



Wollongong
TECH WARATAHS
RUGBY CLUB

2017 Yearbook

LIFE MEMBERS

BRIAN BAIRD

WAYNE BOARDMAN

RICHARD BOYLE

BRUCE CARR

TONY CHEETHAM

GRAEME COLLINSON-SMITH

PAUL DARBY

CRAIG FRANKLIN

GARY GRAHAM

MARK HOTCHIS

FRANK ISSACS

WAYNE IRELAND

GRAEME KOHLER

BRIAN LEO

BARRY McVICAR

SHANE McVICAR

TIM OLSEN

JIM PETTIT

LEW POGSON (dec)

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TECH WARATAH



RUGBY CLUB

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I concluded my 2016 President's Report by saying that our Senior club needed "more players, more committee members and more helpers." I can report that we were successful in each of these endeavours and that because of this 2017 has been a better year for The Wollongong Tech Waratahs Rugby Club. I think we can all agree that it needed to be if the club was to survive!

The year started in some disarray however when Nev Austin-Mantell unexpectedly resigned as First Grade and Club Coach. This meant that in January, once again, we were "up against it" despite all the effort the committee had made to ensure this did not happen. The club was then very fortunate to secure the services of Eliot O'Donnell who, as Club Coach, had to undertake the arduous task of rebuilding our playing group with little time for preparation and planning. Eliot may have been a rookie coach at the start of the year but it seems he had the necessary knowledge, ability and dedication and he has been able to turn the club around and most importantly, put the fun back into our rugby. Eliot was ably assisted by Tim Olsen with First Grade and Tony Cheetham with Second Grade. Thank you Eliot. Thank you Tim and Tony.

Luckily for everyone in the club we were able to find more Players to support those loyal warriors who have soldiered on through the recent tough years. All the new boys were "nice guys" and many were real "characters." The end result was greatly increased numbers to training and great atmosphere around the club. This soon translated to improved performance on the playing field although wins remained somewhat elusive...eventually Round 18 saw First Grade once again claim the wooden spoon and Second Grade finish second last on the ladder. Second grade may have been a little inconsistent but First Grade competed strongly in every game (whatever the scoreboard may have said) and I will go on record as saying that we must be the best wooden spooners ever!...Lady Luck was certainly nowhere to be seen and throughout the entire season the breaks just didn't go our way. Our improvement compared to the 2016 season is revealed however by the points difference of -933 in 2016 compared to -319 this year. It must also be remembered that First grade went winless for the first eight games played this year by which stage our points difference was -254. The last ten games were then a different story and in fact we scored more competition points during these games than the three clubs finishing immediately above us on the ladder. Well done boys and thank you to each and every player. Now our efforts to recruit players from overseas may have been less successful than we had hoped (and it was not through lack of effort by Tim, Eliot and James) but special mention must go to our Fijians, Paula, Dougie and Kal and our Kiwis, Bindi and JJ (and Dylan). These guys really helped us. Then there was Timmy O, whose return to the playing field provided a big lift to the whole playing group (and also got us back into the Mercury!) Thank you also to Club Captain, Jake Davey and team captains, Dave McConnell and Andrew Murphy.

And thank you to the Team Managers, Rick in First Grade, Tommy and Wayno in Seconds...Team management gets more and more stressful as the IDRU imposes more and more onerous conditions on this duty. Rob Kelly took over as club Rugby Manager following Steve Tresidder's move to the position of IDRU Rugby Manager. Thanks Rob. Special thanks, as always, to Senior club Registrar, Wayne Ireland, who is, quite simply, the best. As are the elves, aka the McVicars, who seem to magically prepare Saunders Oval throughout the footy season. Thank you gentlemen.

President's Report (cont)

The club's three Special Home Game Days at Saunders Oval, Ladies, Old Boys and Sponsors, were, if not the best ever, certainly the best for a long time. Special thanks to all concerned but especially...LaVon and Bree (Ladies), Justin Jones (Old Boys) and Zlaty and Craigo (Sponsors).

Special mention must also be given to Timmy O's famous and legendary Joker Poker which this year literally went down to the last card on the last Thursday night of training. What a great night. I don't know how you do it but well done Tim. And well done Blocker for taking home the chocolates.

Now 2017 saw a new club, the Albion Park Southern Crushers, enter the competition in Third Grade and Tech Waratahs were teamed up with them by the IDRU. This greatly assisted our club as it meant that our opponents did not have numerous fresh reserves with which to hit our boys. We played all our away games together and "exchanged" two home games so that The Crushers played twice at Saunders as our Third Grade and we played twice at Albion Park Highschool to help The Crushers get established. This relationship may not have helped the bottom line of our canteen but it bore fruit for us in Round 18 at Avondale when four Crushers took the field for us in Second Grade.

And then there was the Junior Club juggernaut which just keeps rolling on...fantastic achievement and a huge well done to all concerned but especially to The Bull, Dan Read, who takes it all in his stride. (Of course behind every great man stands a great woman...or so they say...but in this case it's definitely true, so thanks Sarah.)

Off the field our major sponsorship with the Northgong Hotel has continued to develop and the Friday night Mega Meat Raffle at the Northgong is firmly entrenched as a major fund raiser for the club. Thank you to Peter O'Neill for organising the roster of teams that run the raffle and that you to all team members.

Finally, special mention must go to the Craigo and Zlaty team for their focus and endless enthusiasm and for the nonstop work they have put into the club's Finances, Sponsorship, Special Event days and Presentation night. Not to mention the TechTah Tribe, the TechTahTalk and the Year Book. These guys literally never stop working for the club. Great stuff guys.

Also club Secretary, James Letham, you are a tireless worker for the club. Probably no one actually knows everything you do but from the whole club, thank you.

And last but not least, thank you to my wife, Robyn, for helping me run the Canteen this year and for helping with the cleaning of the clubhouse before home games. The change rooms have never been so clean!

Let's hope the club can continue to build both its Juniors and Seniors. If we can retain the 2017 playing groups (and find a few more) and get back into Third Grade, the club can look forward to increased success in 2018.

Go the Tech Waratahs,
Graham Letham

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Members, sponsors and guests,

It has been my pleasure and great honour to be associated with our club this season.

Having had a long association with the mighty Waratahs in the 70's and moving away to the ACT for career reasons. I was dismayed when a colleague informed me our club was on "**the bottom of the table and nearly had it**". This inspired me to come and have a look at a game and I turned up at Vikings oval. Firsts and Reserves were well beaten that day but only on the score board the spirit I played under in the 70's was alive and well.

Congratulations to our club on a great season, I will never forget d the penalty kick on full time in Reserves that won the match against Shoalies, The jubilation from 15 guys who had not tasted victory for a vey long time, and the side line euphoria from supporters. Our Club has spirit, bring it on.

Yours in grass roots Rugby

Alan Gregory

TREASURER'S REPORT

A big thank you to all our valued sponsors this year, in-particular our Major Club Sponsors the **Northgong Hotel**, **Multi Civil & Rail Services** and **TLE Electrical & Data Supplies**. Your invaluable support for the season has been greatly appreciated, as has the support from all our generous sponsors. I also wish to thank all the **Tech-Tah Tribe** members for their commitment and financial support again in 2017 – true legends of the club, who wish to see us do well. Our Friday **Meat Raffle** will continue each week throughout the off season. This is a fantastic opportunity to catch up with everyone, and also support our Major Venue Sponsor. I want to commend all the teams that take turns running the raffle each week, and thank the **Northgong Hotel** for their amazing support with this activity.

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Treasurer's Report (cont)

There have been a number of club members who have organised fundraisers throughout the season. The club thanks them for dedicating their time and effort to bring funds, and so much social engagement into the club:

Old Boys Day – **Justin Jones**
Ladies Day – **LaVon Davey**

Joker Poker - **Tim Olsen**
Club Merchandise – **James Letham**

The Canteen, has once again been a great contributor to the finances of the club. **Graeme & Robyn Letham** have done an incredible job managing the canteen for the seniors, and **Daniel & Sarah Read** for the Juniors. Well done all of you, and thanks to everyone who has helped with the canteen this year.

Congratulations to the Junior Committee, who have had another successful season and remain such an integral part of the future of our club. There are many people very invested in what they are doing at this level.

I'd like to finish by thanking the whole Senior Committee for the wonderful job they have done this year.

Regards

Craig Franklin
Club Treasurer

CLUB CAPTAINS REPORT

It was an absolute honour to be voted in as club captain again for this year. I do not think anyone could have hoped for a better 2017 after the way 2016 finished. Our success came from so much hard work from all that were involved. Once again, the committee worked tirelessly and without their hard work, we would not have improved as we did this year.

Cheeto, Benny and Tommy took on the reins again this year in seconds, helping to teach our young guys what rugby is all about. There is never a dull moment in Cheetos approach to rugby and the boys were like sponges soaking up not just his rugby knowledge, but also every cheeky one-liner he threw at them.

Eliot, Timmy and Rick smashed it out of the park in firsts. The passion for the club and rugby in general between these three is electric and you cannot help but get excited when being around them on game day. Eliot had a fantastic first year coaching. He came in and instantly had the respect of the playing group. I think yelling at Sammy early in the year might of helped his cause.

The playing group started the year with a trial match in Goulburn with an overnight bonding session to introduce our new players to the Tech Tah way of life. The social side of rugby began to snowball from then. We filled four bus trips with Benny being a legend and driving the bus.

We had a fantastic 3 days after our last game with culminating in a "Cowboys and Indians" themed Mad Monday. Next up, we have over 20 boys going on the trip away to Newcastle next week.

The boys are really enjoying being around each other and enjoying their rugby and that's were our future success is going to come from.

Yours in rugby

Blocker

HISTORY OF THE RICK BOYLE TROPHY

Introduction: It seemed to me that current members may need some explanation as to the existence of this trophy and why I am placing it on the record with a little background history and the changes taking effect at this season's presentation night awards.

You may or may not have any idea of how the trophy bearing my name came into being in 1993. This honour was given to me by the Club's elected Committee following discussion of a motion raised by the then Secretary Tanya Woods and approved by the Committee.

Following this decision, Tanya and husband Graham then offered to purchase a suitable trophy which would be a perpetual trophy to be an addition to each season's Presentation night program, this was also agreed by the meeting.

The presentation of this trophy was allocated the position in the third highest award category of the club's yearly award presentations. Of course, Life-Membership is No.1, Club Person of the Year is No.2 and the Rick Boyle Trophy became No.3.

My trophy recipient/s each season since, has been selected by yours truly, following my consideration of any number of special club members who I considered had provided and/or brought a special benefit to the club by going above and beyond what would be considered normal work-loads. Such as dedication in their position on the committee or as a playing member who just tried his best to support the team or teams the best he could or a person who would just be there to help and add something special to the atmosphere and soul of the club which all members recognized and felt that club was better for that person being part of our club.

The criteria for selection has been open to all members of the club and has never been based on the best player or the best liked or any other stipulated set of needs or personality traits, it's always been based on what that person has brought to his or her role as a member of Tech-Waratahs.

Over the years this Trophy has gained a position of high esteem, in that the many recipients over its twenty-four-year history have always been given the recognition, approval and agreement by those other club members attending the awards function. I would go so far as to say that my selection of the person as a worthy and justifiable selection has over time, built the real value and gratitude associated with this trophy from the whole club.

However, this year (2017) the club committee decided to revamp the whole trophy awards system in an effort to reduce the total number and duplication of certain trophies, thus streamline and give more status for the trophy being presented.

I was in attendance and agreed with this action. One of the trophies that came up for discussion was the "Rick Boyle Trophy" and the possibility of combining it with the "Club Person of the Year Trophy." Following a lengthy discussion, it was decided and approved to re-name the trophy the "Rick Boyle Club Person Trophy."

History of the Rick Boyle Trophy (cont)

I only agreed to this arrangement if the committee agreed to change the selection process of me being the sole person selecting the successful recipient, to one in which all committee members had the privilege and right to nominate their selected nomination, as with a number of other club trophies and presentations.

This trophy was intended and has always been the pinnacle trophy awarded by the club each year, it is no longer my personal trophy, with myself being the only one selecting the recipient out of a number who I considered were in the mix as worthy, and often there were many.

It goes without saying that this is a very nice and much appreciated honour the club has given me to have my name attached to this trophy in recognition of my lifelong sporting commitment to our club. If I think back to the start in 1964, I would never have thought that 53 years later, I would be still be involved.

I sincerely hope that the club and this trophy continues to be presented each and every year for many years to come, and that the club stays true to its history which in my opinion is worthy of such commitment. Below is each very worthy recipient, with a little indication of their input to our club.

- 1- 1993 - **Dave Evans** - I appreciate all his efforts and support in a struggling team.
- 2- 1994 - **Josh Leaman** - He played in any position for the benefit of the team
- 3- 1995 - **Daniel Fasch** - He did whatever he could for his team as a player.
- 4- 1996 - **Wayne Ireland** - For the amount of work he undertook for the club
- 5- 1997 - **Stuart Pearson** - For his dedications as a player during difficult times.
- 6- 1998 - **Steve Power** - With his personal difficulties, he always gave his best.
- 7- 1999- **Harry Hawksworth** - As a prop his efforts were noted and appreciated.
- 8- 2000- **Daniel Read (Bull)** - Sheer guts as a prop when we needed him.
- 9- 2001- **Tony Wilson** - His willingness to help the team from any position asked.
- 10- 2002 -**Daniel Read** - His abilities and sheer guts as a small prop were great.
- 11- 2003 - **Julie Hill**- Her player treatment & injury management on the field.
- 12- 2004 - **Josh Darby** - Courage and commitment as a player were fantastic.
- 13- 2005 - **Zlatko Manovski & Mark Bye** - Their work to improve the clubrooms.
- 14- 2006 - **Warren & Annette Read**- Managing and operating the canteen so well.
- 15- 2007 - **Rob Kelly & Tom Bevan**- Operating the canteen lifting profits higher.
- 16- 2008 - **Josh Davey**- As a new prop having a go making 1st grade when needed.
- 17- 2009 - **Shane McVicar**- Outstanding amount of work throughout the season.
- 18- 2010 - **Sean Filan** - His assistance in general and help with player injuries.
- 19- 2011 - **Tara Condon** - Her personal dedication and volume of work.
- 20- 2012 - **Craig Franklin** - Ability to bring a leadership role to 2nd grade & treasurer.
- 21- 2013 - **Tony Gorgijovski**- The management and leadership of the club's juniors.
- 22- 2014 - **Tom Bevan**-His management of the Canteen as a profit centre over years.
- 23- 2015 - **Wayne Ireland**- Wayne's dedication in numerous roles over many years.
- 24- 2016 - **Stuart Pearson**-Same as in 1997, aged 56 to play & support the club again

All of these club members, have provided something special to improve or benefit the club and should always be remembered as part of the history and achievements of our club.

I'm not sure how the combined trophies will encompass both histories of their meaning, but I have confidence that whatever is decided by way of a new combined trophy will represent what both trophies represented in the past. The recognition of a special member or members who deserves their name being added indicating their dedication and effort as a special Club Person.

Rick.

1ST GRADE COACH'S REPORT

2017, the year we picked ourselves up off the canvas!

I took on the job as 1st Grade coach back in January with absolutely no head coaching experience. My goal was for us to be competitive in each game we played and to get the playing group to enjoy Saturday afternoons again.

We started the season with two big loses, but we kept at it and by round 4 & 5 we started to push for 80 minutes. We tripped up again, dusted ourselves off and went back at it. By the half way mark of the season we hadn't posted a win as yet. Then we played Campbelltown at Albion Park. Our first Victory in 18 months. What a great felling it was!

The second half of the season was where we really improved. This showed in our for and against.

	Points for	Points against	Differential
Round 1	101	364	-263
Round 2	212	268	-56

1ST GRADE COACH'S REPORT (CONT)

There were so many great moments throughout the year.

My highlights are:

Shamrocks at Shamrocks, This was true grit.

54 points scored against Kiama on old boy's day.

Bowral at home. Bowral only won this game in the last 5 minutes. To me this was the game that kick started our season

Shoalhaven at Shoalhaven. They opened up a big lead on us after halftime and we came home with a wet sail. 5 tries a piece but when down 38 to 31

Winning ugly at Campbelltown.

Never being kept scoreless

I would like to thank the committee for their support and encouragement during the season. I would also like to thank Tim Olsen for his help throughout the year. He really is passionate about the club. 1st grade manager Rick Boyle and his under study Wayne Ireland these guys know how to make changes to the game day sheet up right up to a minute before kick-off, Thank you. I would like to make a special thankyou Tony Cheetham, Cheeto really helped me out a lot this year. Also to my wife and kids thank you for your support.

And the playing group. Congratulations on a great the year. You guys have made the year really enjoyable.

Go the Tech Tahs

Cheers Eliot

1ST GRADE MANAGERS REPORT

During the off-season, the club committee had been very active trying to attract both players and coaches. With the intent of improving the club's position, the objective being, fielding two competitive teams consistently throughout the season.

The committee had decided that two teams were realistic so 1st and 2nd grade were nominated with the history of last season's difficulties well and truly in the forefront of their thinking. The club could not afford to have another such season.

The position of 1st grade coach was a major concern. After a number of approaches to potential coaches we finally had a serious applicant put his name forward for consideration. He had coached in Illawarra a few years ago and had recently returned and was looking to get back into club rugby.

Following a couple of meetings Neville Austin was appointed, he was well aware of the clubs recent playing history and was very keen to turn it around. Unfortunately, three weeks into pre-season training Neville was offered a full-time position with the Australian Ballet as their Physiotherapist and unfortunately had to resign as our coach.

We were very fortunate to have a club member Eliot O'Donnell who had played in the club and was very interested in the coaching position. Eliot was appointed the Club Coach and immediately started bringing a new aspect into the playing group.

A couple of pre-season trials were played along with the Kiama 7's. The squad had a good trial against Goulburn our first bus trip for the season to play for the Rumbel & Kara Cup which had been started many years ago by our Premiership winning coach in 2000 Roger Rumbel.

The season began with the first game against Campbelltown being a postponed game due to heavy rain. We would not play this game until a catch up round in July.

So, our actual first game presented a mountain to climb, University premiers of last season. Although our players tried, they were not up to the standard that was required to be competitive, with the opposition winning 64-5.

This was the trend in our second game with Camden winning 55-5. Round 4 against Shoalhaven was a much closer encounter, but another loss 37-22. Country Week break. Kiama at Kiama, this was a very competitive game, which we could have won, had we kept up the pressure, but it was not to be with a loss of 22-15. Round 6, Shamrocks at home was disappointing compared to last week's game, once again we fell away in the latter part of the game going down 36-5.

The next three rounds were our worst period with losses to Vikings 41-5, Bowral 32-12, and Avondale 62-14, our worse defeat of the season as it turned out. The second half of the season round 10, Campbelltown away, at Albion Park and it looked like a different team, they combined in every phase of the game with the team showing what abilities and skills they could produce.

1ST GRADE MANAGERS REPORT (CONT)

This game lifted the spirits of not only the players, but the whole club as the 2nd's also played a winning game. The final score in the 1st's was a resounding 38-13 win for the good guys.

Round 11 with University not being as dominant with their control of the game as in the first game, at one point we thought it could be our game, unfortunately University were able to run in four tries in the last twenty minutes, we lost 34-13.

Round 12 was Camden, it was very close we scored three tries with one conversion, they scored three tries with one conversion. With only minutes on the clock, we are attacking their line, they receive a penalty, kicked for the sideline, attacked from their lineout and score a try in the corner. Game over, we lose 22-17.

Another close encounter against Shoalhaven in round 13, we scored five tries and three conversions, they scored five tries with five conversions and a penalty. Another very close, hard fought game but another defeat 38-31. Highlight of the game was our front-rower (dare I say his name) Mitch Lowrie scored four tries, we believe it's a first-time event in the club.

Round 14, against Kiama at Saunders Oval on "Old Boys Day." The day was perfect, the weather was sunny and approximately eighty to a hundred O. B's. on the sideline encouraging the play and giving plenty of advice to our teams. The scene had been set, as our 2nd's had won their game in good fashion and now it was our turn to put on a strong competitive game, and show our supporters, what this team could achieve on the day.

This was in my opinion, the real team the coach was working with, but unfortunately it took them until the second half of the season to realize what team work and commitment on the ball could achieve. As it turned out this game was our game of the season, even with some really questionable decisions by the referee on occasions, when we were attacking Kiama's line.

The attack and control of the ball was great to watch, resulting in a score of nine tries, three conversions and a penalty, to win our second game of the season 54-24, a deserving result.

On to round 15, Shamrocks at Ocean Park, based on last week's performance the team were upbeat and ready to play. Shamrock's were playing with the semi-finals in mind and needed the win to have a chance, so we knew it would be a competitive encounter.

This game highlighted how much our team had improved over the season, with ball control and attacking ability on display in a rugged encounter. With only a few minutes left on the clock with us attacking their line, once again a defensive kick from Shamrocks with all but one of our players in attacking positions our defensive line was caught out, a dropped ball gave them one last chance from the ensuing scrum.

We had played a great game leading on the score board late into the second-half, this was even more memorable because we had played the whole second half with fourteen players, after an unfortunate red card. To their credit our boys continued attacking their line on a number of occasions even being held up over the line, with our players convinced, it was a fair try. However, ten minutes later it was 30-30. With the last play in the game, Shamrocks received the ball from the scrum and were able to cross our line to win 35-30.

1ST GRADE MANAGERS REPORT (CONT)

Our next encounter was the washed out 1st round game against Campbelltown in Campbelltown. This was a typical clash with the Island boys most of which are big men and a few speedy runners, that can turn defense into attack very quickly if given the chance. They were determined to get their revenge for their defeat six-week prior.

The game seemed to provide them more opportunities, we just hung in there waiting for something to give allowing Campbelltown to dominate a lot of the play, when we did get into their red zone we seemed to panic and try to push the last pass unnecessarily. Five minutes left on the clock, we finally received the ball in a position where we could mount an attack on their line. About thirty meters out our backs turned them around and we were through their line of defense, scoring the try to win 15-13.

This game took our wins to three and off the bottom of the table, which we celebrated as if we'd won the premiership. Round 16 was Vikings at Vikings, they scored two quick tries and converted both, we were off to a bad start and wasting whatever opportunities we had. Late in the first-half we were able to score in the corner taking the score at half-time to 14-5.

Following the break, we defended with a little more purpose in securing the ball, penalties cost us a lot of ground and provided opportunities for them to attack and stretch our defense wide, which they capitalized on to score another try wide out. Ten to go and another attacking raid on our line with our boys defending with everything they had left in the tank, alas it wasn't enough Vikings scored again and converted, winning 26-10.

Round 17. Bowral at Bowral is not a great trip at the best of times, on this occasion the winds off the snow were blowing a gale and it was very cold. Bowral were hopeful of making the semis with a win over us, which would be their first semi-final appearance in both their grades in something like twelve seasons, so they had some real motivation to play well.

We were outgunned from the start with Bowral full of running and determination to get their win. We scored the first try of the game and converted, and for a very short time lead the game but they hit their stride and we could not match them for positional play and speed. For the rest of the game we seemed to be chasing them and the score indicates that we were not up to their standards with the final score being 31-7 to Bowral.

Last game of the season Avondale at Avondale, they have not been on the losing side all season and have been very dominant in their games, looking at the results. As usual, this team is aggressive, takes advantage of their weight, size and speed to dominate their opposition and we were to be the last game prior to the major semi.

We score two tries and converted one, they scored seven tries and converted five, we tried to match them but as the game developed we have to concede, we just didn't have the fire-power to match them on the day, final score was 45-12.

Our season was finished, with all of the club commitments to Illawarra Rugby achieved. The club even had a little piece in the Illawarra Mercury, which does support our efforts. The Avondale coach stated "It was a really good tough win, just the kind of game you want to play before finals" "Tech played well, they certainly turned up and tested us. This is one of the better teams I've been involved in, when they get it right, they're just about the complete package.

1ST GRADE MANAGERS REPORT (CONT)

Overall, the season was very pleasing (in relative terms) if a little luck, bounce of the ball and some referee's rulings had gone our way, this team could have won possibly four or five more games, indicating where our true position should have been on the points table, for the season.

Reading this summary of this season's games, one could misread the positive outcomes for our club. We started with a new coach, some young experienced players from last season and a few new players who looked the part but would need time and games to gel into a 1st grade team.

I'll leave it to the coach in his report to express the value to the 1st grade team and the club overall, on what these players brought to our team. I would like to thank the 2nd grade players who would standby on the bench after their own game and on occasions replace an injured player. This is not to say that there were numerous occasions when such players were picked in the starting lineup during the season, due to injuries, unavailability or they were deemed the coach's choice, for that game.

As the team manager, it was very pleasing achieving what we as a team and what the club committee had set as goals for the season. Having enough players to consistently field two teams and secondly to be competitive, both these goals were met and then some.

During the second half of the season a number of opposition coaches came over following the game and congratulated our team on their efforts, some even mentioned they were lucky to have the win, it could have gone either way.

To our 1st grade coach Eliot O'Donnell, it has been a year of rebuilding and you have done the club proud, not only on the field but more broadly with the off-field activities and social functions. I know the club and its committee are very appreciative of the fact that you have already agreed to Coach 1st grade next season, thank you for all your support and effort.

To all the 1st grade playing group, you did yourselves proud representing your club. I sincerely hope you all turn-up next season and use your experience to take the team and the club to where it should be in the Illawarra rugby, at the top.

I would like to finish my report, saying this year as your manager has been a much more enjoyable experience than the last few seasons. A sincere thank you, to all in our club who work so hard to keep it going, I genuinely hope it continues for many years into the future.

Lastly, and certainly not forgotten, is my truly understanding and compromising wife Olga. Who I believe, deserves my acknowledgement and recognition for her fifty-three years of support, enabling me to follow my obsession of being part of this great rugby club, that is Tech-Waratahs. As some would say, "Behind every good man, there is an even better woman". In my case "it's true". Thank you darling.

1st Grade Manager
Life-Member- Rick Boyle

1ST GRADE SEASON 2017



2ND GRADE COACH'S REPORT

It is my great pleasure to present to you the second grade Coach's report.

At the start of the year it was my goal to put a team on the field that was at the least competitive. After a hard year last year, where lack of numbers was a problem, I thought this was going to be difficult. As the pre-season progressed it was obvious that the numbers were good and every one was keen. With an influx of new players together with existing players, the team performed very well throughout the year and was very competitive in all games.

Special mention should be given to the young players that played with us. Logan Brailey, Chris Hawksworth, Jacob Smith, Justin Lenane and Bobby Kelleher were great for us and I look at these boys to be the future of our club.

Also a big thank you to the rest of the players that turned up every week, put in a big effort and played well. Thanks to Murph for all of his help in organizing players every week to make sure we had a team on the field. I think we achieved our goal of being a chance of winning in most games all year.

Finally thanks to all of my managers, Tom, Wayne and Rob for doing a great job under hard times. Also to Elliot for his great effort this year and the Committee for their effort and help during the year.

All the best for the future.

Cheeto.

2017 EXTENDED 1ST GRADE TEAM PHOTO



AWARD RECIPIENTS

2017

2ND GRADE PLAYERS PLAYER

2ND GRADE BEST AND FAIREST

2ND GRADE COACH AWARD

MCR 1ST GRADE PLAYERS PLAYER

MCR 1ST GRADE COACH AWARD

JUNIOR CLUBPERSON OF THE YEAR

BEST TRAINER

CROOKY

STIRRER

TRYS CORER OF THE YEAR

POINTSCORER OF THE YEAR

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER

MOST OUTSTANDING PROSPECT

RICK BOYLE CLUBPERSON OF THE YEAR

MCR 1ST GRADE PLAYER OF THE YEAR



JOIN THE TRIBE

2018

Your Tech-Tah Tribe Package for 2018 (\$199)

\$100 Home Ground Badge Draw

4 Drinks per home game

1 Item of food per game

Free Old Boys day Package

Free Ladies Day Package

25% Off Presentation Night Tickets

20% Off Club Merchandise

Over \$300 worth of value

GAMES PLAYED

FIRST NAME	SURNAME	PREVIOUS SENIOR GAMES PLAYED	TOTAL 2NDS	TOTAL 1STS	TOTAL SENIOR GAMES 2017	TOTAL SENIOR GAMES PLAYED
David	Beecher	27	3	5	8	35
Nevan	Bergan	0	6	8	14	14
Mitchell	Bevan	134		2	2	136
Owen	Brace	116	11	8	19	135
Logan	Brailey	0	17		17	17
Michael	Bruton	262	12	6	18	280
Sam	Buckthought	104	1	2	3	107
Jonathan	Chapman	0		6	6	6
Kai	Chishiro-Dennelly	76	5	7	12	88
Patrick	Connors	0	1	1	2	2
Murray	Copas	39	6		6	45
Matt	Craig	16	7	3	10	26
Mitchell	Crotty	33	18	2	20	53
Jonathan	Davey	0	1	1	2	2
Jake	Davey	135	3	9	12	147
Joshua	Davey	156		16	16	172
Jacob	Durrant-Smith	0	9	4	13	13
Bryn	Edwards	70		15	15	85
Jaden	Edwards	0	3	14	17	17
Christopher	Hawksworth	0	16		16	16
Patrick	Heffernan	55	6	12	18	73
Christopher	Hendry	163	11	1	12	175
Lachlan	Hurry	0	12	4	16	16
Lachlan	Jeremijenko	0	2		2	2
Paul	Jeremijenko	88	14		14	102
Robert	Kelleher	0	13		13	13
Justin	Lenane	60	13	4	17	77
James	Letham	215	18		18	233
Patrick	Logan	67		18	18	85
Mitchell	Lowrie	0		15	15	15



Games Played (cont)

FIRST NAME	SURNAME	PREVIOUS SENIOR GAMES PLAYED	TOTAL 2NDS	TOTAL 1STS	TOTAL SENIOR GAMES 2017	TOTAL SENIOR GAMES PLAYED
Dylan	Madin	19	18		18	37
David	McConnell	200	1	17	18	218
Tyson	McEvoy	34	2		2	36
Andrew	Murphy	168	18		18	186
Emmanuel	Nayagodamu	149	5	13	18	167
Mark	Nightingale	0	1		1	1
Joshua	Olsen	6	2		2	8
Timothy	Olsen	309	4	10	14	323
Blake	Owen	14	7	4	11	25
Sam	Patrinos	163	1	9	10	173
Stuart	Pearson	250	17		17	267
Harry	Pitt	0	13	5	18	18
Iliavu	Rauwa	11	1	1	2	13
Benjamin	Shortus	150	12		12	162
Mathew	Simpson	67	3		3	70
Mininder	Singh	0	1	15	16	16
Jason	Slade	20	1	3	4	24
Colin	Smith	0	3	3	6	6
Jamie	Taingahue	143	3		3	146
Dylan	Townsend	0		5	5	5
Joshua	Tresidder	49		1	1	50
Rhyce	Tubaru	107	2			109
Taniela	Tuipuloto	0	1	13	14	14
Paula	Vakaruru	0		16	16	16
Savenaca	Valu	0	1	1	2	2
Simon	van Meurs	0	1	5	6	6
Kaleti	Vatunidruku	0	2	12	14	14
Bradley	Veigal	113	2		2	115
Rory	Waterfall	38		1	1	39
Vincent	Wise	0	2	14	16	16
Dave	Wood	23	5	4	9	32

Statistical details subject to available information



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date : Sunday 10th September

Time : 2pm

Place : NorthGong Hotel

THANK YOU!

*Thank you to all club members,
sponsors and supporters for season
2017*

*You're all a much valued part of our
amazing club and your contributions
for this season are truly appreciated.*

*Hope to see you all for season
2018*

