning the Cup a couple of years ago.

This season, the WRFU have proposed that we adopt a similar plan that our kindred Club the Saracens implemented in the Hawkes Bay.

Although the final terms have not been signed and sealed, the basic plan is for the team to be called Wellington Centurions Development team. Selection will be led by the Hurricanes Head Coach, but Centurions will have input into coaching and management. Discussions are still being held re playing gear. Hopefully it will be in Centurion jerseys, but if not it will be a WRFU jersey with the Centurion logo and possibly Centurion socks. It will mean this team will have all the resources of a professional team, i.e. coaches, managers, physios, video analysts etc.

Expenses will be shared 50/50. Scheduled games are almost secured and involve the team playing:

Wairarapa-Bush, Wanganui, Wellington Samoan, Saracens,(home and away)

Wellington Maori, Tasman B and Auckland B

We feel that this is a win/win situation with players having expert coaching and management and Centurions getting a higher profile.

Happy 2020 everyone.

Erin Rush
President

Luncheon

This year's Centurions Lunch will be held at
Sky Stadium
Friday 10th July 2020
Starting at 12 noon.

The All Blacks play Wales the following day, so this will be a great way to start what will be a memorable weekend.

Put the date in your diary now, another great Lunch is promised.

Centurions Charity Golf Day



We had a fantastic Centurions Charity Golf day on Friday 14th February at the Shandon golf course. Superb weather and 14 teams with over 50 players competed, with first time entrants Hutt Old Boys Marist winning the Centurions Golf Cup for rugby supremacy among our Clubs.

The team was capably led by low handicapper Sheridan Rangihuna (see photo.)

Recent winners Johnsonville (2018) were second, and Tawa (2019) were third.

Longest drive winners were Pakai Turia and Lyn Wallis, with nearest to the pin going to Rebecca Richter and Palakua Palakua.

A big thank you for the terrific support from our many sponsors, especially Kapura and Bryce Keith. Also Pernod-Ricard and hole sponsors Placemakers Hutt City, Chris Mackay Financial Planning, Nigel

Messenger and Gibson Sheat.

Prizes were donated by New World Hutt City, Porters Winery, ANZ Bank, Tommy's Real Estate and Gibson Sheat. Thanks also to Bondy and his team at Shandon.

We had a thoroughly enjoyable day producing a worthwhile fundraising effort, (about \$4000 in total) for the very important work of the NZ Rugby Foundation in caring for injured rugby players and their families, and Centurions to assist our rugby programme.

Tracy Smith

We would like to advise all our members that our committee member Tracy Smith had a severe stroke at the end of January.

This has incapacitated Tracy and he is now in rehab at the Hutt Hospital.

Tracy is heavily involved in our Rugby programme and will be sorely missed during his recovery.

Tracy is the epitome of the old adage," that if you need something done properly give it to the busiest person to do".

Tracy is the rock that Centurions is founded on. Nothing is too much trouble and he always has a smile on his face. He and Paul Rolton spent hundreds of hours over the past few years, ensuring that the Centurion Development team was able to perform each week.

A number of our committee members have visited Tracy at the Hutt Hospital Rehab Unit and reported that he is doing well and already on his feet with the aid of a walker.

They say he is already two weeks ahead of his schedule, but his recovery will be a long process.

We would like to wish Tracy and his whanau a speedy recovery and all our thoughts are with you.

Kia Kaha Tracy and we have reserved a place for you and your wheelchair at our Luncheon on 10th July.

Hurricanes Home Games

v. Blues 7.05 Sky Stadium Saturday 7th March

v. Bulls 7.05 Sky Stadium Friday 27th March

v. Highlanders Sky Stadium 7.05 Friday 17th April

v. Chiefs Sky Stadium 7.05 Friday 1st May

v. Crusaders Sky Stadium 7.05 Friday 8th May

v. Waratahs Sky Stadium 4.45pm Saturday 30th May.

All Centurion members and their guests are very welcome to attend our Clubrooms (Level one) on match days.

Subs Are Now Overdue

There are still a number of subs which should have been paid by now. If your subs are still outstanding, payment as soon as possible would be much appreciated.

Subs are;

Membership 35.00

Guests 10.00 each

Donation ?

Subs may be paid by:

Internet banking Westpac Bank Account# 03 0502 0167978 00 or by

Cheque to The Treasurer P.O. Box 11 101 Wellington 6141.

Our Treasurer Murray Usmar has asked that you please put your name and details, (sub and 2 guests etc.) in the particulars/reference column. **Contact details**

Contact details

Have your contact details changed recently? If so we would like to keep our database right up to scratch and would appreciate your updated details.

Centurion members change of contact details.

Name.....

Address.....

Phone details.....

Email Address.....

Please post to The Secretary, P O Box 11 101, Wellington, or email to

gr_brooking@xtra.co.nz