

ILLAWARRA



RUGBY LEAGUE

**ILLAWARRA RUGBY LEAGUE
INCORPORATED**
ABN: 62 620 740 871



ANNUAL REPORT 2025



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OFFICE BEARERS 2025

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

John BRANNON (Chairman), David ADAMS (Senior Competition Delegate), Paul BALFOUR (Second Division Shield Delegate), Mark CRAMPTON (Referees Delegate), Stuart KERR (Illawarra Junior Rugby League Chair), Frank PEPPOLONI (Junior Delegate), Craig WORTHINGTON (Senior Competition Delegate).

ILLAWARRA RUGBY LEAGUE PUBLIC OFFICER

Rowan COLE

ILLAWARRA RUGBY LEAGUE HEAD OF FOOTBALL

Carlo NAPOLITANO

ILLAWARRA RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL OPERATIONS

Don KANE

REFEREES COORDINATOR

Mitchell JAMES

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Barrie KEENAHAN (Chair), Tony DE LAS HERAS, David ADAMS, Debbie HODSON, Stuart KERR and Frank PEPPOLONI.

REGISTRAR

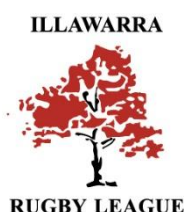
Bob HAY

OPEN AGED REPRESENTATIVE SELECTORS

Wade FORRESTER and Rod HENNIKER

LEAGUE SOLICITOR

N/A



LIFE MEMBERS

David Adams
Kevin Anderson (dec'd)
Ian Atkins
Paul Balfour
Graham Ball
Allan Barry
John Barry (dec'd)
Peter Bartley
Aidan Beath
Tom Blackstock (dec'd)
John Borgo
Ian Bray
Les Buchanan (dec'd)
Allan Byrnes, OAM
Bruce Cambridge (dec'd)
John Carberry (dec'd)
Jack Cartwright (dec'd)
John Cleary (dec'd)
Keith Clifford
Arthur Coltman (dec'd)
Jack Coltman (dec'd)
Robert Colville (dec'd)
Ernest Connell (dec'd)
Cedric Crane (dec'd)
Pat Daly (dec'd)
Joe Davidson OAM (dec'd)
Reg Davis (dec'd)
Herb Dowell (dec'd)
Gary Down
Robert Down (dec'd)
Gerry Doyle (dec'd)
Bob Erskine (dec'd)
Rhonda Erskine
Tom Ezart (dec'd)
Harry Faulkner (dec'd)
Noel Ferrier (dec'd)
James Fitzgerald (dec'd)
Joe Fitzgerald (dec'd)
Lindsay Ford
A 'Sonny' Frost (dec'd)
Charlie Gilmore (dec'd)
Tom Glenn (dec'd)
Bruce Gordon
Graeme Gulloch
Jack Hargraves (dec'd)

Charlie Harriman (dec'd)
Arthur Harrod (dec'd)
Sid Hayes, AM (dec'd)
John Heath
Richie Hetherington
Brian Hodges (dec'd)
Barry Humble (dec'd)
Ron Jackson (dec'd)
Frank Johnson (dec'd)
Brett Jones
Charles Jordan (dec'd)
Barrie Keenahan
Norm Kelly (dec'd)
Stuart Kerr
Ian Kirk
Brian Kurtz (dec'd)
Richard Lacey
Wally Lamb (dec'd)
Bob Lawrence (dec'd)
Ian Laycock (dec'd)
Brian Leech
Alex Lindoy (dec'd)
Jack Livermore (dec'd)
Bob Long
Neil Lovett
Robert Lowrie (dec'd)
Dr Grayson Mackay
Alex Mangovsky
Colin Markham (dec'd)
Shane McKellar
Jim McNally (dec'd)
Bob Millward OAM
Bob Montgomery (dec'd)
David Murphy (dec'd)
Gerry Murphy
Kevin Murphy
Cec Negus (dec'd)
Ian Neill
Peter Newell OAM (dec'd)
Clive Nicholson (dec'd)
Ray Nicholson (dec'd)
Tom Nuttall (dec'd)
Sean O'Connor
Jack Oliver (snr) (dec'd)
John Oliver (dec'd)

Phil Ostwald
Alec Pascoe (dec'd)
Harry Patton (dec'd)
Jim Pearce
Rowland Penning (dec'd)
Frank Peppoloni
Ray Phillips (dec'd)
Bob Plummer (dec'd)
Bruce Prior
Billie Purcell (dec'd)
Col Purcell OAM (dec'd)
Alf Ramsay (dec'd)
Norm Reed (dec'd)
Ron Riley (dec'd)
Kevin Riolo, OAM
Laurie Roberts (dec'd)
Cec Scoble (dec'd)
Maurie Shaw (dec'd)
Frank Smith (dec'd)
Dennis Street
Ken Sweeney (dec'd)
Jock Trad (dec'd)
Tony Villa OAM (dec'd)
Dr Bert Watson (dec'd)
Mark Wheeler
Phil White (dec'd)
Peter Woods
Ted Wynn (dec'd)
Warren Wynn (dec'd)
Peter Yatras

LIFE MEMBERS (Players)

Trent Barrett
Matt Cooper
Ben Hornby
Paul McGregor
Jason Ryles
Shaun Timmins
Rod Wishart
Dean Young
Ben Creagh

AFFILIATE CLUBS AND SECRETARIES

ILLAWARRA RUGBY LEAGUE HARRIGAN CUP & PLATE

Collegians Collie Dogs
Corrimal Cougars
Dapto Canaries
De La Salle Caringbah
Helensburgh Tigers
Thirroul Butchers
Western Suburbs Red Devils

Craig Worthington
Grant Plecas
Tracey Sigmond
John Little
Johann Cobb
Sharne Ferraro
Leann Andrews

HARRIGAN 2nd DIVISION SHIELD

Avondale Greyhounds
Avondale Wombats
Berkeley Eagles
Corrimal Cougars
Figtree Crushers
Northern Suburbs Bulldogs
Western Suburbs Lowries
Windang Sharks

Brad Fisher
Amanda Puckeridge
Kurt Millard
Grant Plecas
Brett Ferguson
Rene Hurworth
Leann Andrews
Scott Buckley

ILLAWARRA JUNIOR LEAGUE

Berkeley Eagles
Collegians Collie Dogs
Corrimal Cougars
Dapto Canaries
Helensburgh Tigers
Northern Suburbs Bulldogs
Port Kembla Blacks
Thirroul Butchers
Western Suburbs Red Devils
Windang Pelicans
Woonona - Bulli Bushrangers

Dee Milosevski
Brian O'Rourke
Rene Giblett
Kristie Ruprecht
Alicia Mingare
Ashlee Tracey
Natasha Cain
Simone Molloy
Leann Andrews
Barry Jones
Chanell Richardson

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

As Chairman of the Illawarra Rugby League, it is my pleasure to present the 2025 Season Report. This year has been marked by strategic growth, impressive on-field performances, and the unwavering support of our dedicated volunteers. In this report, I'll explore our key initiatives, celebrate our achievements, and acknowledge the people who make our league truly special.

Strategy Development

In 2025, our league took significant strides in strategic planning, particularly focusing on the growth of the Harrigan Cup. This comprehensive strategy was developed through a collaborative effort, involving Representatives from all Harrigan Cup Clubs, The Illawarra Rugby League Board, The Steelers Board, the St George Illawarra Dragons, and the NSW Rugby League.

Our collective vision resulted in a strategy built on three core themes. To ensure effective implementation, we've established dedicated working groups for each strategic theme. These groups are tasked with overseeing the execution of our plans and reporting progress to the Steering Committee.

This inclusive approach to strategy development has set a strong foundation for the future growth and success of the Harrigan Cup and the league as a whole.

Season Highlights and Results

The 2025 season was marked by intense competition:

1. Harrigan Cup:

- 6 team competition: We welcomed six teams this year, including the De La Salle Club, broadening our competitive landscape.
- Increased Competitiveness: The 2025 season saw unprecedented levels of competitiveness. Any team was capable of a final's berth, leading to numerous upset results and keeping supporters on the edge of their seats throughout the season.
- Changing of the Guard: Corrimal and Dapto made triumphant returns to the finals after long absences, while recent Grand Final winners Thirroul missed out, underscoring the strength and unpredictability of our competition.

2. Harrigan Plate:

Western Suburbs claimed victory for the second consecutive year, defeating the Avondale Wombats. The Wombats' second finals appearance in just their second year is a testament to their rapid adaptation to the IRL and the health of the League.

3. Harrigan Shield:

The Avondale Greyhounds were successful against the Figtree Crushers in the Grand Final, showcasing the depth of talent in our competition.

Volunteer Recognition

The success of the Illawarra Rugby League is built on the foundation of our tireless volunteers. Their dedication and hard work are the lifeblood of our sport in the region. I extend the gratitude of the entire rugby league community to all our volunteers including: Match day ground managers who keep our games running smoothly and ensure our safety and security protocols are applied, our canteen staff who ensure our spectators and players are well-catered for, Referees and Match Review Committee Members who maintain the integrity and fairness of our matches, and Club committee members and the IRL Board whose work is often unseen but who are critical to the governance of our sport.

These unsung heroes perform a myriad of critical tasks that keep our local rugby league competition thriving. Their commitment, often given outside of work hours and on weekends, is what truly keeps our sport alive in the Illawarra. To our volunteers, your efforts do not go unnoticed. You are the heart and soul of Illawarra Rugby League, and we are deeply grateful for your continued support and passion for the game.

Challenges and Future Outlook

The 2025 season presented its share of challenges, particularly in the early stages. We faced resource constraints that threatened our ability to be 'football ready' at the start of the season. However, through the concerted efforts of our staff, the invaluable support of NSW Rugby League, and the cooperation of our clubs, we successfully navigated these obstacles. I extend my sincere gratitude to all who contributed to this effort, with a special mention to Brad Hughes, whose leadership in revamping our season launch garnered significant positive feedback.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the future of Illawarra Rugby League. We've welcomed Carlo Napolitano as our new Head of Football, bringing with him an impressive rugby league pedigree. Carlo's experience as a player and coach at the highest levels, combined with his extensive football administration background, positions him well to accept the challenges ahead.

Since his mid-season appointment, Carlo has assembled a new team and is already making substantial progress in tackling the issues facing the League. Carlo comes with a vision borne from experience, and I seek the support of the football community as we work with Carlo to implement our growth strategy and to advance the Illawarra Rugby League.

Summary

As we reflect on the 2025 season, we can take pride in the growth and resilience of the Illawarra Rugby League. Our strategic initiatives, the competitive spirit displayed in all our competitions, and the unwavering support of our volunteers have all contributed to a successful year.

While we faced challenges, our collective efforts have positioned us for a bright future. With our new leadership in place and a clear vision ahead, we are poised for continued growth and success.

I want to thank everyone who has contributed to making this season a success – from

players and coaches to volunteers and supporters. Your passion and dedication are the driving force behind our league. Importantly, I want to express our appreciation for our sponsors – notably The Harrigan Motor Group – but all our sponsors. Rugby League is not immune from the rising cost environment and our sponsors, through their generosity, assist us to ensure that teams from our juniors through to seniors and our League Tag competitions are able to take the field each week. We are supported also by the NSW Rugby League and the Illawarra District Rugby League, and their continued support is appreciated.

As we look to the 2026 season and beyond, I am confident that together, we will continue to strengthen and expand the reach of rugby league in the Illawarra region. The best is yet to come for our beloved sport and community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John Brannan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chairman,
Illawarra Rugby League

CENTURION'S REPORT

ANOTHER THIRROUL PLAYER WINS CENTURIONS' ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD TO UOW

The 2025 Illawarra Rugby League's Col Purcell Centenary Scholarship to University of Wollongong was awarded to Thirroul player JACKSON SMITH at a Morning Tea Presentation held at the Steelers Club on Thursday, 21st August.

Jackson is the sixth former Bellambi Holy Spirit College student to win the annual award, which was introduced in the Illawarra Rugby League's Centenary Year of 2011 and named in honour of the late Colin Purcell, OAM; who was a life-member of six Illawarra League organisations.

He is currently in his first year at UOW, studying a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) Degree; and yet another Junior product of the Thirroul Club.

Jackson commenced playing with the Butchers in 2014 and has won numerous club awards. He has also been an Illawarra Steelers rep. in Harold Matthews and S.G. Ball teams 2023-25 and finished the 2025 season as a first grader with the Butchers.

COL PURCELL CENTENARY SCHOLARSHIP PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

2013	Zachary Baker (Wests)	2020	Chelsea Aylett (Woonona – Bulli)
2014	Brendan Woods (Wests)	2021	Keele Browne (Illawarra Tarsha Gale)
2015	Max Bailey (Thirroul)	2021	Benjamin Lavender (Illawarra SG Ball)
2016	Riley Lord (Thirroul)	2022	Will Olteanu (Thirroul)
2017	Jackson Walsh (Collegians)	2023	Michael Mouawad (Thirroul)
2018	Jake Butler (Collegians)	2024	Brendan Douglas (Helensburgh)
2019	Riley Graham (Thirroul)	2025	Jackson Smith (Thirroul)

BOB MILLWARD, OAM – Chair, IRL Centenary Committee.



Pictured (L to R): Norm Bradshaw (Associate Director Advancement, UOW), Jeremy Smith, Jackson Smith (2025 Scholarship recipient), Bob Millward – OAM, Shaye Hiscocks (Philanthropy and Impact Specialist, UOW), Christine Smith.

Illawarra Rugby League Centurion contributors (listed in alphabetical order)

Adam Canavan – Collegians RLFC	Heard McEwan Legal	Paul, Cindy, Matt & El Harrison
Alex Mangovsky	Helensburgh JRLF Club	Paul, Phyllis & Mark Everill
Barrie Keenahan	Hon Laurie Kelly AM Rhonda & Family	Paul, Rayna, Mac & Joe Licissianos
Ben Creagh & Family	Hornby Transport Services	Peter & Anh Green
Benedetti Family	Ian Millward, Robbie, Katie, Elle	Peter & Sue Abba
Berkeley JRLF Club	Illawarra Credit Union	Peter, Sean, Bryce & Aprille Jovcevski
Better Floors & Blinds	Illawarra Mercury	Peter, Sue, Darren & Melissa Bartley
Bevelsie Pty Ltd	Jamie Barrington & Family	Port Kembla JRLF Club
Bob & Amy Wand	Jeff Whalley - Collegians RLFC	Ray Phillips & Family
Bob & Nancy Millward	Joe & Lorraine Davidson	Richie Hetherington
Bob Elvy	John & Athol Traynor & Families	Rod Oxley & Sally Absalom
Boyd Germyn	John & Leslie Borgo	Ron & Ros Bratton & Family
Brett Rodwell & Family	John & Noelene Rushton	Ron Riley - Collegians RLFC
Bruce Prior - Collegians RLFC	John Mussared - Collegians RLFC	Ronlyn Thirlwell
CA, C, J & E Crist	John Redmond	Ross Robinson
Chifley Hotel Wollongong	John Wilkins - Collegians RLFC	Sean O'Connor & Family
Chris & Lynn Walsh	John, Linda, Dane, Jason, Cara Dorahy	Shane Leigh & Family
Chris, Dale & Hayley Bannerman	Johnathon Ranger	Shaun Timmins & Family
Cleary Bros	Julie Nicoll & Family	Shellharbour Sharks JRLF Club
Coastwide Engineering	Karen Gadd, Letticia, Cameron, Hamish	Sophie, Emily, Sarah, & Graeme Gulloch
Colin & Billie Purcell	Keith Chie & Family	St Johns Rhinos JRLF Club
Colin & Melissa Markham & Family	Ken Lowe - Collegians RLFC	Steelers Club
Collegians JRLF Club	Kevin Murphy - Collegians RLFC	Steve and Sue Turner
Corrimal JRLF Club	Kevin, Leonie Riolo & Family	The Family of Hadge Fitzgerald
Craig Patch & Eleanor Beck	KPMG Wollongong	Thirroul JRLF Club
Dapto District RLFC	Laurie & Peter Doust & Family	Thomas Creative
Dapto JRLF Club	Lee Floro - Collegians RLFC	Tom Anderton - Collegians RLFC
Dapto Leagues Club	Les Thompson & Biff the Cattle Dog	Tom Folino Gallo Family
David, Cath, Max, Lily, Charlotte Riolo	Louis Faddoul	Trent Barrett & Family
Dawn Robinson	Matt & Diane Sullivan	University of Wollongong
Di Elvy	Matt and Laura Foreman	Vicki Tiegs & Ross Farrell
Dianne Elvy, Jon, Steve & Jenny	McCarthy Family - Platinum Travel	Warren Green & Family
Doug Delaney	Men of League – Illawarra	Western Suburbs JRLF Club
Felgate Family (K, D, D & R)	Michael Gandon	Wests (Illawarra) Leagues Club
Frank Cusack - Collegians RLFC	Men of League – Illawarra	WIN Television
Frank Cusack - Collegians RLFC	National Rugby League	Windang JRLF Club
Gerry & Carol Murphy	Neil & Jenny Lovett	Wollongong JRLF Club
Gwilym Barnes	Neil Ballinger - Collegians RLFC	Woonona-Bulli JRLF Club
Hansen & Cole Funerals	Northern Suburbs JRLF Club	
Harry Wells	Paul McGregor & Family	

ILLAWARRA RUGBY LEAGUE

HEAD OF FOOTBALL REPORT

2025: A Season of Twists, Turns, and Triumphs in the Illawarra Rugby League

If 2025 were a game of footy, it'd be a game of two halves. The pre-season had its fair share of hiccups — with shifting resources and a scramble to get everything season-ready, it felt like we were stuck in the sheds a little longer than expected. Understandably, our clubs and stakeholders were left feeling a bit flat and disappointed. For this I apologise, and I agree we need to be better.

However, once that first whistle blew, the season came alive! From the opening round to the grand final, every grade delivered nail-biters and standout performances. It was rugby league at its best — competitive, passionate, and full of heart.

And speaking of heart, the women's game continues to soar. The Illawarra is proudly leading the charge, with the Steelers women's programs going from strength to strength. Their success over recent years has been a testament to the talent, dedication, and growing love for the game in all its forms.

2025 Participants:

Total participants (includes, players, coaches, trainers, volunteers) = **6059** an overall increase of **501** participants from 2024.

Males / Females split:

2025 Males = **3688** an overall increase of **244** males from 2024

2025 Females = **2371** an overall increase of **257** females from 2024

	2025	2024	Increase
Junior Female Tackle	477	398	79
Junior Female League Tag	1034	972	62
Junior Male	2164	2002	162
Senior Male Players	584	665	-81
Senior Female Players Tackle	112	118	-6
Senior Female League Tag	243	223	20

Total Volunteers = **1481** (volunteers, coaches, trainers) an increase of **284** from 2024

Coaches = **358** an overall increase of **52** from 2024

Trainers = **659** an overall increase of **142** from 2024

Competitions

A huge shoutout to all the clubs and teams who battled their way into the 2025 finals series — what a ride! While only one team can hoist the trophy and claim the title of premiers, every side gave it their all, and that's what makes our competition so special. Big cheers to all the Grand Final winners — your hard work and grit paid off!

A special mention goes to Western Suburbs with special congratulations on winning the Harrigan Cup (First Grade), Harrigan Plate (Reserve Grade) and the Club Championships in Senior and Junior grades. A great season for Wests and a massive well done to the executives and volunteers behind the scenes. Wests are leaders both on and off the field and have been a pleasure to work with in 2025.

Sponsors and Partners

The Steelers Club continues to support Rugby League within the region, at all levels, and provides the financial and administrative assistance required to ensure its current and future operations. They have done this for many seasons and on behalf of the Illawarra Rugby League thank you for that support and valued contribution.

Acknowledgments - With a Little Help from Our Friends

Rugby League in the Illawarra doesn't just happen — it thrives thanks to a fantastic team behind the scenes. First up, a huge thank you to the **Steelers Club**, who continue to be the backbone of the game in our region. Their financial and administrative support keeps the wheels turning, and they've been doing it season after season. Thanks to GM Rowen Cole and his team. On behalf of all the Illawarra Rugby League — we tip our hats to you!

A special cheer goes to our proud naming rights sponsors **Harrigan Motor Group**, (Senior Men's competitions), and Coal Australia (Illawarra Junior League and League Tag) in 2025. Your ongoing support helps keep the game strong and exciting, and we're looking forward to many more seasons together. We're also incredibly grateful to our wider sponsor family, who help Rugby League shine across the Illawarra:

- **Hahn**
- **Cleary Bros**
- **NSW Mining**
- **Wollongong Strata**
- **Cleanaway**
- **Signarama**
- **Elastoplast**
- **Westfund Health Insurance**

Your support ensures our players, clubs, and competitions are well backed — thank you!

We'd like to give a big shoutout to **NSWRL**, especially **Nathan Hodson** and **Shannon Couley**, for their tireless work supporting clubs strategically and keeping everything in the merge competition and southern corridor running smoothly. Your efforts make a real difference.

To the **NRL Development Team** — thank you for bringing the game to life for our juniors through education programs, tackle-ready sessions, and come-and-try clinics. Special thanks to **Kyle Williams**, **Josh Norris**, and **Garry Jack** for your energy and commitment.

The **Dragons Community Team**, led by **Adam Bezzina** and delivered by **Blake Wallace**, **Courtney Crawford**, and **Keele Browne**, continue to inspire the next generation. You help our young stars meet their heroes — and that's a moment they'll never forget.

A massive thank you to the **Illawarra Referees Association**, a volunteer-powered crew who make sure every game has someone with a whistle and a keen eye. We don't have a game without you. Special mention to **Mitchell James** and **Michael Inness** for their dedication — your planning and in-season hustle is truly appreciated.

To the **Illawarra Divisional Rugby League Board of Management**, chaired by **John Brannon** and supported by **David Adams**, **Mark Crampton**, **Craig Worthington**, **Stuart Kerr**, **Frank Peppoloni**, and **Paul Balfour** — thank you for your guidance and backing during my first season. Your support has been invaluable.

And of course, a big thank you to our local media legends — **WIN Network**, **ABC Illawarra**, and the **Illawarra Mercury** — for keeping Rugby League in the spotlight and sharing our stories with the community.

To the Illawarra Rugby League Team, without you we wouldn't have community and representative Rugby League in the Illawarra. We're in the infancy of our tenure as a team but I have seen enough to know that we will make Illawarra great! A big thank you to **Don Kane** (Football Operations Officer), **Bob Hay** (Competitions Support) & **Mark Crampton** (Football Admin).

The Illawarra Steelers programs (11 squads in Male & Female) are the envy of all NRL squads. In 2025 the Steelers program was responsible for 13 players making their NRL / NRLW debuts. A big thank you to **Stacey Drury** (Pathways Manager), **Ashleigh Fielding** (Pathways Support) and all the Steelers coaching staff. We salute you!

Finally, to all our club executives, committee members and supporters — for the tireless work you do to keep Rugby League alive and kicking in the Illawarra. Your passion and commitment are the heartbeat of our game. You give your time for free to support your club and make the cogs turn. **WE THANK YOU!**

Here's to an even stronger 2026!

Carlo Napolitano
Head of Football
Illawarra Rugby League



Don Kane (Football Operations), Carlo Napolitano (Head of Football) and Mark Crampton (Football Admin)

HARRIGAN CUP / PLATE / SHIELD Premiership photographs



Above: Harrigan Cup (1st Grade) Premiers – Western Suburbs Red Devils

Photos: Denis Ivaneza (Inner Visions Photography)



Above: Harrigan Plate (Res Grade) Premiers – Western Suburbs Red Devils

Photos: Denis Ivaneza (Inner Visions Photography)

Below: Harrigan Shield (2nd Division) Premiers – Avondale Greyhounds



2025 GRAND FINAL MATCHDAY OFFICIALS



Harrigan Cup
(First Grade)

Referee: Taylor CLEVELAND
Touch Judges: Darren VAN DE MOOSDYK & Amelia SHEPPARD



Harrigan Plate
(Reserve Grade)

Referee: William DAMATO
Touch Judges: Thomas INNESS & Wayne COOKE



Harrigan Shield
(Second Division)

Referee: Luke MUNGOVAN
Touch Judges: Beau REJSKE & Issac WARBURTON

2025 FINAL SERIES RESULTS

Finals Week 1

Harrigan Cup	De la Salle	34	def	22	Corrimal	Elimination
	Western Suburbs	24	def	22	Dapto	Qualifying
Harrigan Plate	Corrimal	26	def	14	Helensburgh	Elimination
	Western Suburbs	22	def	14	Thirroul	Qualifying
Harrigan Shield	Berkeley	16	def	12	Northern Suburbs	Elimination
	Avon. Wombats	24	def	18	Figtree	Qualifying

Finals Week 2

Harrigan Cup	Western Suburbs	32	def	0	Collegians	Major
	Dapto	44	def	10	De La Salle	Minor
Harrigan Plate	Western Suburbs	28	def	16	Avon. Wombats	Major
	Corrimal	22	def	12	Thirroul	Minor
Harrigan Shield	Avon. Greyhounds	12	def	10	Avon. Wombats	Major
	Figtree	46	def	22	Berkeley	Minor

Finals Week 3

Harrigan Cup	Collegians	40	def	10	Dapto	Prelim
Harrigan Plate	Avon. Wombats	50	def	0	Corrimal	Prelim
Harrigan Shield	Figtree	12	def	10	Avon. Wombats	Prelim

Finals Week 4

Harrigan Cup	Western Suburbs	14	def	8	Collegians	Grand Final
Harrigan Plate	Western Suburbs	20	def	10	Avon. Wombats	Grand Final
Harrigan Shield	Avon. Greyhounds	32	def	18	Figtree	Grand Final

2025 Grand Final Player of the Match recipients



Harrigan Cup – Ian ‘Chook’ NEILL presenting Dane CHISHOLM (Western Suburbs) with the player of the match award



Harrigan Plate – Josiah BRIERLEY (Western Suburbs)









Harrigan Shield – Militoni VEREAQALI (Avondale Greyhounds) with Paul BALFOUR (Harrigan Shield Delegate)








ILLAWARRA RUGBY LEAGUE

2025 COMPETITION TABLES

Harrigan Cup (First Grade)

Pos	Team	Played	Points	Wins	Drawn	Lost	Byes	For	Against	Diff.	Ratio
1	 Collegians - Harrigan Cup	15	26	13	0	2	0	462	198	264	87
2	 Western Suburbs Devils - Harrigan Cup	15	18	9	0	6	0	316	212	104	60
3	 Dapto Canaries - Harrigan Cup	15	16	8	0	7	0	322	324	-2	53
4	 De La Salle - Harrigan Cup	15	12	6	0	9	0	245	338	-93	43
5	 Corrimal Cougars - Harrigan Cup	15	10	5	0	10	0	254	436	-182	33
6	 Thirroul Butchers - Harrigan Cup	15	8	4	0	11	0	258	349	-91	27








Harrigan Plate (Reserve Grade)

Pos	Team	Played	Points	Wins	Drawn	Lost	Byes	For	Against	Diff.	Ratio
1	 Avondale Wombats - Harrigan Plate	11	21	8	1	2	2	325	137	188	70
2	 Wests Devils - Harrigan Plate	11	21	8	1	2	2	269	174	95	70
3	 Thirroul Butchers - Harrigan Plate	11	18	7	0	4	2	239	174	65	64
4	 Helensburgh Tigers - Harrigan Plate	12	14	6	0	6	1	276	249	27	50
5	 Corrimal Cougars - Harrigan Plate	11	14	5	0	6	2	183	208	-25	45
6	 Dapto Canaries - Harrigan Plate	11	9	2	1	8	2	128	379	-251	18
7	 Collegians - Harrigan Plate	11	7	1	1	9	2	162	261	-99	9












Harrigan Shield (2nd Division)

Pos	Team	Played	Points	Wins	Drawn	Lost	Byes	For	Against	Diff.	Ratio
1	 Avondale Greyhounds - Harrigan Shield	13	24	12	0	1	0	468	48	420	92
2	 Avondale Wombats - Harrigan Shield	13	22	11	0	2	0	333	144	189	85
3	 Figtree - Harrigan Shield	13	18	9	0	4	0	280	211	69	75
4	 Northern Suburbs - Harrigan Shield	13	14	7	0	6	0	212	218	-6	54
5	 Berkeley - Harrigan Shield	13	11	5	1	7	0	186	243	-57	38
6	 Windang Sharks - Harrigan Shield	13	10	4	2	7	0	162	235	-73	31
7	 Corrimal Cougars - Harrigan Shield	13	3	1	1	11	0	98	346	-248	8
8	 West Lowries Harrigan Shield	13	2	1	0	12	0	106	400	-294	8









Open Age Women's Tackle (NSWRL Southern Corridor)

Pos	Team	Played	Points	Wins	Drawn	Lost	Byes	For	Against	Diff.	Ratio
1	 Corrimal Cougars - Open Womens Tackle	15	38	11	1	0	1	378	46	332	73
2	 Cronulla Caringbah Open Women's Tackle	15	32	7	1	1	2	258	126	132	54
3	 Helensburgh Open Women	15	29	7	0	5	1	226	206	20	54
4	 Campbelltown Collegians WRL	14	29	7	0	4	1	225	211	14	50
5	 The Oaks Tigers Open Women's	15	25	5	0	5	1	157	248	-91	36
6	 Shellharbour Open Womens Tackle	15	23	4	0	8	1	162	226	-64	29
7	 City Kangaroos Open Women's (1)	15	17	1	0	9	1	99	380	-281	7







Under 18 Girls Tackle (NSWRL Southern Corridor)

Pos	Team	Played	Points	Wins	Drawn	Lost	Byes	For	Against	Diff.	Ratio
1	 LCC U/18 Girls	15	35	9	1	0	2	280	32	248	69
2	 Kiama Under 18 Girls Tackle	15	30	8	0	2	1	273	157	116	57
3	 Corrimal Cougars U/18 Girls Tackle	15	30	8	0	3	1	245	172	73	57
4	 De la Salle U/18 Girls Tackle	15	28	7	0	3	1	292	137	155	54
5	 Engadine Dragons U/18 Girls Tackle	15	28	7	0	4	1	262	124	138	50
6	 Stingrays Under 18 Girls Tackle	14	26	6	0	4	1	243	141	102	43
7	 Taren Point Titans U/18 Girls Tackle	14	25	6	1	4	0	222	217	5	43
8	 Camden Rams U/18 Girls	14	20	2	2	6	1	120	283	-163	15
9	 Collegians U/18 Girls Tackle	15	19	2	1	8	1	98	286	-188	14
10	 Kingsgrove Colts U/18 Girls Tackle	15	19	2	1	8	1	102	300	-198	14
11	 Campbelltown Collegians U/18 Girls	15	16	1	0	8	1	109	368	-259	8

Under 18 Boys Gold (NSWRL Southern Corridor)

Pos	Team	Played	Points	Wins	Drawn	Lost	Byes	For	Against	Diff.	Ratio
1	 Aquinas Colts U/18	15	36	11	1	1	0	346	89	257	79
2	 Thirroul Butchers U/18 (1)	15	35	10	2	1	0	410	154	256	67
3	 Como Jannali U/18	15	34	10	1	2	0	361	112	249	67
4	 West's Devils U/18	15	29	7	2	4	0	237	192	45	50
5	 Kingsgrove Colts U18	15	22	4	1	8	0	224	491	-267	27
6	 Renown United U/18	15	21	3	2	8	0	261	341	-80	20
7	 Corrimal Cougars U/18 (1)	15	20	3	1	8	0	207	319	-112	20
8	 De la Salle U/18	15	18	2	1	10	0	197	307	-110	14

Under 18 Boys Silver (NSWRL Southern Corridor)

Pos	Team	Played	Points	Wins	Drawn	Lost	Byes	For	Against	Diff.	Ratio
1	 Helensburgh Tigers U18	15	30	8	1	4	0	248	156	92	53
2	 Taren Point Titans U/18	15	30	8	1	4	0	259	170	89	53
3	 Corrimal Cougars U/18 (2)	15	29	8	0	5	0	212	194	18	53
4	 Collegians U/18	15	24	5	1	5	0	197	322	-125	36
5	 Thirroul Butchers U/18 (2)	15	23	5	0	6	0	176	150	26	36
6	 Dapto Canaries U18	15	13	0	0	12	0	60	453	-393	0

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

RANK	CLUB	POINTS
1	Western Suburbs	50
2	Collegians	46
3	Thirroul	41
4	Corrimal	36
5	Dapto	28
6	Helensburgh	20
7	De La Salle	18



Mitch Porter of Westerns Suburbs RLFC receives the Club Championship Trophy

Photo: Jenna Purcell (Game Face Photography)

2025 LEADING POINT SCORERS

Harrigan Cup – Blair GRANT (Collegians)

Harrigan Plate – Matthew ANGER (Helensburgh)

Under 18's – Taylor HUMPHRIES (Corrimal)

Harrigan 2nd Division Shield – Dylan RIGGS (Greyhounds)



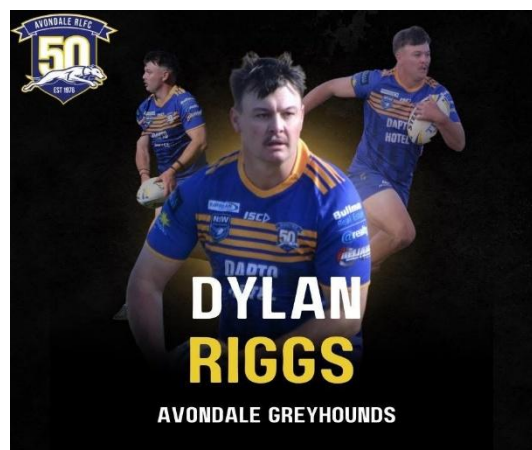
Blair GRANT



Matthew ANGER



Taylor HUMPHRIES



Dylan RIGGS

2025 LEADING TRY SCORERS

		Tries
Harrigan Cup (club)	Collegians	85
Harrigan Cup	James Lee (Collegians)	14
Harrigan Plate	Ethan Barker (Western Suburbs)	8
	Ryan Findanis (Helensburgh)	8
Under 18s	Ruben Mayers (Thirroul)	10
Harrigan 2 nd Division Shield	Dylan Riggs (Avondale Greyhounds)	13
Women's Opens League Tag	Lily Riolo (Collegians)	16



2025 Harrigan Cup Leading Try Scorer – James Lee (Collegians)
with 14 tries for season 2025

FIRST GRADE PREMIERSHIPS

1911	Wollongong	1973	Thirroul
1912	Unanderra	1974	Corrimal
1913	Wollongong (No finals)	1975	Dapto
1914	Unanderra	1976	Dapto
1915-19	No Competition (WW1)	1977	Dapto
1920	Wollongong	1978	Western Suburbs
1921	Wollongong	1979	Dapto
1922	Port Kembla	1980	Western Suburbs
1923	Port Kembla	1981	Western Suburbs
1924	Port Kembla	1982	Dapto
1925	Gerringong	1983	Dapto
1926	Wollongong	1984	Western Suburbs
1927	Port Kembla (1 st IRL G/F)	1985	Dapto
1928	Port Kembla	1986	Helensburgh
1929	Wollongong	1987	Collegians
1930	Wollongong	1988	Helensburgh
1931	Wollongong	1989	Western Suburbs
1932	Wollongong	1990	Dapto
1933	Western Suburbs	1991	Western Suburbs
1934	Port Kembla	1992	Dapto
1935	Port Kembla	1993	Helensburgh
1936	Mt Kembla	1994	Dapto
1937	Port Kembla	1995	Thirroul
1938	Port Kembla	1996	Collegians
1939	Mt Kembla	1997	Collegians
1940	Port Kembla	1998	Collegians
1941	Port Kembla	1999	Thirroul
1942	Port Kembla	2000	Dapto
1943	Port Kembla	2001	Dapto
1944	Port Kembla	2002	Dapto
1945	Wollongong	2003	Thirroul
1946	Port Kembla	2004	Collegians
1947	Wollongong	2005	Collegians
1948	Corrimal	2006	Dapto
1949	Port Kembla	2007	Collegians
1950	Wollongong	2008	Thirroul
1951	Wollongong	2009	Western Suburbs
1952	Northern Suburbs	2010	Western Suburbs
1953	Port Kembla	2011	Western Suburbs
1954	Thirroul	2012	Thirroul
1955	Port Kembla	2013	Collegians
1956	Port Kembla	2014	Thirroul
1957	Western Suburbs	2015	Helensburgh
1958	Port Kembla	2016	Dapto
1959	Western Suburbs	2017	Collegians
1960	Northern Suburbs	2018	Western Suburbs
1961	Northern Suburbs	2019	Collegians
1962	Port Kembla	Open Age Competition	
1963	Port Kembla	2020	Thirroul
1964	Wollongong	Mojo Homes Presidents Cup	
1965	Port Kembla	2021	Not Awarded (Covid-19)
1966	Dapto	2022	Collegians
1967	Collegians	2023	Thirroul
1968	Dapto	Harrigan Cup - Illawarra League	
1969	Western Suburbs	2024	Western Suburbs
1970	Western Suburbs	2025	Western Suburbs
1971	Western Suburbs		
1972	Western Suburbs		

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

Illawarra Player of the Year

1971	Dennis McCulloch
1972	David Waite
1973	Peter Thompson
1974	Allan Fitzgibbon
1975	Graham O'Grady
1976	Maurie Raper
1977	Chris Wellman
1978	Kerry McDonnell
1979	Frank Balliana
1980	Robert Thompson
1981	Steve Topper

Carlton Illawarra League

1982	Dean Herbert
1983	Ron Anthony
1984	Ron Anthony
1985	Craig Trenneman
1986	Chris Cordner
1987	Gary Piper
1988	Chris Moate
1989	Terry Westblade
1990	John Scott
1991	Mark Taylor
1992	Paul Air
1993	Jamie Gass
1994	Richard Velthius
1995	Len Barton
1996	Adam Canavan
1997	Ian Bannerman & Richard Velthius
1998	Richard Turner
1999	Peter Cattle
2001	Shaun Wessel
2002	Mark Simon

Tooheys Illawarra League

2003	Aaron Beath
2004	Nathan Lakeman
2005	Robbie Payne
2006	Jason Kent

Carlton Illawarra League

2007	David McLean
2008	Andrew Dallalana
2009	Blake Dureau
2010	Eamon Hillen
2011	Jamie Dunning

Illawarra Coal Rugby League

2012	Joel Johnson
2013	Sam Duggan
2014	Sam Clune & Blake Phillips
2015	Grant Smith
2016	Michael Murphy

The Hardware Man Illawarra League

2017	Wayne Bremner
2018	Joel Johnson
2019	Joel Johnson

2020 Not Awarded

Mojo Homes Cup - Illawarra League

2021	Not Awarded
2022	Tarje Whitford
2023	Callum Gromek

Harrigan Cup - Illawarra League

2024	Dane Chisholm
2025	Josh Daley

Alex Jack Memorial Trophy - Best U21 Player

1943	Leo Doyle
1944	Noel Mulligan
1945	Gerry Duffy
1946	Ron Rowles
1947	Ron Rowles
1948	Kevin Schubert
1949	Bob Dimond
1950	Don Townsend
1951	Terry Cook
1952	Harry Wells
1953	Keith Barnes
1954	Keith Barnes
1955	John Bradley
1956	Ron Mack
1957	Graeme Davison
1958	Jeff Worrell
1959	Terry Johnstone
1960	Gwyl Barnes
1961	Graeme Langlands
1962	Graeme Langlands
1963	Colin Dunn
1964	Colin Dunn
1965	Bob Fulton
1966	Allan Maddalena
1967	Graeme Chaffey
1968	Bob Smithies
1969	Graeme Lye
1970	David Wonson
1971	Ted Goodwin
1972	John Dorahy
1973	John Dorahy
1974	Greg Mullane
1975	Bryan Milthorpe
1976	Craig Young
1977	Peter Wynn
1978	Steve Morris
1979	Michael Prest
1980	Peter Thomas
1981	Steve Topper
1982	Peter Webster
1983	Dave Edward
1984	Glen Coughlan
1985	Richard Velthius

Illawarra Rugby League – 2nd Grade Player of the Year

2018	Jye Richards
2019	Jesse Cobb
2020	Not Awarded
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Jesse Cobb
2023	Josh McConnell
2024	Ben De La Fosse
2025	Ben McIntyre

Alex Jack Memorial Trophy - Best Under 18 Player

1986	Michael Garrett
1987	Dean Schifflitti
1988	Jason Hughes
1989	Dean Callaway
1990	Dean Callaway
1991	Glen Gibson
1992	Paul Air
1993	Jamie Gass
1994	Martin Sedgewick
1995	Steve Bosse
1996	Pat Carroll
1997	Carl Bighetti
1998	Greg Reh
1999	Luke Jewitt
2000	Ryan Powell
2001	Daniel Phelps
2002	Michael Murphy
2003	Rhys Hanbury & Ty McCarthy
2004	Jess King
2005	Anthony Harris
2006	Caleb Reedy
2007	Teei Piawi
2008	Elliot Smith
2009	Jarrold Boyle
2010	Blake Wallace
2011	Hayden McCrae
2012	Jack Croman
2013	Lachlan Stein

Alex Jack Memorial Trophy - Best Under 19 Colts Player

2014	Tom Bartley
2015	Stuart Mason

Alex Jack Memorial Trophy - Best Under 18 Player

2016	Josaia Lovodua
2017	Josh Honan
2018	Cameron Fettell
2019	Cameron Fettell
2020	Brandon Morkos
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Jaxon Lavender
2023	Eden Hodges
2024	Aaymon Fitzgibbon
2025	Arlan Grose

2nd Division Player of the Year Tooheys New

2002	Craig Wilson
2003	Glenn Buffolin
2004	Anthony Myerscough
2005	Jon Mellows
2006	Tye Prior

VB Cup – Player of the Year



2025 Paul McGregor Medal - Player of the Year
Josh DALEY (Dapto)



2025 Harrigan Plate - Player of the Year
Ben McINTYRE (Avondale Wombats)



2025 Under 18's - Player of the Year
Arlan GROSE (Thirroul)

2007 Tony Leadbitter
 2008 Joshua Michalowski
 2009 Rob Churchin
 2010 Ellis Hurworth
 2011 Nikita Drew
Illawarra Coal Shield
 2012 Luke Heemskerk
 2013 Joshua Birkin
 2014 Ellis Hurworth
 2015 Ellis Hurworth
 2016 Ellis Hurworth & Cody Buckman

The Hardware Man Illawarra Shield

2017 Joel Hansen
 2018 Corey Honan
 2019 Dean Hodgson

2020 Not Awarded

Harrigan Shield - Second Division

2021 Not Awarded
 2022 Dean Hodgson
 2023 Benjamin De La Fosse
 2024 Dylan Riggs
 2025 Chris Browne

Open Women's - Player of the Year

2011 Samantha Hammond
 2012 Samantha Hammond
 2013 Alana Dell
 2014 Kezie Apps
 2015 Erin Blackwell
 2016 Talia Atfield
 2017 Tammy Fletcher
 2018 Shakiah Tungai
 2019 Jasmin Sarin
 2020 Annastacia Shum, Sharna Piccinellii & Jessica Sergis

2021 Not Awarded

2022 Not Awarded

2023 Not Awarded

2024 Sian Allen

2025 Jorja Bostock

U18s Women's - Player of the Year

2018 Emily Andrews
 2019 Keele Browne & Meg Buchanan
 2020 Olivia Vale
2021 Not Awarded
2022 Not Awarded
 2023 Bella Sacco
2024 Not Awarded
2025 Not Awarded

South32 Open LLT - Player of the Year

2022 Sienna Yeo
 2023 Brianna Davis
 2024 Emma Walsh
 2025 Lily Riolo



2025 Harrigan Shield (2nd Division) - Player of The Year
 Chris BROWNE (Figtree)
 Accepted by Brett Ferguson



2025 Open Woman's - Player of the Year
 Jorja BOSTOCK (Corrimal)



2025 Open Ladies League Tag - Player of the Year
 Lily RIOLO (Collegians)
 Accepted by Kevin Riolo OAM

**League News Trophy - Highest Point
Scorer First Grade**

1972	Denis McGoldrick
1973	Tony Cull /Denis Preston
1974	Dave Cotter
1975	Ken Wilson
1976	Peter Rowles
1977	Rod Henniker
1978	Kerry McDonnell
1979	Denis McGoldrick
1980	Peter Kirkland
1981	Peter Kirkland
1982	Aiden Beath
1983	Glen Watkinson
1984	Peter Kirkland
1985	Peter Kirkland
1986	Rod Roach
1987	Glen Tobin
1988	Glen Tobin
1989	Richard Wilson
1990	Steve Wallace
1991	Brett Kirkland
1992	Steve Larder
1993	Sean Taylor
1994	Steve Larder
1995	Sean Taylor
1996	Jeff Wellington
1997	Leon Goodwin
1998	Jeff Wellington
1999	Glen Carlson
2000	Adam Blake
2001	Adam Blake
2002	Josh Guyatt
2003	David Hall
2004	Mark Simon
2005	Troy Barnes & Mark Simon
2006	Aaron Beath
2007	Adam Blake
2008	Adam Blake
2009	Blake Dureau
2010	Eamon Hillen
2011	Eamon Hillen
2012	Blake Dureau
2013	Sam Duggan
2014	Mitch Porter
2015	Mitch Porter
2016	Beau Henry
2017	Grayson Goodwin
2018	Mitch Porter
2019	Luke Gallagher & Jack Cross
2020	Not Awarded
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Max Devlin
2023	Eli Levido
2024	Dane Chisholm
2025	Blair Grant

**Jack Royall Trophy - Highest Try
Scorer First Grade**

1975	Dave Irvine
1976	Alan Stenning
1977	Tim Edwards
1978	Steve Taylor
1979	Shane McKellar
1980	Ron Wall
1981	Steve Taylor
1982	Chris Fazzalore
1983	Steve Taylor
1984	Mark Docking
1985	Craig Trenneman
1986	Mark Docking
1987	Brett Amatto
1988	Chris Moate
1989	Gary Hammond
1990	Dean Callaway
1991	Shane Leigh & Victor Daly
1992	Steve Larder
1993	Sean Taylor
1994	Steve Larder
1995	Tamaiti Amosa
1996	Jeff Wellington
1997	Jeff Wellington
1998	Brad Hughes
1999	Glen Turner
2000	Nigel Daniels
2001	Brett Ridley
2002	Mark Simon
2003	Rod Silva
2004	Justin Brooker
2005	Adam Luchetti
2006	Matt Rieck
2007	Matt Rieck
2008	Carl Fritz
2009	Michael Crockett
2010	Josh Goulton
2011	Ty McCarthy
2012	Wayne Bremner
2013	Azan Turoa
2014	Mitch Porter
2015	Mitch Porter
2016	Rob Buaserau
2017	Rob Buaserau & Joshua Bryant
2018	Josh Bryant
2019	Hayden Crosland & Brad Manton
2020	Not Awarded
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Jason Gillard
2023	Sam McCann
2024	Jye Patterson
2025	James Lee

MMI Club Championship

1990	Collegians
1991	Western Suburbs
1992	Dapto
1993	Helensburgh
1994	Western Suburbs
1995	Thirroul

Coastline Printing Club Championship

1996	Collegians
1997	Dapto
1998	Collegians
1999	Collegians
2000	Thirroul
2001	Dapto
2002	Dapto
2003	Thirroul
2004	Port Kembla
2005	Western Suburbs
2006	Dapto
2007	Dapto
2008	Thirroul
2009	Western Suburbs
2010	Western Suburbs
2011	Western Suburbs
2012	Western Suburbs
2013	Helensburgh
2014	Western Suburbs & Thirroul
2015	Helensburgh
2016	Dapto

Print Media Club Championship

2017	Collegians
2018	Western Suburbs
2019	Thirroul
2020	Not Awarded
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Collegians
2023	Western Suburbs
2024	Western Suburbs
2025	Western Suburbs

Bob Brown Minor Premiership

1976	Dapto
1977	Western Suburbs
1978	Western Suburbs
1979	Western Suburbs
1980	Western Suburbs
1981	Western Suburbs
1982	Corrimal
1983	Western Suburbs
1984	Western Suburbs
1985	Dapto
1986	Collegians
1987	Thirroul
1988	Collegians
1989	Corrimal
1990	Dapto
1991	Western Suburbs
1992	Dapto
1993	Helensburgh
1994	Western Suburbs
1995	Thirroul

1996	Collegians
1997	Dapto
1998	Collegians
1999	Collegians
2000	Dapto
2001	Collegians
2002	Collegians
2003	Thirroul
2004	Collegians
2005	Collegians
2006	Dapto
2007	Dapto
2008	Thirroul
2009	Western Suburbs
2010	Western Suburbs
2011	Western Suburbs
2012	Western Suburbs
2013	Collegians
2014	Thirroul
2015	Helensburgh
2016	Dapto
2017	Dapto
2018	Western Suburbs
2019	Collegians
2020	Thirroul
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Thirroul
2023	De La Salle
2024	De La Salle
2025	Collegians



2025 Bob Brown Minor Premiership Trophy –
accepted by Coach Jimmy GREHAN (Collegians)

George Grofus Memorial Trophy -

Best Forward: John George Grofus

was accidentally killed between the 1946 & 1947 seasons at aged 19 years. John played 3 years of First Grade and was a member of the 1946 Port Kembla Clayton Cup team, playing hooker. This trophy began as the Most Improved Forward U21.

1948	Leo Hurley
1949	Don Townsend
1950	Peter O'Connor
1951	Col Purcell
1952	Ted Johnson
1953	Ted Johnson
1954	John Pennefather
1955	Russell Booth
1956	
1957	
1958	John West
1959	Des Tobin
1960	
1961	Gwyl Barnes
1962	Malcolm Condon
1963	John Carberry
1964	John Neden
1965	
1966	Les Edmonds
1967	Don Colquhoun
1968	Ron Costello
1969	Greg Cross
1970	David Wonson
1971	Roger Irving
1972	
1973	Bryan Milthorpe
1974	Jeff Davis
1975	John Jansen
1976	Brad Buchaan
1977	Michael Nevin
1978	Peter Wynn
1979	Michael Petrie
1980	Peter Thomas
1981	Chris Walsh
1982	Troy Morgan
1983	Gary Piper

Frank Smith Memorial Trophy - Best Back

Frank Smith was a long time Illawarra Rugby League & Southern Division official who was a Life Member of both associations.

1983	Trevor Kissell
1984	Trevor Kissell
1985	Mark Picton
1986	Brett White
1987	Steve McFadden
1988	Paul McGregor
1989	Richard Stubbs
1990	Peter Kerry
1991	Craig Ireland
1992	Trevor Kissell
1993	Trevor Kissell
1994	Paul Nigro
1995	Paul Nigro

1984	Stephen Catterall
1985	Scott Wilcox
1986	David King
1987	Craig Sheridan
1989	David Wonson
1990	Richard Velthius
1991	David Prosser
1990	Richard Velthius
1991	David Prosser
1992	Gary Walsh
1993	Brad Willisroft
1994	Gary Edwards
1995	Ivala Va'Aelua
1996	Martin Sedgewick
1997	Paul Nigro
1998	Craig Dockett
1999	David Wonson
2000	Martin Sedgewick
2001	Paul Nigro
2002	Jade Lucas
2003	David Bil
2004	Clint Hill
2005	Adrian Rainey
2006	Ben Linde
2007	David McLean
2008	Peter Tweddle
2009	Hans Schuster
2010	Craig Stapleton
2011	Jamie Dunning
2012	Joel Johnson
2013	Joel Johnson
2014	Blake Phillips
2015	Grant Smith
2016	Michael Murphy
2017	Joel Johnson
2018	Joel Johnson
2019	Joel Johnson
2020	Not Awarded
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Shalom Oofou
2023	Levi Pascoe
2024	Jackson Stewart
2025	Josh Daley



2025 George Grofus Best Forward winner
Josh DALEY (Dapto)

1996	Mark Taylor
1997	Peter Cattle
1998	Josh Guyatt
1999	Neil Farmilo
2000	Matt Bryant
2001	Neil Pincinelli
2002	Fuad Suljkanovic
2003	Ben Sammut
2004	Justin Brooker
2005	Justin Holbrook
2006	Justin Holbrook
2007	Mark Simon
2008	Andrew Dallalana
2009	Blake Dureau
2010	Eamon Hillen
2011	Ty McCarthy
2012	Brad Scott
2013	Sam Duggan
2014	Samuel Clune
2015	Mitch Porter
2016	Ty McCarthy & Daniel Holdsworth
2017	Wayne Bremner
2018	Ben White
2019	Alec Reid
2020	Not Awarded
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Tarje Whitford
2023	Callum Gromek
2024	Dane Chisholm
2025	Callum Gromek



2025 Frank Smith Best Back winner
Callum Gromek (Collegians)

Junior Representative Reports 2025

Illawarra Steelers Pathway Report - Junior Representatives



The Illawarra Steelers proudly celebrated another outstanding season across our junior representative pathways. Our teams—Lisa Fiaola Cup (U17 Girls), Harold Matthews Cup (U17 Boys), Tarsha Gale Cup (U19 Girls), and SG Ball Cup (U19 Boys)—competed in a busy summer competition focused on development, growth, and opportunity.

Across all four teams, we played 38 games, achieving 24 wins, 1 draw, and 13 losses. Our players scored 159 tries and kicked 108 goals, amassing a total of 852 points.

Season Highlights

- Tarsha Gale Cup: Back-to-back minor premiers.
- Harold Matthews Cup: Most successful season in recent years, finishing as minor premiers.
- Finals Representation: Three of our four teams qualified for finals in 2025.

Representative Honours

- 11 Country Representatives and 6 City Representatives.
- 9 players selected for the NSW U19s Origin.
- Courtney Crawford, our U19s Female Head Coach, led the NSW U19s Origin team to victory.

Female Pathways Success

Our female pathways continue to thrive:

- 14 players from Lisa Fiaola and Tarsha Gale Cup teams promoted to the Harvey Norman Women's Open team.
- Maria Paseka and Trinity Tauaneai secured Top 24 NRLW contracts with the St George Illawarra Dragons.
- Seriah Palepale, Tahlia O'Brien, and Tori Shipton earned Development Contracts, with Tahlia and Tori making their NRLW debuts in 2025.
- Tori Shipton, a year-young Tarsha Gale player, was recently called up to the Prime Minister's XIII squad for Australia.

Male Pathways Progress

Our male athletes also made significant strides, former play:

- Hamish Stewart, Dylan Egan, and Hayden Buchanan debuted in the NRL for the St George Illawarra Dragons.
- Ashton Ward made his NRL debut for the South Sydney Rabbitohs.

Acknowledgements

Our Junior Representative teams are supported by a dedicated group of coaches, trainers, managers, and support staff who work tirelessly to provide the best environment for our young athletes. Their commitment is deeply appreciated.

I personally take great pride in my role as Pathways Manager for the Illawarra Steelers. I extend my sincere thanks to Ashleigh Fielding for her invaluable assistance this season, as well as to the Steelers Board of Management and New South Wales Rugby League for their continued support.

It is incredibly rewarding to help provide our region's young players with a pathway to pursue their dreams.

Looking Ahead

Planning for the 2026 season is already underway, and I'm excited to see what the next generation of talented athletes will achieve through our pathways.

2025 Illawarra Steelers Pathway Report – Harvey Norman Women's Premiership

The Illawarra Steelers proudly celebrated another successful season for our Harvey Norman Women's Premiership team.

This team of talented and dedicated women played 12 games in 2025, achieving 8 wins and 4 losses. Our players scored 51 tries and kicked 24 goals, amassing a total of 252 points. Our top try scorers being Jess Patea with 10, tries, Ella Churchill with 7 and Kiara Kostovski with 5 tries. Tayleah Handcock (21) and Maddison Studdon (3) took on the kicking duties this season.

Season Highlights

- Finished Fourth in the regular season.
- Tayleah Handcock Highest Point scorer with 58 points
- Made the finals for the 3rd consecutive season.

Pathway continues to deliver.

5 players during this season earned NRLW experience with the St George Illawarra Dragons.

- Tori Shipton – Debuted for St George Illawarra Dragons. Going on to earn selection in the Prime Ministers XIII that played Papua New Guinea
- Tahlia O'Brien – Debuted for St George Illawarra Dragons
- Maddison Studdon – Called up to play for St George Illawarra Dragons
- Maria Paska – Elevated to Top 24 Contract
- Mackenzie Lear – Elevated to Development Contract.

Female Pathways Success

Our female pathways continue to thrive:

- 16 Players backed up from playing either Tarsha Gale Cup or Lisa Fiaola Cup with the Illawarra Steelers to play in this seasons HNWP team.
- 10 players proudly debuted in the Scarlett and White this season.

End of an Era

Our Head Coach, Jamie Szczerbanik after two successful seasons, including one premiership has taken on the role of Head of Women's Pathways at the Penrith Panthers. We thank Jamie for all his hard work, countless hours, and dedication to the Steelers not only with the women program but also with Harold Matthews Cup during his time her. We wish him all the best for the future.

Acknowledgements

Our women's team are supported by a dedicated group of coaches, trainers, managers, and support staff who work tirelessly to ensure our women are prepared and ready for their game each week. Their commitment is sincerely appreciated.

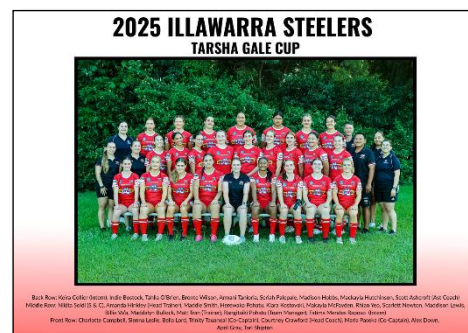
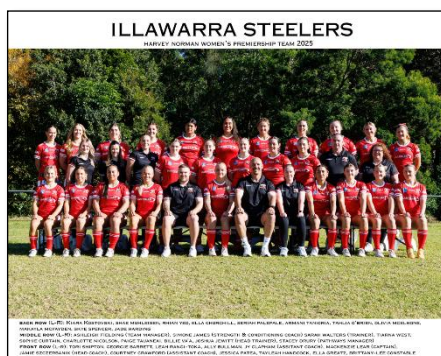
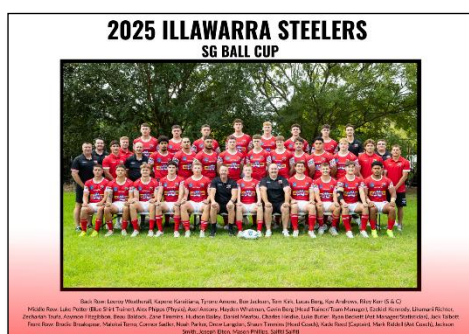
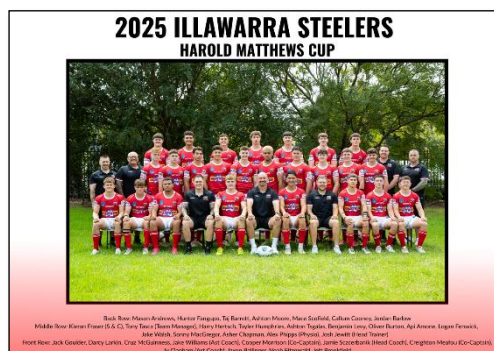
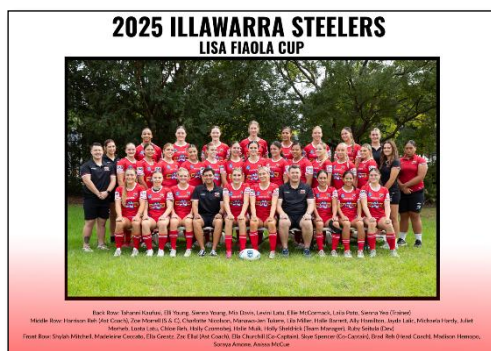
I wish to extend my sincere thanks to Ashleigh Fielding for her invaluable assistance this season a lot of which was done in her own time as a volunteer, as well as to the Steelers Board of Management and New South Wales Rugby League for their continued support.

It is incredibly rewarding to see the strength of the women's game in our region. It's a privilege to watch the young girls and women take such pride in wearing the Scarlett and White each week.

Looking Ahead

Planning is well underway for next year, new coach, new staff but same passion. Ready and excited for going one step further in 2026.

Stacey Drury
Pathways Manager
Illawarra Steelers





ILLAWARRA SOUTH COAST DRAGONS

The Illawarra South Coast Dragons fielded 3 teams in the NSWRL competitions in season 2025. Those teams were in the Under 16 Andrew John's Cup, Under 18 Laurie Daley Cup and Opens Men's Country Championships.

The Johns and Daley Cup teams commenced training in the November at the Lake Illawarra PCYC, eager to build towards a successful season. The first trial match was held in early December at Ron Costello Oval, Shellharbour, against Cronulla. The second and final trial took place in early January, once again at Ron Costello Oval, where the teams faced the Newcastle Knights to complete their pre-season preparations.

Round 1 saw our squads take on the Western Rams at Ron Costello Oval, Shellharbour with both the Daley and Johns teams opening their season with strong wins. Round 2, the teams travelled to Leeton Sportsground to face the Riverina Bulls. The Johns team secured an impressive 34-6 victory, while the Daley team also dominates with 52-12 win. Round 3 took us to Kirkham Oval, Camden, where both teams continued their winning form against the formidable Tigers — Johns prevailing 20-12 and Daley edging out a close 26-22 win. With the commencement of the Open Men's Country Championship, our Men's squad started their campaign in style, defeating the Wests Tigers 48-6. In Round 4, returning to Ron Costello Oval, both teams faced the Newcastle Knights. The Johns team dominated with a commanding 36-0 win, while the Daley team secured a hard-fought 26-20 victory. Round 5 saw all three squads travel to NSWRL HQ in Bruce, Canberra. The Johns team maintained their undefeated streak with a 24-18 win over the Monaro Colts. Unfortunately, the Daley team fell short 48-10, breaking their winning run, and the Men's Countryside also went down, ending their campaign.

In the Semi-Finals, the Johns team faced the Titans at Collegians Stadium. Despite a valiant effort, they were narrowly defeated 20-14, bringing an end to their representative journey. The Daley team regrouped strongly after their previous loss, edging out the Newcastle Knights 21-18 to secure a place in the Grand Final.

At GIO Stadium, the Daley team faced the Macarthur Tigers in a thrilling contest, ultimately claiming victory 27-16. The Laurie Daley Cup team were crowned **2025 Premiers** — a phenomenal achievement for all involved. A special congratulations to **Jack Talbot**, who was awarded the **Choc Anderson Medal** and named **Player of the Match** for his outstanding performance at fullback.

The 2025 season was an exceptional year for the Illawarra South Coast Dragons, with our coaching staff and players achieving outstanding results across all levels. Andrew Johns Cup coach **Nathaniel Morrison**, Laurie Daley Cup coach **Adam Sargent-Wilson**, and Open Men's coaches **Jarrold Costello** and **Abed Atallah**, along with their dedicated staff, did an incredible job leading their squads. Their efforts were rewarded with several players earning selection in the **NSWRL Country representative teams**:

- **Hunter Berghuis** and **Hunter Fangupo** (Andrew Johns Cup)
- **Archie Wheeler** and **Jack Talbot** (Laurie Daley Cup)
- **Josh Daley**, **Calum Gromek**, and **Bailey Wallace** (Open Men's)

We also had several staff recognised at the representative level, including **Wade Forrester** (Assistant Coach, Johns), **Jason Lynch** (Orange Shirt, Daley), **Grant Millington** (Blue Shirt, Open Men's), and **Adam Sargent-Wilson** (Ass Coach, Daley).

A big thank you goes to all our coaches—Nathaniel Morrison, Adam Sargent-Wilson, Jarrod Costello, and Abed Atallah—and every member of the coaching and support staff involved in the **Andrew Johns Cup, Laurie Daley Cup, and Open Men's Country Championship** programs.

To all players, thank you for representing the **Illawarra South Coast Dragons** with pride and professionalism. The expectations that come with wearing our jersey are of the highest standard, and each of you met those standards with distinction both on and off the field.

We extend our gratitude to **Ashton, Georgia, South Coast Group 7 Rugby League, Illawarra District Rugby League**, and all representative clubs across our region for their ongoing support. The Illawarra South Coast Dragons exist to provide locally based players with opportunities to develop, grow, and experience the demands of representative rugby league.

We would also like to sincerely thank our valued partners—**Bai Med, Lake Illawarra PCYC, Elite Rugby League Pathways, ADBRI Cement, TBC Distribution, Ulladulla Printing**, and **Albion Park Laundromat**—for their continued support. In addition, our appreciation goes to the **Albion Park Oak Flats Eagles, Warilla Gorillas**, and **Shellharbour Sharks** for their assistance throughout the season. Our program could not continue without your generosity and commitment.

We wish the **Illawarra Steelers** all the best for the 2026 season as they take over the administration of the Andrew Johns and Laurie Daley Cup competitions.

The season concluded with our **Presentation Evening**, where individual team awards were presented. The highlight of the night was the announcement of the **Bai Med Illawarra South Coast Dragons Player of the Year**, awarded to **Archie Wheeler** from our Daley Cup side for his outstanding performances throughout the season.

We also recognised **Trent Cooksey** (Physiotherapist) with the **Most Valuable Contribution Award** for his exceptional service and dedication to player welfare in 2025. Trent's commitment and professionalism were integral to the success of our program.

Shannon Couley- Illawarra South Coast Dragons Program Administrator.



ILLAWARRA JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The 2025 season was another successful one for the Illawarra and the Merged competition. The season started with some challenges around resources, but these were worked through, and the season ran smoothly.

I need to thank all the Junior Club Officials and their volunteers for your efforts to get teams on the field each week.

I would also like to thank Illawarra and G7 Referees Associations for their support in supplying the referees, which enables us to play the game.

To the BOM Chairman John Brannon, fellow board of management members, football staff, NSWRL I thank you for your support throughout the year.

I would like to thank all the league's sponsors who have supported the junior competitions again in 2025.

Congratulations to Wests JRLFC who took out the Junior Club Championship again this season, well done.

I would like to note that the Merged Competition Grand Final held at WIN Stadium again showcased fantastic football. Out of the 16 teams involved on the day there were 11 different clubs, this shows the diligence in the transfer rules and the representative player restrictions has evened the talent around the clubs.

Lastly, I would like to thank my family for their support throughout the year, without family support and understanding, we all couldn't contribute the time needed to enable this game we all enjoy being played.

Stuart Kerr

Chairman

Illawarra Junior Rugby League

ILLAWARRA JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION REPORT

2025 has been a year to remember — the year I began my journey with Illawarra Rugby League. I am genuinely passionate about the role I hold, and that passion goes a long way in driving my commitment to the game and its continued success.

Although I joined at the back end of the 2025 season, this timing provided an ideal opportunity to observe, listen, and gain a clear understanding of what IRL and our Clubs need as we move forward.

While I've been involved in Rugby League for many years, I am relatively new to this administrative capacity. My approach to the position is guided by a strong focus on transparency, collaboration, and open communication. I believe that strong relationships and clear dialogue are essential to achieving our shared goals and continuing to strengthen the game at every level.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable break, and I look forward to working with you all again in 2026.

Don Kane

Football Operations – Illawarra Rugby League

IRL REGISTRARS REPORT

In the 2025 season, a total of **4,614 players** were registered across the Illawarra Rugby League competitions, representing a strong increase from **4,024 players** in the previous year.

This growth reflects the continued strength and appeal of rugby league within the Illawarra region. It is hoped that registration numbers will maintain this positive momentum into the 2026 season as the game continues to expand and engage more participants across all levels.

Participation among **male players rose to 2,748**, while **female participation increased to 1,866**, marking a combined growth of **236 players** compared to 2024.

Notably, the **Male Junior League** experienced the most significant growth, with an increase of **162 players** from last season.

The Illawarra Rugby League extends its sincere thanks to all players, coaches, volunteers, and supporters for their contributions to another successful and progressive year.












Illawarra Rugby League Registrar 2025

2025 Illawarra Rugby League








League Tag Tables

(International)










Under 14-2 BT League Tag

Pos	Team	Played	Points	Wins	Drawn	Lost	Byes	For	Against	Diff.	Ratio
1	 Helensburgh Under 14BT Division 2	14	22	9	0	1	2	328	64	264	64
2	 Corrimal Red Under 14BT Division 2	14	20	9	0	2	1	302	120	182	64
3	 Port Kembla Under 14BT Division 2	14	18	8	0	3	1	259	132	127	57
4	 Corrimal Green Under 14BT Division 2	14	16	7	0	4	1	256	147	109	54
5	 Collegians Black Under 14BT Division 2	14	15	6	1	4	1	173	152	21	43
6	 West's Under 14BT Division 2	14	14	6	0	5	2	186	174	12	43
7	 Thirroul Under 14BT Blue Div 2	14	12	5	0	6	1	266	200	66	36
8	 Woonona Green U14BT Division 2	14	12	5	0	6	1	192	230	-38	36
9	 Dapto Under 14BT Gold Div 2	13	9	2	1	6	2	110	164	-54	15
10	 Thirroul Under 14BT White Div 2	14	2	1	0	11	1	80	367	-287	7
11	 Dapto Under 14BT Blue Div 2	13	2	0	0	10	1	26	428	-402	0





Under 14-1 BT League Tag

Pos	Team	Played	Points	Wins	Drawn	Lost	Byes	For	Against	Diff.	Ratio
1	 West's Under 14BT Division 1	14	20	7	2	1	2	222	78	144	50
2	 Collegians Under 14BT Division 1	14	18	8	0	3	2	162	112	50	57
3	 Thirroul Under 14BT Div 1	14	16	6	0	4	2	204	106	98	43
4	 Woonona Under 14BT Division 1	14	15	5	1	4	2	178	168	10	36
5	 Corrimal Under 14BT Division 1	14	12	4	0	6	2	140	196	-56	29
6	 Dapto Under 14BT Div 1	14	11	4	1	6	2	126	166	-40	29
7	 Helensburgh Under 14BT Division 1	14	4	0	0	10	2	68	274	-206	0








Under 16-2 BT League Tag

Pos	Team	Played	Points	Wins	Drawn	Lost	Byes	For	Against	Diff.	Ratio
1	 Corrimal Under 16BT RED Division 2	11	18	8	0	3	1	230	132	98	73
2	 Corrimal Under 16BT GREEN Division 2	10	18	7	0	3	2	186	128	58	70
3	 Helensburgh Under 16BT	6	16	6	0	0	1	214	166	48	100
4	 Thirroul Under 16BT White Div 2	11	14	6	0	5	1	196	142	54	55
5	 Collegians Under 16BT Division 2	10	12	4	0	6	2	142	80	62	40
6	 Thirroul Under 16BT Blue Div 2	10	12	4	0	6	2	104	206	-102	40
7	 West's Under 16BT Division 2	10	12	4	0	6	2	131	240	-109	40
8	 Dapto Under 16BT Div 2	11	7	2	1	8	1	56	258	-202	18
9	 Port Kembla Under 16BT Division 2	12	5	1	1	10	1	70	189	-119	9







Under 16-1 BT League Tag

Pos	Team	Played	Points	Wins	Drawn	Lost	Byes	For	Against	Diff.
1	 West's Under 16BT Division 1	11	18	7	2	2	1	274	104	170
2	 Dapto Under 16BT Div 1	11	16	7	2	2	0	286	90	196
3	 Thirroul Under 16BT Div 1	11	12	5	2	4	0	139	148	-9
4	 Woonona Under 16BT	7	0	0	0	7	0	20	234	-214

Open Ladies League Tag – Division 2

Pos	Team	Played	Points	Wins	Drawn	Lost	Byes	For	Against	Diff.	Ratio
1	 Helensburgh Open Ladies Tag	14	24	10	0	0	2	338	26	312	71
2	 Dapto Open Ladies Tag Div 2	14	17	6	1	3	2	224	100	124	43
3	 Woonona Open Ladies Tag - Division 2	14	16	7	0	4	2	242	100	142	54
4	 Corrimal Open Ladies Tag - Division 2	14	15	6	1	4	2	170	112	58	43
5	 Berkeley - Open Ladies Tag	14	10	3	0	7	2	64	222	-158	21
6	 Windang - Open Ladies Tag	14	8	3	0	8	1	40	264	-224	21
7	 Port Kembla Open Ladies Tag	13	4	0	0	9	2	14	268	-254	0

Open Ladies League Tag – Division 1

Pos	Team	Played	Points	Wins	Drawn	Lost	Byes	For	Against	Diff.	Ratio
1	 Collegians Open Ladies Tag - Division 1	14	20	9	2	1	0	302	84	218	64
2	 Figtree - Open Ladies Tag	14	19	9	1	2	0	270	146	124	64
3	 Avondale Greyhounds - Open Ladies Tag	14	15	6	3	3	0	204	124	80	43
4	 Thirroul Open Ladies Tag	14	8	4	0	8	0	156	254	-98	29
5	 West's Devils - Open Ladies Tag	14	8	4	0	8	0	120	220	-100	31
6	 Corrimal Open Ladies Tag - Division 1	14	2	1	0	11	0	50	274	-224	7

2025 ILLAWARRA JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE TAG FINAL SERIES RESULTS

League Tag (International)

Under 14.2 BT

14-2 BT Minor Final	Corrimal Green	18	Port Kembla	4
14-2 BT Major Final	Helensburgh	14	Corrimal Red	12
14-2 BT Prelim Final	Corrimal Red	16	Corrimal Green	16
14-2 BT Grand Final	Corrimal Red	8	Helensburgh	6

Under 14.1 BT

14-1 BT Minor Final	Thirroul	20	Woonona	16
14-1 BT Major Final	Western Suburbs	18	Collegians	0
14-1 BT Prelim Final	Collegians	26	Thirroul	4
14-1 BT Grand Final	Western Suburbs	16	Collegians	4

Under 16.2 BT

16-2 BT Minor Final	Helensburgh	34	Thirroul	8
16-2 BT Major Final	Corrimal Red	32	Corrimal Green	4
16-2 BT Prelim Final	Helensburgh	24	Corrimal Green	8
16-2 BT Grand Final	Helensburgh	24	Corrimal Red	6

Under 16.1 BT

16-1 BT Minor Final	Thirroul	40	Woonona	4
16-1 BT Major Final	Dapto	34	Western Suburbs	24
16-1 BT Prelim Final	Western Suburbs	16	Thirroul	6
16-1 BT Grand Final	Western Suburbs	30	Dapto	28

Open Ladies League Tag

OLLT Div 2

OLLT Div 2 Minor Final	Woonona	14	Corrimal	10
OLLT Div 2 Major Final	Helensburgh	20	Dapto	4
OLLT Div 2 Prelim Final	Dapto	10	Woonona	4
OLLT Div 2 Grand Final	Helensburgh	28	Dapto	0

OLLT Div 1

OLLT Div 1 Minor Final	Thirroul	16	Avon. Greyhounds	4
OLLT Div 1 Major Final	Collegians	32	Figtrees	0
OLLT Div 1 Prelim Final	Figtrees	10	Thirroul	6
OLLT Div 1 Grand Final	Collegians	16	Figtrees	0

2025 Premiership Photos - League Tag



U14.2 BT Premiers - Corrimal Cougars (Red)



Under 16.2 BT Premiers - Helensburgh Tigers



Open Ladies League Tag Div 2 Premiers - Helensburgh Tigers



Open Ladies League Tag Div 1 Premiers - Collegians Collie Dogs

LLAWARRA & SOUTH COAST GROUP 7 JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL MERGED COMPETITION GIRLS TACKLE FINAL SERIES RESULTS

Under 14 Girls Tackle

U14.2 GT

U14.2 GT Minor Final	Dapto	16	Bomaderry	4
U14.2 GT Major Final	Collegians	4	Port / Berkeley	18
U14.2 GT Prelim Final	Port / Berkeley	26	Dapto	0
U14.2 GT Grand Final	Collegians	34	Port / Berkeley	0

U14.1 GT

U14.1 GT Minor Final	Kiama	6	Shellharbour	6
U14.1 GT Major Final	Western Suburbs	50	Stingrays	0
U14.1 GT Prelim Final	Stingrays	14	Kiama	4
U14.1 GT Grand Final	Western Suburbs	44	Stingrays	8

Under 16 Girls Tackle (First Semi final was a washout)

U16.2 GT

U16.2 GT Prelim Final	Milton Ulladulla	20	Shellharbour	6
U16.2 GT Prelim Final	Kiama	32	Dapto	14
U16.2 GT Grand Final	Milton Ulladulla	12	Kiama	10

U16.1 GT

U16.1 GT Prelim Final	Collegians	14	Gerringong	12
U16.1 GT Prelim Final	Western Suburbs	22	Stingrays	12
U16.1 GT Grand Final	Western Suburbs	10	Collegians	4

ILLAWARRA & SOUTH COAST GROUP 7

JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE – MERGED COMPETITION

INTERNATIONAL FINAL SERIES RESULTS

1 st Semi	13-2	Thirroul	18	Kiama	10
2 nd Semi	13-2	Helensburgh	28	Milton Ulladulla	18
Prelim	13-2	Thirroul	22	Milton Ulladulla	18
GF	13-2	Helensburgh	36	Thirroul	10
1 st Semi	13-1	Warilla	16	Shellharbour	12
2 nd Semi	13-1	Thirroul	12	Kiama	6
Prelim	13-1	Warilla	28	Kiama	12
GF	13-1	Thirroul	32	Warilla	10
1 st Semi	14-2	Culburra	26	Woonona	20
2 nd Semi	14-2	Kiama	32	Nowra	8
Prelim	14-2	Culburra	26	Nowra	12
GF	14-2	Kiama	14	Culburra	10
1 st Semi	14-1	Berry	16	Albion Park OF	14
2 nd Semi	14-1	Corrimal	28	Western Suburbs	4
Prelim	14-1	Western Suburbs	22	Berry	10
GF	14-1	Corrimal	12	Western Suburbs	10
1 st Semi	15-2	Stingrays	26	Milton Ulladulla	4
2 nd Semi	15-2	Southern Highlands	14	Warilla	10
Prelim	15-2	Warilla	26	Stingrays	14
GF	15-2	Southern Highlands	22	Warilla	10
1 st Semi	15-1	Western Suburbs	12	Albion Park OF	8
2 nd Semi	15-1	Shellharbour	16	Berry	10
Prelim	15-1	Berry	28	Western Suburbs	0
GF	15-1	Berry	10	Shellharbour	6
1 st Semi	16-2	Milton Ulladulla	22	Corrimal	10
2 nd Semi	16-2	Shellharbour	14	Kiama	10
Prelim	16-2	Kiama	24	Milton Ulladulla	16
GF	16-2	Kiama	21	Shellharbour	20
1 st Semi	16-1	Collegians	34	Gerringong	6
2 nd Semi	16-1	Western Suburbs	26	Dapto	6
Prelim	16-1	Dapto	20	Collegians	14
GF	16-1	Dapto	26	Western Suburbs	20

ILLAWARRA JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE

AWARD WINNERS

Sid Hays Club Championship

1979	Collegians
1980	Western Suburbs
1981	Western Suburbs
1982	Western Suburbs & Dapto
1983	Dapto
1984	Corrimal
1985	Dapto
1986	Western Suburbs
1987	Dapto
1988	Dapto
1989	Berkeley
1990	Dapto
1991	Western Suburbs
1992	Dapto
1993	Dapto
1994	Western Suburbs
1995	Western Suburbs
1996	Western Suburbs
1997	Dapto
1998	Western Suburbs
1999	Western Suburbs
2000	Western Suburbs
2001	Dapto
2002	Port Kembla
2003	Port Kembla
2004	Dapto
2005	Dapto
2006	Helensburgh
2007	Thirroul
2008	Western Suburbs
2009	Western Suburbs
2010	Western Suburbs
2011	Western Suburbs
2012	Thirroul
2013	Thirroul
2014	Western Suburbs
2015	Western Suburbs

2016	Thirroul
2017	Western Suburbs
2018	Western Suburbs
2019	Collegians
2020	Not Awarded
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Corrimal
2023	
2024	Western Suburbs
2025	Western Suburbs

U/18 Premiers

1972	Dapto
1973	Thirroul
1974	Thirroul
1975	Port Kembla
1976	Western Suburbs
1977	Collegians
1978	Berkeley
1979	Collegians
1980	Western Suburbs
1981	Western Suburbs
1982	Dapto
1983	Port Kembla
1984	Western Suburbs
1985	Dapto
1986	Corrimal
1987	Corrimal
1988	Dapto (U/19)
1989	Dapto
1990	Dapto
1991	Western Suburbs
1992	Western Suburbs
1993	Port Kembla
1994	Dapto
1995	Western Suburbs
1996	<i>Joined Senior League</i>

ILLAWARRA JUNIOR LEAGUE

PREMIERSHIP WINNERS – MOD LEAGUE

Under 9.1

1991	Dapto
1992	Dapto
1993	Wests
1994	Wests
1995	Dapto
1996	No Record
1997	No Record
1998	St Pius X
1999	Helensburgh
2000	Western Suburbs
2001	Helensburgh
2002	Dapto
2003	Dapto
2004	Dapto
2005	Western Suburbs
2006	Thirroul
2007	Helensburgh

Under 9.2

1991	Helensburgh
1992	Thirroul
1993	Berkeley
1994	Windang
1995	Helensburgh
1996	No Record
1997	No Record
1998	Berkeley
1999	Dapto
2000	Windang
2001	No Competition
2002	Thirroul
2003	Pt Kembla
2004	Thirroul
2005	Berkeley
2006	Windang
2007	Corrimal

Under 9.3

1993	Dapto
------	-------

Under 10.1

1991	Thirroul
1992	Dapto
1993	Thirroul
1994	Western Suburbs
1995	Western Suburbs
1996	Western Suburbs
1997	Thirroul
1998	Windang
1999	St Pius X
2000	Helensburgh
2001	Western Suburbs
2002	Helensburgh
2003	Dapto
2004	Wests
2005	Dapto
2006	Western Suburbs
2007	Helensburgh Black
2008	Western Suburbs
2009	Western Suburbs
2010	Dapto
2011	Thirroul
2012	Dapto
2013	Thirroul Blue
2014	Western Suburbs
2015	Shellharbour

2016	Western Suburbs
2017	Corrimal
2018	Western Suburbs
2019	Thirroul
2020	Not Awarded
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Thirroul

Under 10.2

1991	Western Suburbs
1992	Collegians
1993	Collegians
1994	Wests
1995	St Pauls
1996	Windang
1997	Woonona
1998	Helensburgh
1999	No Competition
2000	Berkeley
2001	St Johns
2002	Western Suburbs
2003	Port Kembla
2004	Thirroul
2005	Dapto
2006	Berkeley
2007	Corrimal
2008	Northern Suburbs
2009	Thirroul White
2010	Corrimal
2011	Helensburgh
2012	Western Suburbs
2013	Northern Suburbs
2014	Helensburgh
2015	Windang
2016	Port Kembla
2017	Northern Suburbs
2018	Corrimal
2019	Corrimal
2020	Not Awarded
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Dapto

Under 10.3

1994	Dapto
1995	Helensburgh

Under 11.1

1991	Dapto
1992	Corrimal
1993	Dapto
1994	Dapto
1995	Western Suburbs
1996	Western Suburbs
1997	Port Kembla
1998	Thirroul
1999	Dapto
2000	Windang
2001	Helensburgh
2002	Windang
2003	Helensburgh
2004	Dapto
2005	Western Suburbs
2006	Berkeley
2007	Western Suburbs
2008	Western Suburbs
2009	Helensburgh
2010	Western Suburbs

2011 Western Suburbs
 2012 Collegians
 2013 Western Suburbs
 2014 Thirroul
 2015 Western Suburbs
 2016 Shellharbour
 2017 Western Suburbs
 2018 Corrimal
 2019 Western Suburbs
2020 Not Awarded
2021 Not Awarded
 2022 Corrimal
 2023 Thirroul
2024 DNP

Under 11.2

1991 Corrimal
 1992 Berkeley
 1993 Dapto
 1994 Northern Suburbs
 1995 Collegians
 1996 Port Kembla
 1997 Woonona
 1998 Thirroul
 1999 Northern Suburbs
 2000 Port Kembla
 2001 Port Kembla
 2002 Collegians
 2003 Collegians
 2004 Woonona
 2005 St Pius X
 2006 Thirroul
 2007 St Pius X
 2008 Thirroul White
 2009 Western Suburbs
 2010 Western Suburbs
 2011 Thirroul
 2012 Thirroul
 2013 Woonona
 2014 Port Kembla
 2015 Dapto
 2016 Shellharbour
 2017 Shellharbour
 2018 Northern Suburbs
 2019 Port Kembla
2020 Not Awarded
2021 Not Awarded
 2022 Helensburgh
 2023 Woonona
 2024 DNP

Under 11.3

1992 Dapto
 1996 Collegians
 2006 Collegians

Under 12.1

1991 Collegians
 1992 Dapto
 1993 Thirroul
 1994 Dapto
 1995 Thirroul
 1996 Western Suburbs
 1997 Western Suburbs
 1998 Dapto
 1999 Thirroul
 2000 Dapto
 2001 St Pius X
 2002 Helensburgh
 2003 Dapto
 2004 Helensburgh
 2005 Dapto

2006 Dapto
 2007 Western Suburbs
 2008 Dapto
 2009 Western Suburbs
 2010 Western Suburbs
 2011 Western Suburbs
 2012 Western Suburbs
 2013 Collegians Red
 2014 Western Suburbs
 2015 Collegians
 2016 Western Suburbs
 2017 Shellharbour
 2018 Western Suburbs
 2019 Corrimal
2020 Not Awarded
2021 Not Awarded
 2022 Corrimal
 2023 Thirroul
 2024 Western Suburbs

Under 12.2

1991 Western Suburbs
 1992 Port Kembla
 1993 Northern Suburbs
 1994 Windang
 1995 Woonona
 1996 Woonona
 1997 Woonona
 1998 Helensburgh
1999 No Competition
 2000 Helensburgh
 2001 Woonona
 2002 Berkeley
 2003 Corrimal
 2004 Thirroul
 2005 Dapto
 2006 Port Kembla
 2007 Windang White
 2008 Port Kembla
 2009 Windang
 2010 Windang
 2011 Helensburgh
 2012 Windang
 2013 Thirroul White
 2014 Shellharbour
 2015 Collegians
 2016 Helensburgh
 2017 Port Kembla
 2018 Shellharbour
 2019 Shellharbour
2020 Not Awarded
2021 Not Awarded
 2022 Thirroul
 2023 Woonona
 2024 Port Kembla

Under 12.3

1993 Collegians
 1996 Port Kembla
 1997 Windang

ILLAWARRA JUNIOR LEAGUE PREMIERSHIP WINNERS – LEAGUE TAG

Under 11 Girls League Tag

2022 Western Suburbs
2023 Collegians

Under 16.2 Girls League Tag

2025 Helensburgh

Under 12.1 Girls League Tag

2016 Collegians
2017 Collegians
2018 Western Suburbs
2019 Thirroul White
2020 Not Awarded
2021 Not Awarded
2022 Thirroul
2023 Western Suburbs
2024 Collegians

Under 12.2 Girls League Tag

2018 Western Suburbs
2019 Western Suburbs
2020 Not Awarded
2021 Not Awarded
2022 Helensburgh
2023 Helensburgh
2024 Corrimal

Under 13 Girls League Tag

2023 Western Suburbs

Under 14.1 Girls League Tag

2016 Woonona
2017 Collegians Red
2018 Shellharbour
2019 Collegians
2020 Not Awarded
2021 Not Awarded
2022 Thirroul
2023 Western Suburbs
2024 Thirroul
2025 Western Suburbs

Under 14.2 Girls League Tag

2018 Berkeley
2019 Helensburgh
2020 Not Awarded
2021 Not Awarded
2022 Woonona-Bulli
2023 Dapto
2024 Western Suburbs
2025 Corrimal Red

Under 16.1 Girls League Tag

2016 Collegians
2017 Woonona
2018 Collegians
2019 Collegians Red
2020 Not Awarded
2021 Not Awarded
2022 Collegians
2023 Collegians
2024 Western Suburbs
2025 Western Suburbs

ILLAWARRA JUNIOR LEAGUE

PREMIERSHIP WINNERS – MERGED COMP

Under 13.1

1991	Dapto
1992	Western Suburbs
1993	No Record
1994	Thirroul
1995	Thirroul
1996	Dapto
1997	Western Suburbs
1998	Warilla
1999	St Georges Basin
2000	Pt Kembla / Wests
2001	Dapto
2002	St Georges Basin
2003	Helensburgh
2004	St Georges Basin
2005	Helensburgh
2006	St Georges Basin
2007	Dapto
2008	Berkeley
2009	Stingrays
2010	Wests
2011	Thirroul
2012	Thirroul
2013	Albion Park Oak Flats
2014	Warilla Lake South
2015	Wests
2016	Collegians
2017	Gerringong
2018	Gerringong
2019	Collegians
2020	Not Awarded
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Dapto
2023	Corrimal
2024	Wests
2025	Thirroul

Under 13.2

1991	no record
1992	Helensburgh
1993	no record
1994	Helensburgh
1995	Wests
1996	Northern Suburbs
1997	Dapto
1998	Milton Ulladulla
1999	Berry Shoalhaven
2000	North Burgh
2001	Nowra
2002	Gerringong
2003	Berry Shoalhaven
2004	Batemans Bay
2005	Shellharbour
2006	Thirroul
2007	Thirroul
2008	Shellharbour
2009	Gerringong
2010	Albion Park Oak Flats
2011	Warilla
2012	Bomaderry
2013	Berry
2014	Shellharbour
2015	Milton Ulladulla
2016	Port Kembla
2017	Bomaderry
2018	Milton Ulladulla

2019	Dapto
2020	Not Awarded
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Berry
2023	Kiama
2024	Southern Highlands
2025	Helensburgh

Under 13.3

2006	Albion Park Oak Flats
2009	Stingrays
2010	Nowra
2011	Culburra
2012	Sussex Inlet
2013	Helensburgh
2016	Berry

Under 14.1

1991	Wests
1992	Dapto
1993	Wests
1994	Dapto
1995	Dapto & Corrimal
1996	Dapto
1997	Dapto
1998	Windang
1999	Wests
2000	Albion Park Oak Flats
2001	Kiama
2002	Dapto
2003	St Georges Basin
2004	Milton Ulladulla
2005	Windang
2006	Milton Ulladulla
2007	Wests
2008	Dapto
2009	Albion Park Oak Flats
2010	Wests
2011	Wests
2012	Thirroul
2013	Wests
2014	Albion Park Oak Flats
2015	Collegians
2016	Western Suburbs
2017	Collegians
2018	Gerringong
2019	Western Suburbs
2020	Not Awarded
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Kiama
2023	Shellharbour Stingrays
2024	Corrimal
2025	Corrimal

Under 14.2

1991	No Record
1992	No Record
1993	Wests
1994	Thirroul
1995	Northern Suburbs
1996	Thirroul
1997	Woonona
1998	Milton Ulladulla
1999	Gerringong
2000	Jamberoo
2001	Nowra
2002	Warilla
2003	Bomaderry

2004 Berkeley
 2005 Collegians
 2006 Thirroul
 2007 Batemans Bay
 2008 Gerringong
 2009 Milton Ulladulla
 2010 Corrimal
 2011 Corrimal
 2012 Berry
 2013 Albion Park - Oak Flats
 2014 Stingrays
 2015 Windang
 2016 Northern Suburbs
 2017 Gerringong
 2018 Albion Park Oak Flats
 2019 Dapto
 2020 **Not Awarded**
 2021 **Not Awarded**
 2022 Berry
 2024 Milton Ulladulla
 2025 Kiama

Under 14.3

1993 Dapto
 2009 Shellharbour
 2013 Shellharbour

Under 15.1

1991 Wests
 1992 Wests
 1993 no record
 1994 Wests
 1995 Wests
 1996 Corrimal
 1997 Thirroul
 1998 Nowra
 1999 Wests
 2000 Gerringong
 2001 Dapto
 2002 Kiama
 2003 Port Kembla
 2004 St Georges Basin
 2005 Warilla
 2006 Port Kembla
 2007 Helensburgh
 2008 Wests
 2009 Wests
 2010 Albion Park Oak Flats
 2011 Dapto
 2012 Wests
 2013 Thirroul
 2014 West
 2015 Wests
 2016 Berry
 2017 Western Suburbs
 2018 Collegians
 2019 Gerringong
 2020 **Not Awarded**
 2021 **Not Awarded**
 2022 Corrimal
 2024 Wests
 2025 Berry

Under 15.2

1992 Thirroul
 1996 Windang
 1999 Thirroul
 2000 Kiama
 2001 Gerringong
 2002 Shellharbour
 2003 Corrimal
 2004 Gerringong
 2005 Kiama
 2006 Bomaderry

2007 Warilla
 2008 Helensburgh
 2009 Albion Park Oak Flats
 2010 Nowra
 2011 Kiama
 2012 Milton Ulladulla
 2013 Corrimal
 2014 Gerringong
 2015 Bomaderry
 2016 Shellharbour
 2017 Culburra
 2018 Milton Ulladulla
 2019 Milton Ulladulla
 2020 **Not Awarded**
 2021 **Not Awarded**
 2022 Albion Park-Oak Flats
 2023 Albion Park-Oak Flats
 2024 St Georges Basin
 2025 Southern Highlands

Under 16.1

1972 Western Suburbs
 1973 Collegians
 1974 Western Suburbs
 1975 Collegians
 1976 Berkeley
 1977 Western Suburbs
 1978 Western Suburbs
 1979 Collegians
 1980 Western Suburbs
 1981 Corrimal
 1982 Dapto
 1983 Dapto
 1984 Corrimal
 1985 Warilla
 1986 Dapto
 1987 Dapto
 1988 Collegians (U/17)
 1989 Western Suburbs
 1990 Thirroul
 1991 Dapto
 1992 Western Suburbs
 1993 Dapto
 1994 Dapto
 1995 Dapto
 1996 Western Suburbs
 1997 Corrimal
 1998 Dapto
 1999 Nowra
 2000 Western Suburbs
 2001 Western Suburbs
 2002 Dapto
 2003 Port Kembla
 2004 Port Kembla
 2005 Berkeley
 2006 Dapto
 2007 Dapto
 2008 Shellharbour
 2009 Wests
 2010 Wests
 2011 Albion Park Oak Flats
 2012 Dapto
 2013 Thirroul
 2014 Wests
 2015 Wests
 2016 Western Suburbs
 2017 Collegians
 2018 Western Suburbs
 2019 Stingrays
 2020 **Not Awarded**
 2021 **Not Awarded**
 2022 Western Suburbs

2023	Kiama
2025	Dapto
Under 16.2	
1999	Albion Park Oak Flats
2000	Dapto
2001	University
2002	University
2003	Culburra
2004	Nowra
2005	Milton Ulladulla
2006	Gerringong
2007	Batemans Bay
2008	Berkeley
2009	Warilla
2010	Shellharbour
2011	Kiama
2012	Albion Park Oak Flats
2013	Milton Ulladulla
2014	Gerringong

2015	Collegians
2016	Port Kembla
2017	Culburra
2018	Stingrays
2019	Albion Park Oak Flats
2020	Not Awarded
2021	Not Awarded
2022	Milton-Ulladulla
2023	Albion Park Oak Flats
2024	Kiama
2025	Kiama



Illawarra & South Coast Merged Competition Report

There were many highlights to celebrate throughout the 2025 season. Our competition continues to operate in a highly cohesive manner across both districts. All clubs, players, match officials, and volunteers have consistently demonstrated a strong spirit of cooperation, reflecting the unity that exists throughout our region.

The growing collaboration between NSWRL, Illawarra Rugby League, and South Coast Group 7 Rugby League continues to strengthen and will undoubtedly deliver long-term benefits for everyone involved in the Merged Competition.

The Under 14s and Under 16s Girls Tackle competitions continued to thrive in both participation and quality, attracting impressive crowds to WIN Stadium. Notably, 2025 marked the first-year divisional competitions were introduced in both age groups—an exciting milestone that reflects the ongoing growth of female participation across all districts.

Congratulations to all teams and clubs who competed in these competitions and contributed to the continued development of our game within the region.

Our boys' competitions U13-U16s held their Grand Finals two weeks after the girls, also at WIN Stadium, and once again we saw record numbers through the gates. Every match was tightly contested, with results often decided in the final moments. Congratulations not only to the premiership-winning teams but also to all who competed on the day. Sincere thanks to all clubs, staff, and spectators who contributed to what was a fantastic showcase of Junior Rugby League.

A special mention and heartfelt thanks go to the referees and match officials who ensure our games are played safely and fairly. Both the Illawarra and Group 7 Referees Associations, along with their Executive Committees and officials, have done an outstanding job throughout the season. With participation numbers continuing to grow, appointing officials remains a challenge—but your dedication and professionalism ensure our competitions can thrive. Without you, the game simply doesn't happen, and we thank you sincerely on behalf of the entire Rugby League community.

To our players—congratulations on the way you played and conducted yourselves throughout the season. Week after week, we continue to witness Junior Rugby League of the highest quality. We hope each of you continues to develop both on and off the field as you progress through the junior ranks and into senior rugby league.

Sincere thanks also to our Merged Competition Committee, Illawarra Junior Rugby League, and South Coast Group 7 Junior Rugby League for their continued support, cooperation, and hard work throughout the year.

Finally, the biggest thank you goes to all our clubs, executives, and volunteers. Your effort, dedication, flexibility, patience, and countless hours of hard work have resulted in another successful season for everyone involved.

For now, take some well-earned rest, enjoy the off-season, and we look forward to seeing you all again in 2026!

Shannon Couley
NSWRL League & Club Support

2023 ILLAWARRA SOUTH COAST MERGED COMPETITION GRAND FINAL RESULTS			
AGE	RESULT		PLAYER OF THE MATCH
U13.1	Thirroul 32	Warilla 10	Hunter Rees (Thirroul)
U13.2	Helensburgh 36	Thirroul 10	Lincoln Mingare (Helensburgh)
U14.1	Corrimal 12	Wests 10	Hugo Immens (Corrimal)
U14.2	Kiama 14	Culburra 1 0	Quinn Garvey (Kiama)
U14.1 GT	Western Suburbs 44	Stingrays 8	Laylani Sullivan (Western Suburbs)
U14.2 GT	Collegians 34	Port / Berkely 0	Alyra Williams (Collegians)
U15.1	Berry 10	Shellharbour 6	Luke Keating (Berry)
U15.2	Highlands 22	Warilla 10	Ben Taylor (Highlands)
U16.1	Dapto 26	Wests 20	Seluki Halangahau (Dapto)
U16.2	Kiama 21	Shellharbour 20	Max Laird (Kiama)
U16.1 GT	Wests 10	Collegians 4	Zoe Hurst (Western Suburbs)
U16.2 GT	Milton Ulladulla 12	Kiama 10	Tazmia Boddington (Milton Ulladulla)



ILLAWARRA REFEREES' ASSOCIATION REPORT

Members,

Season 2025 was a year of many challenges for both the League and our Association. True to form, our junior referees once again led the way with commitment and professionalism. Our core group of senior referees within the junior ranks continued to grow — not only in confidence and ability but also in leadership and mentoring. This group has been instrumental in guiding our new referees and giving them strong role models to look up to. To this group, I am deeply grateful. On behalf of the Association, thank you, and please keep up the outstanding work.

I would like to thank the Board of Management for their continued support throughout the season. A special thank you also goes to Carlo Napolitano, Don Kane, and Mark Crampton for their support of both the Association and myself personally. Your commitment to our referees' development, particularly our younger members, is greatly appreciated.

I would also like to acknowledge our NSWRL Coordinators, Nathan Hodson and Shannon Couley. We've made great strides this year in improving communication between NSWRL and the IDRLRA, and I look forward to building on that progress in 2026.

Congratulations to Luke Purtell, our top Merged Competition referee, and to Taylor Cleveland on earning the top appointment in this year's First Grade Grand Final.

Thank you also to our representative referees who continue to showcase the strength of our Association. I know not everyone had the season they hoped for, but please keep your heads high and continue pushing forward — your time will come.

To all our junior referees, thank you for your effort and commitment. Without you, there is no Association or competition. I've been particularly proud of how our senior juniors have stepped into leadership roles while continuing their own development and equally impressed by the enthusiasm and rapid progress of our new referees. Your growth is a credit to both you and your mentors. The future is bright.

To our entire referee group — thank you for your dedication, resilience, and flexibility throughout the year. Your willingness to stand up when needed and to adapt to challenges is what makes this Association so strong.

To the parents and partners of our referees — thank you for your patience and understanding. Your support behind the scenes allows our referees to succeed and our Association to thrive. This season has not been without its personal challenges for me. It has truly been a rollercoaster, and I want to thank everyone who checked in or lent a hand when needed. Watching our squads at the Merged Finals this year filled me with pride — their professionalism, camaraderie, and enthusiasm reminded me exactly why I continue to do this, and why junior referee development remains my passion.

Finally, to my family — thank you for your constant love and support, not just for me but for our junior referees as well. Your shared passion for their success often rivals my own, and I couldn't do this without you.

Thank you all for another season of hard work, dedication, and belief in our referees. Here's to an even stronger 2026.

Micheal Inness
Hon. Secretary



Illawarra Division Rugby League Judiciary Report



The 2025 Rugby League season has gone quick, this report aims to provide an overview of the key aspects of the 2025 Illawarra Rugby League Judiciary, including its structure, processes, and notable rulings.

The Illawarra Rugby League Judiciary is responsible for adjudicating incidents of foul play and disciplinary matters throughout the season. Comprising independent panel members, the judiciary ensures the fair and consistent application of the rules and regulations set by the governing body. In 2025, the judiciary maintained a similar structure to previous seasons, with slight modifications to enhance transparency and efficiency.

In my opinion the judiciary hearings are conducted in a fair and transparent manner. The accused (players), officials) and/or spectators) and their support person, sometimes their legal representative, if applicable, have the opportunity to present their case, provide evidence, call witnesses, and challenge the charges against them. The panel members deliberate, then, reach our decisions based on the evidence and the rules of the game.

Once a decision is reached, the judiciary panel imposes penalties or sanctions based on the severity of the offence. These can include fines, suspensions, or other disciplinary actions such as deferred suspensions. The panel aims to strike a balance between penalising players and/or officials and spectators for their actions and ensuring a just outcome.

In response to player safety concerns, the judiciary panel took a firm stance on high tackles and dangerous contact incidents in the 2025 season. The judiciary also dealt with off-field, on-field and after game incidents involving players, officials and spectators. In cases where individuals breached the code of conduct or engaged in behaviour detrimental to the sport's reputation, appropriate penalties were imposed to uphold the values and standards of Rugby League in Illawarra.

The Judiciary Panel believe the process of setting a "breach notice" on a player can be improved by value adding to the group who view videos when players are placed on report by a referee. It is the panels belief an ex-player coach and/or player would value add to the group who view videos and bring in a different perspective. For example, the NSWRL person who did it in 2025 has sent a number of matters to us with a Grade 4 charge, in each matter we downgraded those matters to Grade 2. The 2025 season was the first time a female has been added to the judiciary panel which I have been advocating for some time. Debbie Hodgson a former referee, nurse and now a schoolteacher has been a valuable member and advocated different approaches when seeking information from players and/or witnesses which proved valuable, hopefully Debbie will continue her involvement with the 2026 judiciary panel.

Chargers in Seniors 2025 are;

There was a total of forty four (44) cases heard across all IRL senior and junior competitions in 2025, a number (1st grade) heard by the NSWRL Judiciary, club breakdown of hearings are, Avondale 1, Avondale Wombats 2, Berkeley 1, Collegians 2, Corrimal 12, Dapto 6, Dapto Junior's 1, De La Salle 8, Figtree Crushers 2, Northern Suburbs 1, Thirroul 2, Western Suburbs 4, Western Suburbs Juniors 1 and Windang Sharks 1.

Thanks go to all the officials who assisted with match reviews, which the league are aware of. However, some of the charges set by a NSWRL person was "over the top" and we questioned whether or not that person is appropriate to set the charge level. Personally, I would like to thank the following people who were called on to sit on the judiciary during the 2025 season, Frank Peppoloni, Debbie Hodgson, Tony De Las Heras and Mark Crampton.

The 2025 Illawarra Rugby League Judiciary played a crucial role in maintaining the integrity and discipline of the sport. Through the diligent application of rules and regulations, the judiciary upheld fair play and ensured that players and others were held accountable for their actions. Notable rulings, including a crackdown on high tackles and addressing unsportsmanlike behaviour, contributed to a safer and more respectable competition.

There needs to be one change to the judiciary panel to bring it up to the required level.

NSWRL requires, a solicitor needs to be added to the panel to assist in "qualified legal advice" for the Chairperson of the judiciary to make decisions, so challenges are less likely, whilst I have some legal background during my employment it is not the level required. For the past two (2) seasons I was also a member of the Darwin Rugby League Judiciary, following discussions they now have two practising solicitors available for their judiciary panel, Illawarra Rugby League need to follow that example. Due to some personal challenges, I will no longer be able to Chair the judiciary in 2026, I have really enjoyed the role and thank those league employees who I have worked alongside for a number of years and the various club officials who have displayed respect for the role I was in.

As chair of the 2025 judiciary panel, I would like to recognise and thank Mark Crampton for his assistance in producing appropriate completed paperwork, it was a pleasure working with Mark, who is a real value to rugby league in Illawarra.

Barrie Keenahan Illawarra Rugby League Judiciary Panel Chair.

2025 NSWRL Southern Zone Report – Illawarra DRL

Season 2025 kicked off with high hopes of another full calendar of rugby league with minimal interruptions after the wet weather issues of 2024. After some minor interruptions early in the season, play progressed through the season without issue however our luck changed, and the wet weather hit at the back end of the season where there were significant disruptions to our schedule leading into and including the first weeks of semi-finals. As expected, our entire Rugby League community adapted and were flexible with scheduling and staffing which allowed the season to finish positively with some amazing rugby league played across all ages and divisions.

Whilst there were many challenges throughout season 2025, there were also numerous positives this season that provided highlights across the Illawarra District. These included and were not limited to:

- 9643 total participants (up 2.8%) across the Illawarra South Coast region.
- 4190 total participants in the Illawarra (up 4.1%). Retention rates in Illawarra (78%) are above the state average (77%).
- Further growth in the Under 18 Girls tackle Competitions which included teams from all 4 districts across the Zone and MacArthur and Group 6. The inclusion of Macarthur and Group 6 teams into Open Women's competitions allowing for Divisional Rugby League Opportunities.
- 73% increase in playing numbers in Illawarra Under 18's Boys due to playing in a Zone Based competition providing divisional rugby league opportunities.
- The full adoption and implementation of the Player Development Framework across Illawarra and South Coast Districts has fostered continued growth in our game. Providing a safer and ultimately greater rugby league experience for all participants is important to our game's longevity and sustainability and the commitment to providing this is pleasing.
- The Illawarra South Coast Merged Girls Tackle Competition having divisional opportunities in both U14's and 16's Competitions for the first time. Record crowds attended both the Boys and Girls Merged Competition Grand Finals played on WIN Stadium.
- Harrigan Cup returning to NSWRL Major Competitions.
- Welcoming Carlo Napolitano and Don Kane to the IDRL in their respective roles and looking forward to working alongside them into the future.

Firstly, the biggest thanks and congratulations goes out to all our clubs, the executives, their volunteers, sports trainers and helpers and all involved with all clubs in our rugby league community. The hard work, patience, perseverance, commitment, and flexibility that all clubs display is a primary contributor to the ongoing and continual growth in rugby league. Whether it be venue changes, time changes, hosting finals and representative games, hosting the range of tackle and tag games across all venues over the week and dealing with the day-to-day issues faced, clubs are always willing to co-operate to ensure games are played. As we all know clubs don't run themselves and to you all congratulations and thank you for season 2025.

Again, NSWRL has worked closely with the NRL Development team throughout the season across our Zone. To Kyle Williams and his team, thank you and congratulations on everything you have achieved this season. The continued implementation of the Player Development Framework and the Tackle Ready program was again performed seamlessly and the resulting numbers in participation in those age group can be attributed to this delivery. The Tackle Ready Graduation Day on WIN Stadium was a highlight and an experience several hundred Under 7's players will certainly remember for their life. To Kyle, Leish Janssen, Matt Williams, Josh Norris, Jack Quine and the rest of the team, we look forward to continued engagement in the future with you and know that the Zone is in good hands.

NSWRL continues to work with Adam Bezzina and the St George Illawarra Dragons Community team during the season on numerous occasions. This engagement continues to be extremely positive, and we look forward to the next season and continuing this positive relationship. Congratulations and thanks to Adam and his team for all their hard work and dedication.

To Illawarra Rugby League Administration, Boards and Executives, thank you for all the work you do in administering the competitions. Carlo Napolitano, Don Kane, Bob Hay, Mark Crampton, John Brannon, Stuart Kerr and the Illawarra Senior and Junior Boards, the work you all perform in providing rugby league for all our participants in the region is again paramount to the success and results achieved. Rugby League is continually facing new challenges and the way our District Administrators and NSWRL work cohesively continues to foster an extremely positive working relationship with Illawarra District Rugby League and again we look forward to continuing this in 2026.

Officiating and controlling of our matches and subsequent Judiciary and Code of Conduct procedures are an integral aspect to our game. On that note to both Illawarra Referees Associations, their executives and members, a big thank you to the work you do in supporting our game. To Judiciary Chairperson Barrie Keenahan and the Illawarra Judiciary and panel members, thank you for all the work you do during our season.

Thank you goes to the Illawarra South Coast Merged Competition Committee for their continued hard work ensuring the Merged Competition continues to function and grow in the manner it has. NSWRL works closely with this committee in administering these competitions and again the cohesiveness and co-operation within representatives from the two districts on this board continues to reflect in the growth in quality of the Merged Competition. To Kevin, Stuart and the rest of the board, congratulations and again we look forward to season 2026.

On a personal note, I would like to thank our NSWRL staff for all of their hard work and commitment throughout the past season. To Shannon Couley, thank you and congratulations on a great job. Shannon is a passionate and extremely beneficial asset to our Rugby League Community and her continuing engagement with our region will be beneficial to all concerned. I look forward to this continuing engagement with leagues and clubs.

To all in our Rugby League Community, take care, put your feet up and we all look forward to working with you all in Season 2026.

Kind Regards.

Nathan Hodson
NSWRL Southern Zone Manager.

NRL Southern Region

School and Community Rugby League Report



I would like to start out by thanking our wonderful clubs, schools, and volunteers for your continued support of our programs and initiatives in 2025. Once again, this season we were blessed with great weather which presented plenty of opportunities to run our school, community events and programs. Especially pleasing was the completion of the Inaugural Tackle Ready Graduation Day, which seen 38 teams across Illawarra & Group 7 have their first Tackle experience on WIN Stadium.

To our valued club committee members, coaches, sports trainers, and volunteers your hard work and commitment to growing our great sport is reflected in participation increases in all forms of the game across the region. For those moving on, thank you for your service and, for new committee members, we welcome and thank you for volunteering your time to continue to provide our players with the best opportunities to participate Rugby League.

On the education front, our clubs and volunteers have again shown the value they place on safety and quality coaching for their players. Coach education & registration compliance was again a highlight, The Southern NSW region recorded, 758 new coaches & 562 sports trainer course participants in 2025. It would be easy to think that these sorts of numbers go unnoticed but that's certainly not the case from an NRL point of view and obviously not the case for the ever-increasing number of families that are joining our competition. We thank you all and look forward to continuing this important work together next season.

The continued partnership between NRL Game Development and the St George Illawarra Dragons was especially important in season 2025. Our teams were able to work together to deliver the Dragons Best You Can Be planner which was again a success with 42 schools signed up to the program in the Illawarra & South Coast. An enormous thank you to Dragons Community manager Adam Bezzina and his team Courtney Crawford, Blake Wallace, Keele Browne & Hannah Southwell for their ongoing commitment to being a quality presence in the region.

Thank you to NSWRL, our league representatives and their boards. In Illawarra, Stuart Kerr, Carlo Napolitano, Don Kane & Mark Crampton along with Ashton Sims, Georgia Lomas, Scott McLaurin and Kevin Whitford in Group 7. It is great to work with proactive leagues in trying to grow the game in the region. Thanks to Nathan Hodson NSWRL Zone Manager, for the work that he does and Shannon Couley for overseeing the Illawarra South Coast Merged Competition.

Finally, a massive thank you goes to our NRL Game Development staff in the region Alysha Janssen, Matt Williams, Josh Norris and we welcomed Jack Quine to the team. Our GOO team works extremely hard to improve all aspects of Rugby League in the region, with their passion and dedication to the game second to none.

The following page has a snapshot of key Game Development statistics from the 2025 season to provide an insight into the depth of work that goes into each season from our team. Once again thank you for support in 2025, enjoy the break and we look forward to working with you in 2026.

Kyle Williams

NRL Regional Manager - Southern NSW



Milestones and Wins - Illawarra South Coast

- Illawarra South Coast—registered Rugby League participants **9643 up 2.9%**
- **Mt Terry u12's NSWPSSA Classic Shield K.O. State Champions**
- **Edmund Rice College under 13's NSW Country Cup Champions**
- **Edmund Rice College under 14's Cochrane Cup Runners up**
- **Edmund Rice College Opens Boys NSW School Boy Trophy State Champions**
- **545 Registered Participants in League Stars Participation Programs**
- **134 Schools PLAYED in NRL School Competitions & Events for 14,127 participants across ISC**



2025 Dragons Community Report

DRAGONS COMMUNITY

Dragons Community support and present programs around three community pillars that reflect the needs within our local community. We have tailored programs and formed partnerships with the NRL and key local organisations in line with each of the pillars: **Health & Wellbeing, Grassroots and Social Inclusion**

The Dragons and NRL Development work with the 34 rugby league clubs within our region to increase both junior player and qualified volunteer numbers. A relationship we are very lucky to have in our catchment.



JUNIOR LEAGUE

RESPECT SESSIONS

In 2025 Dragons players and staff continued to deliver Respect sessions to all junior clubs within our catchment. This year the majority of these were delivered with the support of NRL Development as Super Sessions, commencing in March at Lyrebird Park Nowra, followed by sessions at WIN Stadium, Carlton South Public School and some individuals club sessions.

The aim of the program is to create a positive experience for the young players as well as the coaches, volunteers, referees and parents to provide the best possible game day experience.

CAPTAINS RUN JUMPER

All junior clubs received a specially designed captains run jersey signed by the entire Dragons NRL squad. The jersey featured every name of the junior clubs from within our catchment.

TACKLE READY GRADUATION

Juniors from across our catchment had the chance to take the field at Jubilee Stadium and WIN Stadium to celebrate their NRL TackleReady Graduation.

- 500+ participants
- 48 Under-7s teams

A memorable experience marking the culmination of the program.



WATCH NOW

SQUADRON COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

39 Under 10 sides had the opportunity to play at either WIN Stadium or Jubilee Stadium

720 tickets provided to junior league clubs as part of the experience, thanks to Squadron Energy

JUNIOR LEAGUE APPRECIATION ROUND

Round 10 combined a celebration of Women in League and Junior League.

- Women in League appreciation event which included pre match function, guard of honor and coin toss
- Annual Dragons catchment Mini League relay featuring 27 clubs

WATCH NOW

CHI Q DASH

The CHI Q club dash for 16 - 20 years olds, male and female once again was run and won with Warilla Gorillas (Male) and Thirroul Butchers (Female) taking home the prize of a 32" CHI Q TV

100% SATISFACTION

585 PLAYERS
\$10,800 IN TICKETING



JUNIOR LEAGUE

TELSTRA FOOTY COUNTRY

As part of the Footy Country Round, we ran an online competition inviting the community to vote for their favourite junior league club within our catchment.

- 1st Place – Shellharbour Sharks
 - Highest number of votes
 - Recognised with NRL & NRLW players wearing their club socks in Round 25 / Round 8
 - Awarded a Telstra Footy Pack, 50 tickets to Dragons v Rabbitohs, and social media promotion
- Runner-Up – Renown United
 - Awarded a Telstra Footy Pack and 50 tickets to Dragons v Rabbitohs

This initiative engaged our community online, highlighted grassroots clubs, and strengthened the connection between junior league and our NRL/NRLW teams

DEBUTANTS



This year we saw 8 local juniors make their NRL and NRLW debuts for the St George Illawarra Dragons, with many of these debutants being involved in Dragons Community programs as a junior including Under 10s match day experiences, The Best You Can Be program or Holiday clinics

SCORE DRAGONS

The Score Dragons squad were presented brand new jerseys at WIN Stadium recently as they enter the home stretch of their season. Thanks to help from The Disability Trust, the Score Dragons have enjoyed a successful season having played once again in the local Illawarra & Group 7 competition in lead-up to multiple NRL matches.

The program continues to provide meaningful respite for families and carers with the knowledge that their child is in a safe, caring, and supportive environment at all times. The 2025 season finished on a high with a Score Dragons vs Score Sharks match held at Jubilee Stadium during our round 26 fixture. The success of the Score Dragons program has seen the duplication of the program into the Sutherland Shire after the ongoing success also in Canberra.



JUNIOR LEAGUE

IN THE SCHOOL YARD



DRAGONS
COMMUNITY

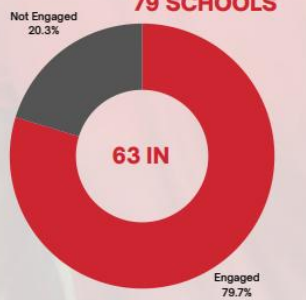


250 Total Schools

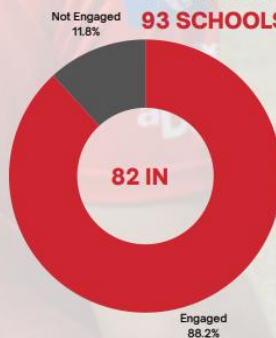


98172 ENROLMENTS
36609 total school participants

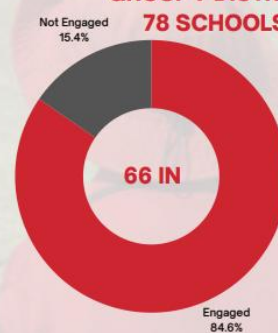
ST GEORGE DISTRICT
79 SCHOOLS



ILLAWARRA DISTRICT
93 SCHOOLS



GROUP 7 DISTRICT
78 SCHOOLS



ILLAWARRA



RUGBY LEAGUE

CLUB REPORTS

2025



Collegians RLFC

The 2025 season, saw the appointment of Jimmy Grehan as First Grade coach, and to say it has been a success, would be a gross understatement.

First Grade finished minor premiers by 8 points, tasting defeat only twice during the competition proper. They were defeated in the grand final by Wests 14/8 in extra time after the scores were locked at 8 all at full time.

Two of our juniors Cooper Morrison and Tex Anderson made their first grade debut this year, both aged 17, Tex also came off the bench in the grand final.

Reserve Grade coached by Justin Devlin, had another tough year, mainly due to injury, but to the boy's credit they never gave up or stopped trying.

The U/18's under coach Dave Methven reached the semi final in the silver competition, the boys played some very good footy towards the back end of the season.

On the representative scene 3 players were selected, Blake Phillips, Nic Hall and Callum Gromek, with Callum going on to represent country.

At the Illawarra presentation, the Club was awarded the Bob Brown Minor Premiership Trophy and the Bob Lowrie Trophy for scoring the most tries in the Harrigan Cup. Individual honors went to Callum Gromek (Best Back), James Lee (Highest Try Scorer), and Blair Grant (Highest Point Scorer).

I would like to acknowledge our valued volunteers, who we simply could not survive without, our board of directors for their unwavering support, our greens keeper Luke Renehan, secretary Craig Worthington and a new addition to our administration team Blake Edwards. Thank you all for your contribution to a very successful season. Also, to the senior management team Brad Linsel, Nerida Stevens, Stephanie Coleman and Allan Rigby.

To our C.E.O. Michael Wilkins for your ongoing support of senior and junior rugby league I thank you on behalf of the players.

In closing I am happy to announce the reappointment of First Grade coach Jimmy Grehan for the 2026 season.

BRUCE PRIOR
COLLEGIANS CHAIRMAN



Collegians JRLFC

The 2025 season was a positive season for Collegians Juniors. We fielded 33 teams in boys and girls tackle, Blues Tag, and open ladies' tag. Our registration numbers were big –505 to be exact ... 232 of these females.

Whilst we maintained good numbers, we unfortunately failed to field a Senior Women's Open Tackle team. This was disappointing after our inaugural team made the semis in 20224. Regardless, our female program is still growing, and we fielded teams in the U14.2, 16.1 and u18 girls tackle competitions... all three teams also competing in the semi-finals. We had 10 teams in Girls Blues Tag across 7 age groups (Under 9 through to Opens). In addition, we had 20 tackle teams in the u6 to u16 age competitions.

Whilst we were competitive and prominent in many divisions, trophies were again hard to come by in 2025. We only secured 2 Premierships in both Juniors and Seniors for the Club. U14.1 Blues Tag girls won the title, and our Open Ladies League Tag team were able to win their fourth consecutive Premiership... defeating Figtree 16-0 in the Grand Final. The u14.2 Girls Tackle were narrowly defeated in the Premiership decider.

As a Club we were well represented in Representative footy. Dean Nutland, Laila Poto, Ruby Seitula and MJ Tukere were in the Steelers Academy. Cale Parr, Hunter Fangupo and Callum Cooney played for the South Coast Dragons Andrew Johns Cup and Asher Chapman, Callum Cooney and Hunter Fangupo made the Steelers Harold Matthews Cup team as bottom age players. Cooper Morrison also made this team and later debuted in first grade. Fellow 17-year-old Tex Anderson also debuted in First Grade for Collegians. Cooper Morrison also made the NSWCCC u18 team. Coco Butcher was selected for NSW Schoolgirls, representing CIS in the girls U16s. Coco was also a member of the Sydney Roosters Lisa Fiaola team. Aliyah McGuinness, Remy Roper and Claudia Nairn represented the Rabbitohs Lisa Fiaola team and Laila Poto played for the Steelers in the Fiaola and also made the Country team.

I would like to thank all our committee members, coaching staff and volunteers who attend our club meetings and for their input and assistance throughout the season. A huge thank you to all coaches, managers, trainers, water runners and support staff that get our teams on the park every week. Your efforts don't go unnoticed and are greatly appreciated by the Players and the Club. Special mention to Jeff Whalley, Matt Byrne, Jeff Murphy, Garry Lavender, Dave Ingham, Brad Nutland, Karl O'Brien, Mick and Amber Blackwell, Dave Evans, Dave Methven, Morgan Basham, Trent Yeo, Brayden and Glen Boyd, Kim McGuinness, amongst others for your continued effort for our Club.

Special Mention to Brian O'Rourke and Wanda Methven for their tireless efforts year upon year. On behalf of everyone involved in Collegians JRLFC, I would like to thank CEO Michael Wilkins and Club President Bruce Prior and his Board of Directors for their unwavering support of Rugby league at Collegians. Further, to senior President Bruce and Secretary Craig Worthington and First Grade Coach James Grehan, thanks for your ongoing support.

Our AGM will be held on Wednesday 12th November 2025 @7pm at Collegians Figtree, 147 The Avenue, Figtree. All welcome and encouraged to attend ... Looking forward to the 2026 season!

David Riolo
Junior league Chairman



Dapto RLFC

We have come to the end of another great season of rugby league at Dapto which saw our first-grade team reaching the preliminary final. The addition of club legend Paul McGregor as Coaching Director was a huge positive for our club, bringing with him valuable experience and professionalism that was appreciated by everyone, especially the coaches and players of all grades. Our squad was strengthened by the return of several talented Dapto juniors and the welcome addition of new players.

The Under 18 boys competed in the Silver Division of the Southern Corridor competition. Coach Phil Brown guided this group of young men, some of whom had not played together before, and by season's end they had shown improvement in resilience and teamwork.

New coach Craig Simon took charge of the Harrigan Plate side, who began the season with promise, with a couple of wins and a draw among the results. Unfortunately, season ending injuries to key players made it difficult to gain momentum in this competition.

Blake Wallace in his fourth year as head coach of first grade, assisted by Adam Blake, continued efforts to build a winning team with a mix of Dapto juniors and experienced players. During the season the Canaries had a run of seven wins from eight games including a good win against eventual Premiers Western Suburbs, which helped to secure a third-place finish in the Harrigan Cup competition.

Hooker Josh Daley on his return to the Canaries after playing rugby league in England, celebrated a great season by winning the Paul McGregor medal for Harrigan Cup player of the year.

Congratulations to Josh Daley and Jason Gillard on their selection in the I.S.C.D. Open Men's team for the Country Championships.

Thank you to our major sponsor Dapto Leagues Club for your continued support of the Canaries. Thanks also to the following businesses for supporting our footy club:

- John Condon Bathrooms
- Harcourts Real Estate Dapto
- Kimi Kimi Cleaning
- Splice-Tech
- True Blue Chemicals
- Phoenix Law Firm Wollongong
- Dapto Premium Tyres

I would like to thank our small group of hardworking committee members and volunteers who give so much time and effort during the season. Thanks also to our coaches, trainers, support staff, players and families. We also appreciate our supporters who travelled to both home and away games providing a great atmosphere and encouragement of our teams. Looking forward to a successful 2026 season for all grades.

GO THE CANARIES!!
Tracey Sigmond
Secretary DRLFC





Dapto JRLFC

Season 2025 – We had a few interrupted weekends due to the return of the rain, but we still had a great year for everyone who was involved. We had some great sunny days which were beautiful but also some cold and windy ones to remind us we play a winter sport. All our community ended up successfully completing the season with some great results Over 450 players made up 39 teams (Tackle and Blues Tag) participating in the Illawarra Junior Competition, wearing the gold and blue colours of the mighty Dapto Canaries.

Mini League (5yrs-9yrs) - boys and girls playing in 13 teams, an introduction to rugby league and making friends. All kids learn the skills of the game while having plenty of fun. Mod League (10yrs-12yrs) – 7 teams, enjoying the competition each Saturday. Improving skills at training and learning more about the game. Blues Tag (U'9-OWLLT) 12 teams of young girls playing in the competition each Friday night/Saturday morning, many playing the game for the first time. The club's fastest growing and most popular age groups for girls. Thank you to Jane Tarlinton for coordinating all the girl's games and teams.

Our 16-1 BT & Open Women's Div 2 Tag teams took on a strong competition, had some great wins and both made it to the Grand Final but were unsuccessful on the night. Everyone should be very proud 2025 saw the growth of Girls Tackle with 2 teams of 14's girls and our first U'16's team, it was great to see all the girls develop and play in a great competition.

International teams 4 Boys International Teams all showing what the game is about, turning up each week to play the sport that the boys love Our 16-1 boys started the year on a rocky road seeing them in 2nd last position midway through. They dug deep and made it through the final series to meet a very dominant Wests team in the Grand Final played on Father's Day. A brilliant game of footy saw our boys come away with the win, beating Wests 26 – 22.

Congratulations to coach Dale Jackson and Brett Smith on an outstanding year REP PLAYERS U'15 Destin Tausala U'16 - Darcy Atwell, Oliver Burton, Sam Duffy, Seluki Halangahu.

SPONSORS Thank you to our major sponsor - Dapto Leagues Club. Also, a big thanks to the following 2025 sponsors for your support: PRD, Dapto Cricket Club, Jimani Trophies, Illawarra Credit Union, Linsol, Tonittos, Paul Murphy – Small Job Specialist, M & S Engineering, APG, Dapto Mechanical, Airserve Airconditioning, RMB Lawyers, Thermis Commercial Food Equipment, Mainline Plumbing, McDonalds Family Restaurants.

SPECIAL EVENTS Fundraising Pie Drive and Cadbury Chocolates Two Family Fun Nights at Dapto McDonalds St. George Bank Challenge - U'10 teams playing at NRL games at WIN Stadium Presentation Day held at Reed Park with kids' carnival rides.

Thank you to our hard-working committee members, who put in so much time and effort to enable our young players to take the field each weekend. There is a lot of work done behind the scenes by our volunteer committee members and a lot of time away from our own families. Without the help and support of these truly wonderful people we wouldn't have a club Thank you to all coaches, managers, trainers, and volunteers who assisted during the year. To our Dapto families, we look forward to seeing you all in season 2026, and welcome your assistance as volunteers, to keep this great club growing into the future.

Kristie Ruprecht Secretary Dapto JRLFC

Western Suburbs RLFC



2025 was another great year to be a Devil. Double, double champs, winning both the Harrigan Cup (1st Grade) for the second straight season and Plate (2nd Grade) Premierships for the third successive year. The Devils also won both the Junior and Senior Club Championships.

Season 2025 kicked off with high anticipation for the Devils, fielding sides in Under 18s, Shield, 1st Division and Mojo Homes Cup. The Devils also again fielded a team in the Ladies 'Blues tag' competition as well as Ladies Tackle.

It was great to see our Ladies in Red competing in the Southern Corridor tackle competition in 2025, with the expanded Southern Corridor region competition. Our club has already produced NRLW players, and we forward to seeing more girls coming through the ranks in the coming years from our juniors.

Coach Brad Reh guided our Under 18s through to the semi-finals, in the expanded southern corridor under 18s "Gold" division, finishing the year in fourth position on the ladder. Unfortunately, the team bowed out in a tight semi-final.

Our Shield (3rd Grade) in a combined team with Mount Kembla, with Peter Dane joining the club to coach. Shield provides a number of players avenues to transit through to higher grades from juniors and an opportunity to play each week. With the club fielding multiple grades, it took courageous efforts at times from players playing short on numbers with several huge efforts throughout the year making the club extremely proud.

Our Reserve Grade, or Plate team had another outstanding season, whilst losing out on the minor premiership on for and against, the team won its third successive Grand Final with a gritty 20-10 win over the Avondale Wombats. Led by Coach Justin King, the team finished with 8 wins a draw and 2 losses from 11 games. A number of players from the team also made debuts in the Harrigan Cup team and continue to show great depth from our juniors.

Our 1st Grade Harrigan Premiership team put the icing on the cake on Grand Final day, in a nailbiter, winning in extra time 14-8. The team finished second in the regular season with 9 wins and 6 losses but hit top gear when it mattered to take home the silverware, based around outstanding defence, holding minor premiers Collegians to just one try in 160 minutes of finals football. The result is reward and testament to the many years of hard work from a number of core players, as well as Coach Peter McLeod.

There were a number of major individual milestones for our players this year, with Dane Chisolm taking home man of the Match in the Grand Final for the second successive year. We also congratulate Dylan Lauri and Lachlan Hurst on playing their 100th First Grade games for the club during the season. Tepai Moeroa has also been called into international duties for the Cook Islands.

We also extend our wishes to a number of juniors who were selected in the Under 16s Andrew Johns Cup Squads and Under 18 Laurie Daley Cup.

The Club would like to take this opportunity to thank our trainers, coaches and volunteers, as well as our players and supporters. Finally thank you to our sponsors who supported us and particularly to our major sponsor, Western Suburbs Leagues Club Illawarra Ltd for their ongoing support.

Without the support of Wests Illawarra Leagues Club our club would simply not function. Their contribution enables junior sports facilities, grounds maintenance, training gear, clothing, equipment, playing apparel and countless other elements for our club. We would again like to wholeheartedly thank Wests Illawarra League Club for its support of both our Junior and Senior Rugby League clubs, with the assistance resulting in our Clubs goals of growing participation in rugby league, and development of players to the highest level of the game. It is likely that hundreds of players would lose access to the ability to play or access our great game and certainly would require greater financial contribution from parents and players in order to play without the Clubs generous support.

Yours in sport

Drew Ferns
Wests Devils RLFC



Western Suburbs JRLFC

The 2025 Junior Rugby League and League Tag season has been another very successful one for our great club. We had over 400 registrations across our male and female competitions including league tag. Approximately 50% were female participation, which is another increase on female participation within our club. The female game, League Tag and Tackle continues to go from strength to strength. Our mini and mod team numbers are very healthy, which gives our club great confidence for continued success into the future.

Our competitive ages, U13s to U16s across League tag and Tackle, had another successful year. We had our 14 girls league tag win the premiership this year and our 16 girls league tag win the premiership. In the girls tackle international competition our 14,1 girls went through the season undefeated and won the premiership and our 16,1 girls also won the premiership. We are very proud of the continued success of our girls at Wests. Our 13 to 16 boys also had a great year, with the 14,1s, 15,1s, and 16,1s making the semifinals. With the 14,1s and 15,1s falling one game short in the Grand final.

On the back of this success our club won the club championship for the third year in a row. I would like to thank the coaches, water runners, and managers for all the hard work and time they put into our players across all our teams. We would not be successful as we are without you.

I would also like to take this opportunity to Thank the committee for all the work they do behind the scenes, to ensure our game days run smoothly and our players are looked after throughout the season.

This year we welcomed two of our longest serving volunteers, Peter and Kelly Reed, into the Life membership Club. They join an illustrious group of people who have been instrumental in driving the great culture our club has and are the foundations of which our club is built on. The Wests Junior Rugby League would like to thank Peter and Kelly for their continued service and sacrifice for our great club and congratulate them on their induction into a very special group of people.

On a personal level, my second year as the Junior club President has been very rewarding. Although the great results our club has achieved have been enjoyable to watch this year, I am most proud of the way our players, coaches and staff and supporters have conducted themselves throughout the year. The culture of our club is outstanding.

I would like to congratulate our senior teams Reserve Grade and First Grade on their Premierships this year, and for winning the club championship again for the second year in a row.

Finally, I would like to thank all our sponsors and our major sponsors Wests Illawarra and Bryden's Lawyers for their continued support over many years. We look forward now to next year and another successful year with our great club.

W.S.J.R.L.F.C Junior President
Trent Weaver

Corrimal Cougars JRLFC

2025 Annual Report



Dear All,

The Cougars Juniors have made 2025 a year to remember with a slight increase in growth and a great retention rate. This saw the club field 29 teams including 16 tackle teams, 9 League Tag teams and a record 4 girls tackle teams. We now have 49% of players are female!

The growth is testament to the hard work of the committee and coaching staff to grow a culture at our club of inclusion and development. Our committee members also worked very hard to secure sponsorship through fostering relationships in our local community that support the mighty Cougars across all age groups.

Through the dedication of our committee and the valued support of our sponsors our club was able to provide all players with shirts, socks, training shirt and a polo shirt for 2025. Unfortunately, our season launch didn't happen this year due to the weather, however we had lots of opportunities throughout the season to meet up at our local sponsor venues to socialise as a club. Throughout the season our teams enjoyed the opportunity to play on our seniors ground, which they always find exciting.

The clubs annual U9 Tommy Martin memorial gala day unfortunately was also cancelled due to weather. This knockout has become a pivotal event in the Corrimal Cougars JRLFC calendar for everyone in our club to look forward to and enjoy and look forward to hosting this next year.

Our highlight of the year was being able to form two under 12 girls tackle teams and merging with the Cronulla Competition. What an amazing opportunity for our girls to play in a girls only competition at this age. A lot of hard work from our committee made this happen. We appreciate IRL and the Board for supporting us.

We finished off this great season with presentations for all age groups. We split them up into U6 - U12 fun day at our Seniors field with jumping castle, face painting, activities and food for the kids.

We will also be holding our semi formal night at The Fraternity Club to celebrate the achievements of our U13 – U16 teams which is always a great night.

Kids and adults have a great time at all events and again a massive effort from the committee to get these events going.

The coaching staff have done amazing work with our teams and the results and growing registration reflect this. As a club we are proud with 2025's great results on and off the field.

The club celebrated our grand-final teams with the following results:

14-1's were premiers with an outstanding game winning against Wests!
Our 14-2 tag team also won their grand final with a great game from the girls!

We had multiple teams make the semi-finals and finals as well. Great achievement from all of our teams.

The representative levels this year saw a large number of players for Corrimal make the Illawarra and other rep teams. We wish them luck for next year and beyond doing the club proud.

The year could not have been the success it was without our very valued sponsors returning this year to support our club: Corrimal Bowling Club, Ads Lawn Maintenance, BOAB Services, GP Cranes, Morgan Excavations, Notorious Steel Fixing, SEP Electrical, UNI Civil, Bulli Beach Café, Woonona Dental, Polyaire, Bedford Bathrooms, CJ Build, DN Mortgage, Gateway Ford, Sneaky Burger and Fitness Plus.

We also welcomed many new sponsors this year including Visual Energy, Physio Health Corrimal, Firm Built Bathrooms and Highway Concreting. Thank you to the Illawarra league administrators for their ongoing support and guidance as Corrimal continues to grow and achieve great results.

Looking forward to a great 2026 Season!

Regards,

René Giblett
Corrimal Cougars JRLFC Registrar

Illawarra Rugby League Annual Report

Referees Coordinator's Report – 2025 - Mitchell James

It has been an honour to serve as Referees Coordinator for the Illawarra Rugby League. After several seasons in this role, 2025 will be my last, and I want to reflect on what has been a tough & rewarding journey.

Illawarra Rugby League Annual Report Referees Coordinator's Report – 2025 - Mitchell James It has been an honour to serve as Referees Coordinator for the Illawarra Rugby League. After several seasons in this role, 2025 will be my last, and I want to reflect on what has been a tough & rewarding journey.

This year, our referees once again upheld the highest standards, handling the challenges of the season with professionalism and pride. Grand Final Day reflected this perfectly, with outstanding performances across all three major fixtures:

- Harrigan Shield – Luke Mungovan (Referee); TJs Beau Rejske & Isaac Warburton. A commendable story unfolded when Michael Chin, initially appointed, stepped aside so Luke could take the appointment following the birth of his child. A remarkable act of integrity.
- Harrigan Plate – William Damato (Referee); TJs Thomas Inness & Wayne Cooke. Will's growth this season has been outstanding after a challenging period last year. His maturity and commitment were on display in the Plate Final.
- Harrigan Cup – Taylor Cleveland (Referee); TJs Amelia Sheppard & Darren Van de Moosdyk. Taylor delivered a confident, composed performance in the main game, one that capped off his best season yet.

Acknowledgements

This season would not have been possible without the support of so many. I extend my sincere thanks to:

- The Illawarra Board of Management and the Steelers Board for their commitment to rugby league in the region. It's good to see some stability in the league's administration team and I'm looking forward to seeing the 2026 season continue to highlight this.
- Mark Crampton for his guidance, wisdom, and steady support throughout my time in this role.
- The clubs, players, and especially the First-Grade coaches. Your cooperation, professionalism, and willingness to work with referees has been invaluable.
- To all referees who represented Illawarra this year: your efforts on and off the field are something you should be very proud of. Closing As I step away from this role, I do so with immense gratitude and pride in what has been achieved. I look forward to watching Illawarra referees continue to develop and thrive into the future. Best of luck to all clubs for the 2026 season.

Yours in Rugby League,
Mitchell James Referees Coordinator Illawarra Rugby League

Northern Suburbs RLFC



Northern Suburbs Senior Rugby League Football Club Inc Est.:1946

Premierships:

First Grade: 1952, 60, 61.

Reserve Grade: 1959, 62, 63

Third Grade: 1955, 63.

Amateur League: 1985, 86, 88,90,91,92

Coal Shield : 2015. Harrigan Shield 2022.

PRESIDENT: Peter Carroll

SECRETARY: Renee Hurworth

Northern Suburbs would like to thank all of our hard-working Committee Members, Volunteers and supporters for keeping this wonderful and historic Club alive and going strong.

It was at times a difficult season for our Senior Shield side with many long-term injuries to players but credit goes to our coach Eamon Hillen with our side finishing fourth and making the finals this year. Thank you to all our senior players for their dedication. The feeling at our Club at the moment is very positive with having a lot of younger players coming through over the last couple of years and with Eamon committing to take on the coaching role again in season 2026 things are looking very positive for the future. All our junior sides performed amazingly often playing short but still competing so well winning there majority of games. We thank the players, coaching staff and of course the parents for believing and supporting this amazing club.

As we are all aware without the hard work behind the scenes it is impossible to run a football side. The incredible work by our senior side of things by Renee and Ellis Hurworth and family, our Junior Committee members for their ongoing support and help, many of them working for the seniors on game day after spending all their time with the juniors in the morning so a big thankyou to Dicky, Ash and Scottie. Also, to our senior side Manager Greg Gaffney, trainer Damo and our water runners especially Kenny, ground manager Youngy and our long term line marking specialist James Thomas.

A great night was had by all at our Presentation night at our Major Sponsors Scarborough Wombarra Bowling Club with plenty of life members present. It was a special moment of the night with Dave Cullen being presented his Life Membership for his services to the club as a player, coach and his ongoing work with the junior and seniors.

To our major sponsor Scarborough Wombarra Bowling Club and other leading sponsors Dignam's Real Estate, Dec Aviation, Scarborough Upholstery ,The Travelling Guy, Helensburgh Liquor and all our other sponsors and Jumper Sponsors thank you for the year and looking forward to our relationship continuing hopefully into the future.

A big season coming up in 2026 with our 80th year anniversary since the introduction of Northern Suburbs so stay tuned for the coming reunion and celebrations.

President N.S.R.L F C
Peter Carroll.



WINDANG JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE

PRESIDENT Barry Jones

SECRETARY Jamie Skeates

REGISTRAR Erica Winkelbauer

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO PO BOX 19 WINDANG 2528 or
windangpelicans@gmail.com

The Windang Pelicans JRL had a successful 2025 Season.
It was our 60th Anniversary year.

Up from 4 teams in 2024 to 6 teams in 2025, thanks to our generous sponsors we were able to offer free registration to all our players.

The Brian Spec Leach U/6s Gala Day was a fantastic day, 24 teams from Illawarra and Group 7 participating and the weather gods put on a cracker.

A special mention to Brian as he has been heavily involved every one of our 60 years.

We had great 60th Anniversary Gala Dinner with over 180 people attending and NSWRL honouring Brian for his 60 years of continues service to Illawarra District Rugby League.

Thank you to our sponsors:

Club Windang, Multicoat Holdings, MMJ South Real Estate (now called One Agency Elite Property Group), Jones Complete Services and Antony Harris Painting & Decorating.

With these great sponsors being onboard again for 2026 we will be able to offer Free Registration again in 2026.

Thank you to our wonderful Committee and Volunteers.

President W.J.R.L
Barry Jones



Woonona-Bulli JRLFC – 2025 Annual Report

Dear Illawarra Junior Rugby League Members,

It gives me great pleasure to provide you with the report for our club for the 2025 season.

2025 was a successful year for the Bushrangers both financially and in sporting achievement.

As all small sporting clubs would know, we rely heavily on our volunteers and members, we cannot thank our volunteers enough for their role they played throughout the year.

We also rely on our committee members and sponsors who we are also extremely grateful for.

We would also like to thank Carlo, Don, and all other Illawarra members for their work throughout a challenging year.

The Bushrangers would like to thank Illawarra for the opportunity to host League Tag Semi Finals at our ground which was a successful night by all.

Off the field, we had a highly successful financial year. Through canteen sales and two major fundraising events we raised some much-needed money to help for storage and Hollymount Parks facilities upgrades.

On the field, our Tackle, League Tag, Mini & Mod Teams once again showed plenty of excitement for our club. We had strong numbers throughout our younger ages, with plenty of skill and lots of fun had we are super excited about the future of our younger teams.

In our international teams, we also had a highly successful year, fielding at least one team in all competition ages.

Our under 14's boys got a taste of finals footy playing a semi-final, and three out of our four league tag teams playing competition also made finals. A huge accomplishment for our club.

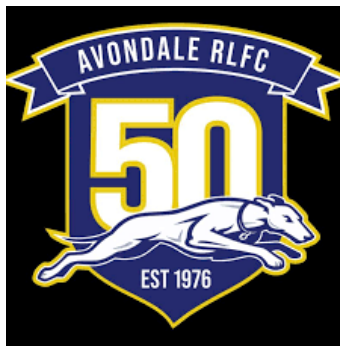
A special shoutout to our departing under 16's Boys side who have played their last game of junior league with the Bushrangers and now go on to Senior league, we wish them all the best and thank everyone for their efforts on and off the field.

A huge thank you and congratulations to their coaching staff, AJ, Brent, Evo, Larissa, and everyone else who has helped over the past ten years.

The Bushrangers would also like to thank Keith Buckman who reached his 20 years of service this year. Keith has done most roles through his 20 years, with his recent role volunteering as our ground manager. Keith is a huge asset to our club, and we cannot thank him enough for his time.

Yours faithfully,

Brent Jones
President, Woonona Bulli Bushrangers



Avondale Greyhounds RLFC

The Avondale Greyhounds going back-to-back in our 50th year Anniversary which has proven a hard achievement on milestone years for other clubs.

Since 2020 Avondale Greyhounds have been in every grand final either in Plate (Res Grade) or Shield (2nd Division).

Cheers,

Brad Fisher

Avondale Wombats

The Avondale Wombats enjoyed a strong 2025 season, with all three teams – Harrigan Plate, Harrigan Shield, and Open Women's Tackle – making it through to the semi-finals.

Our Plate team progressed to the grand final, ultimately finishing as runners-up to Wests after a hard-fought match. It was also an historic year for the club, with our Open Women's Tackle side making their debut. They performed exceptionally well, reaching the semi-finals in their inaugural season.

Looking towards 2026, the Wombats are eager to continue building on this success. We are exploring the addition of a junior club, with the aim to field teams in as many age groups as possible. We are also hoping to introduce an under 18s men's side into the competition. Avondale remains committed to growing as a club with a focus on community involvement, and we have ambitions to establish our very first Cup side in the near future.

The future is looking bright for the Wombats as we look to expand and strengthen our presence both on and off the field.

Kind Regards

Amanda Puckeridge

President

Avondale Wombats Rugby League Club

Thirroul Butchers RLFC

While 2025 may not have been our most successful year in relation to wins and losses, the foundations have been laid for future years with the debuting of several local juniors, the fielding of two under 18 sides and the construction of a new amenities building which will provide modern and comfortable facilities for years to come.

Special mention to our Major sponsors in Ryde Eastwood & Club Thirroul. Our major associate sponsors in K & R Fabrications, Dignam Real Estate, Ryans Hotel.

We thank our many Associate & jersey sponsors. These people have once again made it possible for us to compete as a club.

To our Coaching staff of coach Jarrod Costello, Aaron Beath, Michael Henderson, Mich Bate and Phil Ostwald, Ben Couchman who have all agreed to continue in their roles again next year we thank you and are extremely grateful for the job you have done this year and I'm sure we will reap the rewards from the foundations laid this season.

Thank you to all of our players and families who gave 100% throughout the season in sometimes very trying and testing conditions and we look forward to watching the further development and improvement next season under much more comfortable circumstances.

As mentioned 2025 has been a very challenging year but as history shows the Butchers always bounce back so we look forward to 2026 with much anticipation.

Brett Jones
President
Thirroul RLFC



BERKELEY JRLFC 2025 Annual Report

The 2025 season presented the usual challenges that Berkeley seems to face year after year, especially in regards to player registrations. We ended up fielding 9 teams, with 3 of them being joint ventures with other clubs. U13s with Wests devils and U14s and U14GT with Port Kembla, so once again I thank Trent (Wests) and Tash (Port) for the collaboration of these teams.

Our Minis had healthy numbers in 6s, 7s and 8s and are continuing to grow with great coaches taking the reins this year, all enjoyed their respective gala days. Presentation day was a big hit at Illawarra Inflatable World. Were some of our littles received their first trophy of many we hope!!

Our international teams had a great season not the results they had obviously hoped for, but I think it was a great start to girls tackle for the first time in Berkeley making it to the grand final. Many of these girls it was their first year playing Rugby League. Our boys' teams had struggling seasons, but realized on the back end of the season hard work and training will bring results. Our presentation was a formal dinner at Berkeley Sports Club, which was great to see so many kids from the merged clubs come to celebrate the season that Berkeley contributed we thank all players from these clubs. This was the first year we didn't do participation trophies instead doing club boot bags which I think everyone was stoked with especially parents!!

2025 saw Berkeley celebrate its 70th year in junior rugby league and a marvellous celebration was held at all Berkeley fields showcasing not only all our wonderful players but memorabilia from the 50s to present day, followed by a celebration dinner at the sports club from past players from early days reminiscing about their youthful playing days.

Our 15 boys had a wonderful session with Paul Langmack about mental health and resilience which was capped off with a BBQ and team chat, I hope that more clubs have the opportunity to have this changeroom discussion with NRL well-being unit.

Our Senior Women's League tag was a great hit this year and saw many of our junior mums participate in a healthy side, lots of laughs and learning saw us come 5th in the competition. Training being held after juniors with lots of kids putting their input into mums training!! Next year we hope to field a women's tackle and tag, lots of interest so we will see were 2026 will take us.

Once again, I would like to thank the IRL for their support during the season as with all the changes I know it wasn't easy. Also, a huge thankyou to our small but extremely hard-working committee and volunteers for your continued support during the season. Especially running canteen and BBQ on game days as I think we have the best Bacon and egg rolls in the district!

Also, to all our wonderful sponsors who help minimize registration costs to our players and was also able to fund training gear free for all registered players. Which has been wonderful to see on training days. As our planned and rebuilding continues, we look forward to a happy 2026 season. Have a safe break from footy and see you before you know it in 2026!

Berkeley JRLFC President
Dee Milosevski



Helensburgh Tigers RLFC

The 2025 season was a proud and successful year for the Helensburgh Tigers, with all five of our teams qualifying for the finals—a testament to the dedication of our players, coaches, volunteers, and wider club community.

A particular highlight was our Open League Tag team, who went through the season undefeated and were crowned premiers.

This year we hosted Illawarra Rugby League finals at our home ground in Helensburgh for the very first time. The events were successful, made possible by the tireless efforts of our volunteers and the enthusiastic support of the local community.

Our Over 30s Women's League Tag team continued to go from strength to strength in their second season together. Building on the foundations laid last year, the group showed tremendous growth in both confidence and skill, developing genuine game awareness and teamwork throughout the season. Their commitment to improving each week was palpable and the camaraderie within the squad made them a valued part of our club community. The team's enthusiasm and positive spirit have been infectious, they are already eager to return in 2026, ready to take their game to the next level.

We were thrilled to see the return of our Women's Tackle team after a few years away from competition. Their presence brought renewed energy to the club and helped strengthen our commitment to providing pathways for female athletes in the game.

Similarly, we re-entered the Under 18's competition for the first time in many years and capped off their season with an outstanding premiership victory. A truly inspiring achievement for a young and determined group, managed by a coaching and mentoring group deeply committed to developing young athletes both on and off the field.

Our Reserve Grade side this season was a great blend of experience and emerging talent, featuring a mix of seasoned "old heads" and enthusiastic "young guns" eager to make their mark. Predominantly made up of local players, the team embodied the true spirit of the Helensburgh Tigers—tough, committed, and proud to represent their hometown. This combination not only created a strong on-field unit but also fostered a great culture within the club, as the older players mentored the younger ones, ensuring the traditions and values of the Tigers are carried into the future.

The unwavering support from our loyal Tigers supporters continues to be the heartbeat of our club. From the sidelines to behind the scenes, their passion and involvement create an environment that players and families are proud to be part of.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to our long-term goal of returning to First Grade. While 2026 may come just too soon, every step we take is laying the foundation for a strong and sustainable future at that level. Our focus remains on building depth, culture, and community engagement as we continue to grow the Helensburgh Tigers legacy.



Dodge COBB

President & Licensee

Helensburgh Tigers RLFC

Helensburgh Junior Rugby League Football Club 2025

2025 has been a landmark year for the Helensburgh Junior Tigers both on and off the field. As a proud community-based club with deep roots in the northern Illawarra, we've continued to grow our numbers, strengthen our programs, and contribute meaningfully to the regional rugby league calendar.

With 220 registered players, Helensburgh JRLFC saw its largest registration in many years. Our teams ranged from Under 6s through to Under 16s, with many players backing up into older age groups, celebrating major game milestones including 50 and 100 games, and continuing to build a strong club culture of resilience, inclusion, and passion for the game.

Our competition teams performed well, with the U13-2s Tackle, U14-2s and U16-2s League Tag all progressing to Grand Final matches. We are proud to celebrate the U13-2s Tackle and U16-2s League Tag sides as 2025 Premiers.

But our impact extended far beyond the scoreboard. This year, Helensburgh JRLFC:

- *Hosted finals for the U14s, U16s, and Open Women's League Tag competitions

- *Ran inclusive and well-attended Gala Days for U8s (Spud Coman Memorial), U11s and U12s

- *Welcomed players from across the region to School Holiday Clinics hosted at our home ground

- *Supported the St George Illawarra Dragons, with Helensburgh players participating in halftime entertainment at WIN Stadium and Kogarah, including the U9 relays and a U10 halftime match

- *Delivered a successful fundraising Trivia Night, bringing together players, families, and supporters to invest in grassroots footy

- *Celebrated our players and community at our end-of-season Presentation Day held at Glenburnie Orchard

As part of our commitment to growing female participation in rugby league, we also facilitated Girls Tackle Clinics to promote confidence, connection, and skill development among our female players. With over 100 girls now registered with our club, we are proud to be helping shape the future of women's rugby league in the region.

In addition to our player development initiatives, the club also began key facility upgrades, including the construction of new canteen amenities. Discussions are continuing with our senior club to explore long-term improvements to ensure our facilities evolve alongside our growing player base.

We would like to formally acknowledge the Illawarra Rugby League Association for the continued support, coordination and opportunities offered to our players and community throughout the 2025 season.

Finally, I extend sincere thanks to our club executives, committee members, coaches, managers, trainers, event organisers, canteen workers, volunteers and our players families whose dedication makes our club function smoothly and with heart. These efforts each week, whether at training, on game day, or behind the scenes, are essential to the success of our players and the strength of our club.

We are also incredibly grateful to our 2025 sponsors whose generosity made this season possible:

Bear Trader, Binnars Farm, BJJ4 Footy, Borgies Bricklaying, Cameron's Gardening Pty Ltd, Christian's Premium Meats, Coal Coast Pool Care, Collide Consultancy, Dalton Driving School, Darkes Cider, Ebop Building, Environmental Pest Technologies, Gombos Glass, Hammonds Contracting NSW Pty Ltd, Helensburgh Hotel, Helensburgh Pharmacy, Helensburgh Premium Liquor, Jenko's Excavations, Kaytech Services Pty Ltd, Kelly Home Loans, Laidler Greig Accounting, Nexus Mining, Northern Illawarra Constructions, On Track Excavation, Peabody, Phu Thai, Poorey's Plumbing, Prestige PreOwned, Ray White Property Management Helensburgh, Razor Gang Barber & Curios, Rocar Electric Pty Ltd, Ron & Chris Kissell – Ray White, SRM Plumbing & Gasfitting, Symbio Wildlife Park, The Combined Group, Thrivin Supply Co, Tradies Helensburgh, Tri Clark Brothers, Woonona Petfood & Produce.

As we reflect on a proud and successful season, we look forward to welcoming back our families in 2026 ready to grow, compete, and enjoy another year of grassroots community rugby league.

Go the Tigers!

FIGTREE CRUSHERS

Crushers Annual Report 2025

2025 was another successful year for the Crushers. Both our Men's and Women's sides played in their respective Grand Finals. Our small but dedicated committee continues to work hard to grow our club and ensure sustainability into the future. We would like to thank our sponsors for their ongoing support in 2025.

In a tough marketplace the club continues to attract loyal sponsors who are inevitably the life blood of community football teams.

In particular we would like to thank the Figtree Hotel as our Premier sponsor. The club would also like to thank our loyal supporters who turn up to both home and away games and play a key role in supporting our players both on and off the park.

Our Ladies League Tag side had their most successful season to date. The side progressed to the Grand Final and although beaten by a strong Colliers outfit they did the club proud. Thanks to our coaches Ben and Corey and trainer Callum for their dedication to the girls this year. Congratulations to all our award winners and special mention to our Ladies Player of the year, Rachel Gandy.

Our Men's side made the Grand Final for the second year running but again were defeated by a strong Avondale Greyhounds outfit. This loss was not a reflection of the way the side performed all year, and they will no doubt be keen to take the next step in 2026.

Thanks to our coaches Chris and DA and trainers Aaron and Coco. Thanks also to our Head of Football, Badger for all his work off the park.

Congratulations to all our award winners and special mention to our Player of the year, Cameron Sgouros.

Finally, a big congratulation goes out to two of our team who received notable awards at the Illawarra League Presentation night. Phil "Coco" Weston was awarded a 50-year service medal which is well deserved and an amazing achievement.

Our Captain Coach Chris Browne won the Harrigan Shield Player of the Year which was well deserved after a great debut season for the club.

We look forward to continued success and good times in 2026.



Phil Weston receives his 50 Year Service Award

De La Salle RLFC

The Harrigan Cup 2025 campaign started strongly with good depth in De La contracted players including some returning old boys looking to win a comp with De La, we also had a strong squad with Newtown and Sharks helping and started the season with two massive wins when had all players on deck. It was then that we basically had an injury run you couldn't script, we used 56 players in just 17 games this season and quite simply it becomes near impossible to build connection. In saying that the Coaches, Support team, Players and young kids that came through Emerging Cup, A grade and young Sharks reps that stepped up really handled themselves in style against players with vast NRL experience, teams with huge budgets, but they never ever took a backward step. We did beat Wests down at Wests also with a pretty inexperienced side and despite losing a player to a broken ankle during the game, the game being stopped and moved to another field we managed a way to win and that was a big memory and showed the talent within the group.

Despite all the things that went wrong with weather, travel, late changes, and horrendous injuries including 14 players with season ending and 8 serious operations the guys kept turning up and even managed to win De La Salle's 1st ever Harrigan Cup Semi win which was a stirring comeback victory against Corrimal. When consider last couple years we had much stronger minor premiers' sides and did not win a semi so kudos to those who got the job done vs Corrimal at Blacktown in Week 1.

To Corey Hughes who stepped in as Head Coach, we thank you, as a Coach you taught the players how to handle adversity, things not in our control and you have got some old school resilience and toughness that many can learn about. Andrew Faddy stepped into the Assistant Coach/Trainer role with aplomb and I hope he continues on that path with the club.

There are some great players within De La and I hope many continue to wear the colours whichever comp we play in next year, that is for the club to decide obviously. I really felt for De La legends Jack Williams, Tyla Tamou, Kurt Dillon whose years all finished early and not how they wanted, they are such good footballers and quality human beings. Even when injured they kept supporting the team and doing what they could...that is what you want in the club.

We had the squad to win it, of that I am so certain, the proof was in our early wins and then even the performances we put in with inexperienced / under manned sides that took the field later in the year and still managing to be competitive and winning a semi despite so many injured. Our leaders Jackson Stewart and especially Jazz Flavell played through pain, injury and all the head winds and dearest just kept ripping in.

Our Awards:

Jaz Flavell player of year - As good a club leader as you will see, the way he played last two months was simply exceptional and in the 3,2,1 each week. He trained so hard late in year and showed our other senior players how to do it in gym sessions and take it out on the paddock and compete at every single play!

Noah Lester - A good kid, and very talented player who doesn't miss in D, he outpointed some big name and bid money centres at opposition clubs this year. He runs great lines in attack, made a good combo with Elijah and will go further in his career as still young.

Congrats to the other teams in the Harrigan Comp, Wests too good again in an exciting Grand Final vs Collegians who were the benchmark all year. Dapto gave us a touch up a couple games and really on the up, while Corrimal the massive improvers this season and to be congratulated, then Thirroul who are on the rebuild yet still never an easy game vs them and a tough side always to compete against. Also, to all the major awards winners very richly deserved, it's a quality comp and you guys are gun players.

We had a great pre-season with seniors all together, and some good training nights including other teams and the women's sides which is something we want to grow in 2026. Thanks to Sharks and Jets also as pathway clubs, and to NSWRL and Illawarra Rugby league, and all involved in Harrigan Cup putting the show on and their respective sponsors and loyal volunteers.

Mark Cruickshank
De La Seniors Manager

Many thanks to our partners

