



Gungahlin Eagles Junior Rugby Union

<http://junioreagles.rugbynet.com.au>

News Bulletin No. Finals Edition 2009

From the President...

As the season comes to a close I would simply like to thank all players, parents, coaches, managers, supporters and committee members for your support throughout the season. If we take a moment to reflect on the season, every member should be well-pleased and proud of their individual and collective contributions. We have performed extremely well on and off the field and the Club is in great shape.

A couple of words on 2010; in a tremendous coup the Gungahlin Eagles have secured the services of Marco Caputo, an ex-Wallaby, for 2010. Marco will be our Director of Rugby (this includes Juniors and Seniors). In addition, he will hold the appointment of First Grade Coach and Junior Development Officer. Through recent discussions with Marco, Adam Fahey (Brumbies Community Rugby representative), the Senior Eagles Committee and the ACT Junior Rugby Union Council, I am very confident that we will build upon our Junior numbers in 2010.

I hope that you have enjoyed the Junior Eagles experience and look forward to seeing you in 2010.

Yours in Rugby,

James Willemsen

President

Special Awards

Club Player of the Year

Joel Atkins

100 Games

Adam Rummery

Daniel Garner

Jarrad Brown

Team Awards

Under 9 Red's

Coaches Award: *Evan Martin*

Players Award: *Joel Atkins*

3, 2, 1 Award: *Thomas Haddad*

Under 9 Black's

Coaches Award: *Michael Thompson*

Players Award: *Kyle McPherson*

3, 2, 1 Award: *Cameron Malcolm*

Under 10's

Coaches Award: *Liam Elliot*

Players Award: *Connor Trudgen*

3, 2, 1 Award: *Nicholas Ashmore*

Under 11's

Coaches Award: *Ben Wilson*

Players Award: *Connor Jones*

3, 2, 1 Award: *Thomas Ross*

Under 12's

Coaches Award: *Tyson Adam*

Players Award: *Justin Porrecca*

3, 2, 1 Award: *Matt McKenna*

3, 2, 1 Award: *Luke Trevaner*

Under 14's

Coaches Award: *Ben Peterson*

Players Award: *Jay Humble*

3, 2, 1 Award: *Jordan Fulivai*



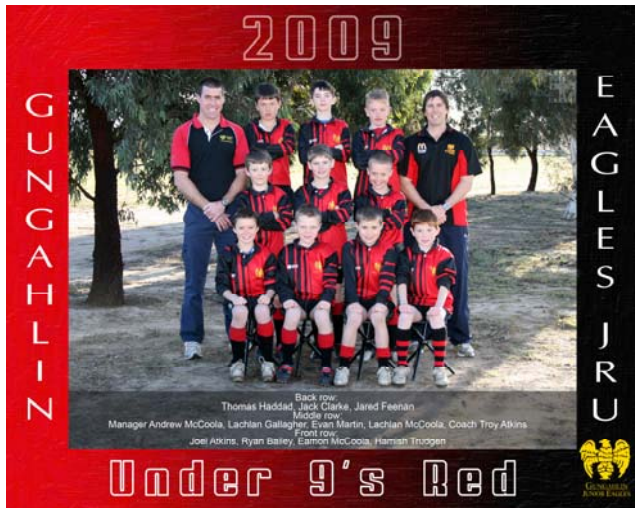
Gungahlin Eagles Junior Rugby Union

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News Bulletin No. Finals Edition 2009

THE FINALS EXPERIENCE!

Under 9's Red



Semi-Final

The Under 9 Reds won 15-5 against Royals. Well done guys - that was a gutsy win against a really tough team.

GRAND FINAL

The Under 9 Reds had a 15 all draw with Yass White and shared the title of Division 1 champions.

Under 9's Black



Semi Final

The ACT Junior Rugby Union U/9 competition consisted of a North and South Division. Both Junior Eagles U/9 teams competed in the Northern Division during the regular season.

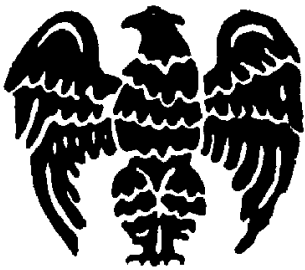
At the end of the regular season the teams placed 1st and 2nd, in their respective Divisions, played in the Division 1 final series while those placed 3rd and 4th played in the Division 2 final series.

The Junior Eagles U/9 Black team finished 4th in the Northern Division and played 3rd placed Vikings Black, from the Southern Division in the first Division 2 semi-final. Our boys came into the semi-final with a good deal of confidence based on five straight wins to end the regular season (their last win had been a resounding 65-25 win over third-placed Uni North's Green).

The game was played at Nicholls on a wet, windy and cold morning - easily the worst weather we have had all season. Each team fielded 10 players and Vikings had six reserves (they have a very strong presence in the U/9 Southern Division with a total of four teams - three of which finished in the top four).

The first half was a tightly contested affair and finished with a try to each team. During the break we spoke of the need to maintain the defensive effort, particularly with regard to their excellent fly half, and to focus on recycling the ball and consistent support for the ball carrier.

Midway through the second half we gained the ascendancy and led 15-5. Unfortunately the boys tired and through a series of free kicks Vikings snatched the game with two late tries. The final score was - 20-15. The boys can be very proud of their efforts and consistent improvement throughout the season. Vikings eventually went on to beat Uni North's Green in the Division 2 grand final.

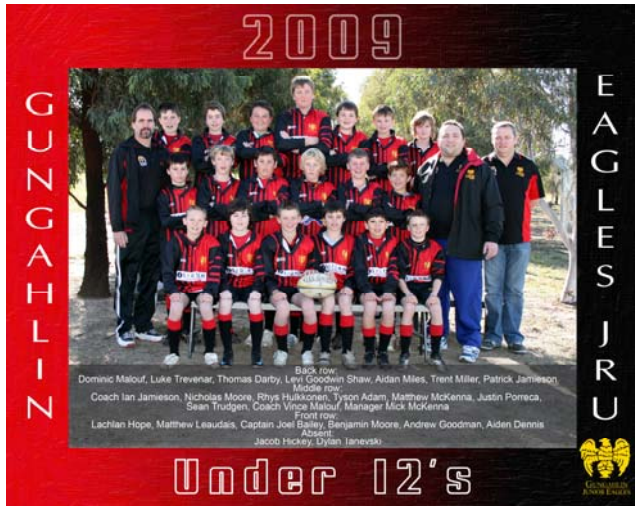


Gungahlin Eagles Junior Rugby Union

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News Bulletin No. Finals Edition 2009

Under 12's



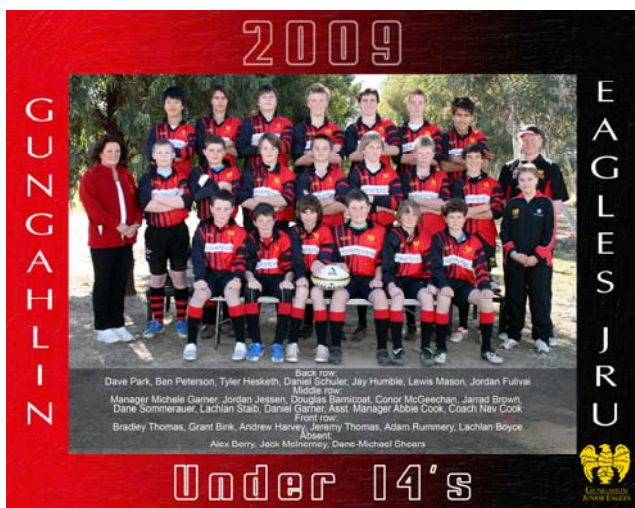
Semi Final

The U/12s had a 19 all draw with Radford and will not progress to the Grand Final as Radford finished the regular season in second position and our boys were third.

The game was thrilling to watch, our boys scored first with Radford always matching us try for try. The weather was also not kind with several parents wondering if we should hand out snorkels and flippers; the rain was almost biblical in its fury.

The boys played their best game of the season on the day and should be proud of themselves for the herculean effort given.

Under 14's



Semi Final

Gungahlin Eagles U14's - 24

Queanbeyan - 19

What a game – from the outset the boys knew that they were in for a very stern test where only their best would do. Behind early on and slightly reserved, the boys started to play better towards the latter of the first half. Queanbeyan were both physically larger and had all of the impetus going into the break, but it was the Eagles who came out stronger.

Starting to make better decisions at the breakdown and also taking quick taps from infringements, they improved steadily, though behind on the scoreboard. With ten minutes to go, the pressure was rewarded with a try in the corner to Adam Rummery but was unconverted and left five minutes left, with a two point deficit. The pack was outstanding and played as a unit and the backs really stretched an ever tiring and less mobile Queanbeyan team.

Wave after wave of aggressive attack was finally rewarded in the final play of the game with a try under the sticks. The score was as a result of some excellent driving play from both forwards and backs, and despite the poor conditions, some outstanding ball handling and recycling. Well done boys, your place in the final is extremely well earned and deserved and now we play against Vikings at Bruce Stadium on Saturday (kick off 2:35).

Thank you for all of the vocal support from the parents and families, keep it up and finally.....

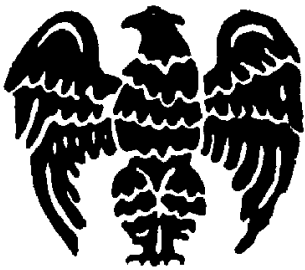
GO EAGLES!!!

GRAND FINAL

Gungahlin Eagles U14's - 27

Vikings - 24

We are the Champions!!!! – It is great to say that now, especially as when we were 19-0 down, I really didn't think we could win. Initially overawed and paying far too much respect to the Vikings, we allowed them to dictate the game and play their direct forward dominated style.



Gungahlin Eagles Junior Rugby Union

<http://junioreagles.rugbynet.com.au>

News Bulletin No. Finals Edition 2009

Driving forward through the middle, they scored three well constructed tries against us without reply. Our boys were defending well despite the score, but were both slow in competing for the ball and also lacked ideas and speed when we had free kicks. Still in the game, a flowing backs move in the 19th minute with a kick at the end from Bradley Thomas was the start of their self belief and two minutes later, Dan Garner went over near the corner to finally put us on the scoreboard.

Following some considered guidance and individual soul searching; the boys came out in the second half with fire, intensity and self belief. Jordan Fulivai scored two and Tyler Hesketh scored a Try in the corner to put us ahead 24-19 with 10 minutes played. The Vikings were shell shocked but came back shortly after to score an unconverted Try making the score 24 all. This is where it stayed for a nail biting 12 minutes. The Eagles always looked the stronger team and several infringements in the Vikings 22 meant that Jordan Fulivai had two penalty kicks to cement the victory. In a Roy of the Rovers finish, he missed the first and with the final kick of the game sealed a memorable win which was a fitting end to a superb season.

The most pleasing part to the day was the performances and teamwork from all of the boys. Everyone played their part in this victory and all the boys had, throughout the season, got us there. Despite not being named as Man of the Match, I do want to pay special mention to the player who was outstanding at Full back, Ben Peterson. His tackling and defensive display kept the Eagles in the game and his attacking play really helped us score tries and maintain momentum. So to him, all the players and the jubilant supporters, thank you

Regards to all – Nev

Gungahlin Eagles Committee:

President: James Willemsen

eandj.willemsen@bigpond.com

Co-President: Ros Malouf

rosmalouf@optusnet.com.au

Vice President: Todd Berry

berry@grapevine.com.au

Secretary: Kim Bailey

kimbailey01@aapt.net.au

Treasurer: Kayelene Huckstepp

khuckstepp@gmail.com

Coach Coordinator: Troy Atkins

troya13@bigpond.net.au

Registrar: Anne McKenna

mckann@internode.on.net

Ground Coordinator: Mick McKenna

mckann@internode.on.net

Newsletter: Michelle Miles

milesfamily5@internode.on.net

Website Manager: Stacey Ould

dm3@bigpond.net.au

Merchandise Manager: Darren Ould

dm3@bigpond.net.au

Fundraising: Cathy Leaudais

leaudaisdc@optusnet.com.au

Eagles Supporters Gear

The Eagles have for sale during the year jackets and beanies for supporters of the game. These items can be purchased by filling out an order form available from team managers. Payment and form needs to be handed to a committee member. Items take approx. 3 weeks after ordering.

To view gear available please log onto our website www.junioreagles.rugbynet.com.au

Supporters T-shirts: The club now has supporters t-shirts for sale. These are the same as the ones worn by coaches and managers - maybe they have been hidden the last few weeks under the layers. If you would like any merchandise please contact Darren Ould.



Gungahlin Eagles Junior Rugby Union

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News Bulletin No. Finals Edition 2009

Gungahlin Teams' Coaches/Managers Address

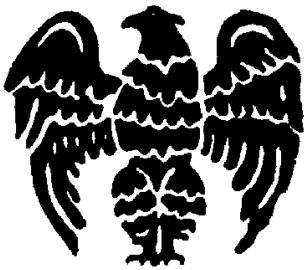
The Mighty Under 7's

Well this is the final piece of writing for the season and what an experience it has been. The 2009 version (more devastating than the 09 version of the Terminator) of the Mighty Under 7 Gungahlin Eagles started off like all new teams a complete mess, I think we can all say that watching the first few games was very entertaining as they huddled around their team mate who had been tagged and all at once would yell pass it to me. Actually come to think of it I am pretty sure this is how we finished the season, this is what footy in under 7s is about though. What was impressive was the way in which the boys handled the interchanges every game. Having a team of 12 meant that some pretty wild logistics would come into play resulting in a well oiled substitution system giving all of the boys a fair run. I don't think a complaint was heard when they each had to have a quick spell but I knew about it if they thought they had been sitting down for too long, thanks for the time updates Max. Seriously though it would have been very tough on them to have as many breaks as they did and I am very proud of them all, they really did have team spirit.

All of the boys each had their own talent that they brought to the game, be it having a chat between the 3 or 4 fullbacks we seemed to develop, the chip and chase efforts or even 40/20 attempts that popped into the games. It was pleasing to see each of the boys improve during the season and become more confident in their abilities. They encouraged each other from the sideline and would congratulate each other after a try was scored. Once the try was scored the real battle was on and that was to see who would kick off. Sometimes that would be more competitive than the match itself. Jeb, Liam, Michael, Luke and Declan would bag a try or 2 a game keeping us in the hunt most matches. Our top defenders would be Lachlen, Josh, Jeremy and Ethan who all tagged and chased very well ensuring the opposition would struggle to get across the line. Rohan and Max had all round efforts each match providing us with some great runs down the side line and Max with his chip and chase efforts. Finally I feel the most improved would go to Austin who at the start of the year was proud of his team mates for scoring tries and would pat them on the back, by the end of the season he managed to get a few tries and would not stop in his tagging efforts. In saying that, each and every one of the boys should be very proud of their achievements through - out the season.

To finish I would like to thank Daren who gave up his time to be the coach of the Mighty Under 7 Gungahlin Eagles. He did a terrific job in making sure that each player had an even amount of the footy and at that age it's not an easy task. So thanks Daren for your efforts it's very much appreciated, even if you would wear your England jersey to the matches. I cannot forget the parents who would battle the cold nights to attend training and then back it up to ensure their star player would be there on time for the game. Also the boys enjoyed the fresh oranges at half time and the clean jerseys they had each week, so again thanks parents for your help and support. It has been a privilege managing the team this year and hope that you all had as much fun as me, Daren and more importantly your boys.

Nigel



Gungahlin Eagles Junior Rugby Union

<http://junioreagles.rugbynet.com.au>

News Bulletin No. Finals Edition 2009

Under 9 Reds JOINT PREMIERS 2009 CONGRATULATIONS

To the parents of under 9 reds

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to coach your children this year. Every one of the kids has contributed something to this team both on and off the field. Not only have they developed great rugby skills they more importantly have shown great sportsmanship which I hope they will take with them for years to come. You should be very proud of the effort and team spirit your child has displayed throughout the season. Thank you for taking them to training and your support at the games. I hope to see them all again next year in the under 10s. I have had lots of fun and learnt a lot too!

To the under 9 reds

Well done! You should all be very proud of yourselves. I have had such a fun season with you all. Our main goal this season was to have fun and in achieving that every week at training and during the game the elements of rugby followed. Members of other clubs and other supporters who have witnessed some of your games are amazed at your tackling, support and your ability to present and win the ball at the breakdown. We have had some great wins and a couple of close games but above all you have shown fantastic sportsmanship at all times and for me as a coach it was the highlight of each game. Keep this up in the future and you will go a long way. Of all the things that I have learnt over the years, you have taught me that no matter what age you are, if I respect you as individuals and as a team you will respect me in return and I am really grateful for the respect you have given me. No matter where you go in the future, I will be keeping a close eye on your achievements as you names are part of my memory.

The Under Reds Are:

Lachlan Gallagher **Nickname:** Gally

One of two great acquisitions from West's in the off season draft

Position: hooker **Remembered for:** elusive runs and willingness to seek feedback to better his game

Achievement: ball presentation into contact and ability to pass to players in space

Hamish Trudgen **Nickname:** Hammy

Second of the West's recruits

Position: halfback, loose forward **Remembered for:** blood nose, blood lip, blood nose, grazed face, blood nose and wearing full West's kit to training despite constant banter from team mates!

Achievement: demonstrating the values of sportsmanship and team work and his copy book tackling

Eamon McCoola **Nickname:** Amo

The younger McCoola brother

Position: utility **Remembered for:** always telling big brother what's doin and always cutting down the tall timber!

Achievement: under 8 who plays above is weight, a rugby sponge who took in everything he was taught and applied it to every game with excellence

Lachlan McCoola **Nickname:** Maca

The eldest McCoola brother

Position: halfback **Remembered for:** finding the spaces outside with his speed and determination even ignoring the sideline cones and his baseball slide touchdown

Achievement: taking on the role of halfback late in the season as though he has been playing that position for years – great passing and defence

Evan Martin **Nickname:** Devon

The quiet achiever

Position: prop **Remembered for:** his right angle counter attacks and loves question time at training

Achievement: became the leader of the forward pack who lead from the front and showed the other teams that you can do anything if you try



Gungahlin Eagles Junior Rugby Union

<http://junioreagles.rugbynet.com.au>

News Bulletin No. Finals Edition 2009

Ryan Bailey Nickname: Zip Zip

Not one to take a straight line

Position: centre **Remembered for:** out stepping the opposition and his own team, a real larrikin at training who would kick the ball at any opportunity (or no opportunity at all!)

Achievement: apply his talented individual skills to the team effort

Jarrold Feeney Nickname: Dash

The only way is fast

Position: centre/fullback **Remembered for:** his focus and dedication and his constant conversion attempts at any opportunity (or no opportunity at all!) and of course his try scoring ability

Achievement: his mental toughness that rubbed off on the team, gave 100% and never gave up

Jack Clarke Nickname: Gazelle

Give me the ball and I will run

Position: utility **Remembered for:** running, running and running really fast, being cool, calm and collected, freakish tries and his hands in pockets. Can do more chin ups than coach

Achievement: speaking, communication and sharing his wonderful talents with his coach and team – always with a smile

Joel Atkins Nickname: Joe

Mr Rugby

Position: five eighth **Remembered for:** passing and tackling better than the coach, always supporting his teammates and making sure everyone could have a go, leading by example

Achievement: backing his ability, believing in his team and just never giving up

Thomas Haddad Nickname: Hads

Can I smash them? Mr Competitive

Position: centre **Remembered for:** tackling anything with the ball at training and on game day, his controlled aggressive attack and defence

Achievement: has the ability to single handedly tear other teams apart but unselfishly shared the enjoyment of the game with his team mates.

Andrew McCoola Nickname: just Andy!

Assistant Coach and Manager

Position: water boy **Remembered for:** shorts in winter, always smiling (even when coach is being harassed by opposition!), never letting the team down

Achievement: juggling coaching, managing, training and his own playing commitments

All the boys would agree that we were very lucky to have Andy helping us out and we couldn't have done it without him – THANK YOU ANDY



Gungahlin Eagles Junior Rugby Union

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News Bulletin No. Finals Edition 2009

Under 9 Blacks

The U/9 Blacks can be extremely proud of their development throughout the season. A number of the boys were new to rugby and it took a good part of the season for the team to understand and apply the basics and to play as a unit.

They were placed sixth out of eight teams at the end of round one and a semi-final berth seemed out of reach. That was until the boys turned on a 'purple patch' of footy. They won the last five games of the regular season and snatched fourth place in the Northern Division. The boys lost their semi-final 20-15 but played with great heart and can be very proud of their efforts in that game and throughout the season.

Karl Krone. New to rugby, Karl spent the season playing in the front row and showed consistent improvement. He contributed to the team with regular strong hard running. I believe he may be off to the QLD Reds in 2010.

Kyle McPherson. This was Kyle's first season with the Eagles. He had a solid season and improved tremendously in defence. Although he spent some time in the forwards, Kyle showed good turn of speed and filled half, fly half and wing on occasion. He should be excited about the 2010 season.

Jonathon Goleby. Jonathon was one of our returning Junior Eagles. For a small boy he often played well above his size. A season highlight for me was one of his clean-outs and a fantastic try in which he shrugged off a number of big defenders and touched down in the corner with two defenders hanging off him. Jonathon spent the season at hooker, half back and on the wing. He is a determined and versatile player with a bright future.

Michael Thompson. This was Mike's first season of rugby having converted from rugby league (good move). He is another player who has improved out of sight. Despite starting the season in the forwards, he earned a regular position on the wing (due to excellent ball control and speed). His greatest strength however is his defence and Mike regularly led the team in tackles. He is well placed to shine in 2010.

Cameron Malcolm. Our British Lion (Irish I think) and not just in name! Cameron had a fantastic season. He was regularly recycling ball or pinching it at the break down. And when he wasn't doing that he was leading the team in tackles or making strong raids into opposition territory. He spent most of the season in the centres but I have a feeling that, in time, he will make a fantastic breakaway. Make way George Smith!

Ian Fourie. Having recently moved to Australia from South Africa this was Ian's first season with the Eagles. He proved a handful for all teams with his long stride, speed and a strong fend. Given his size he could play in the Second Row but was most damaging on the wing scoring a number of tries throughout the season. I will never forget the day he crossed the try line and passed to one of his teammates so that they could score. Well done!

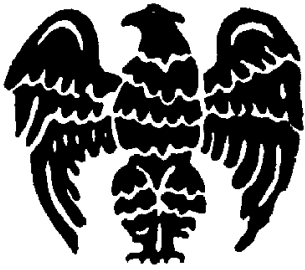
Morgan Willemsen. Morgan has had a very good season. He is another one of our speed merchants and could have spent the season on the wing or in the centres. However, he proved very reliable at half and that is where he stayed (delivering lots of good clean ball to our backline). Thanks for your great team spirit.

Owen Miles. Owen proved to be a deceptively quick and elusive player. He was one of our leading try scorers and quickly cemented his place as fly half. Win, lose or draw he was just happy to play the game. He is a great team player with a bright future.

Lachlan Gregory: Lachlan made the switch from soccer at the start of the season. An intelligent boy who was often found warming his hands in his pockets when things got a bit cool. However, when his hands were free he made some good tackles, delivered good clean ball at the breakdown and popped up in support to score some great tries. We hope you have enjoyed the season Lachlan and will see you in 2010.

Thomas Southwell. I don't think that there is a player on this team who smiles more and is as relaxed as Thomas. Mind you, when he decides to have a go the boy has shown a clean pair of heels. Thomas spent most of the season in the front row but could easily have played at inside centre. There is a lot of untapped potential in this one!

Last, many thanks to all the parents and our Manager, Adam Thompson, for your fantastic support throughout the season. Look forward to seeing everyone in 2010.



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News Bulletin No. Finals Edition 2009

The Under 10's

2009 was a tough year for the under 10 Gungahlin Eagles. Playing in the black division we only won one game. For a lot of teams this would have resulted in a drop in team spirit, a lack of effort and a destructive negative attitude. Instead this team displayed real character and turned up every week with a desire to do their best.

This ability to do their best is reflected in the results for the second half of the season. In all but two return games, the under 10 Eagles improved on their round one results. They made the opposition work hard for their victories and invariably in every game our second half performances were better than our first.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of the year was our win against West's. Despite being down two tries to nil early on, the Eagles stuck to their guns and managed to trail West's by only one try at half time. Early in the second half we were down by three tries but in true Eagles spirit the team rallied and in the end ran out winners by two tries.

The parents should also be acknowledged for the positive support they provided during the year. Much of this support was in the form of encouragement to the team and helping out either on match day or at training. Special mention goes to Dennis Leudais and Pete Elliot who provided great coaching assistance throughout the year.

Finally, our thanks goes to all the players in the under 10 Eagles. You should all be very proud of your efforts and you were a pleasure to coach. Importantly you displayed the one characteristic that all great players have, and that is that you never once gave up. Despite the results this year we would like to encourage all the team to come back next year, to make 2010 the year of the Eagle!

David Luchetti

Cathie Leudais

Ursula Jamieson



Gungahlin Eagles Junior Rugby Union

<http://junioreagles.rugbynet.com.au>

News Bulletin No. Finals Edition 2009

Under 11's

"What are we doing different?" "What are we doing wrong?" These were the two questions I was most asked this year by parents & supporters in what was a very tough season in the top (Black) Division for the Eagles U11's. This team is of course last years U10's who made the Gold Division Final's only to lose their Semi contentiously by 1 point. The nucleus of that team won their U9 Grand Final the previous year. After watching the U11's train & play all season I would have to answer those question with: "Nothing or very little."

The team played all games hard & competitively, only being "blown away" in two games, once the first time they met last years Premiers & once when severely depleted by sickness & Rep. commitments. All the training sessions were enthusiastically conducted, Coach Neil Jones & Assistant Damian Ross doing an absolutely top job all season. Without "sugar-coating" the season, in the cold, hard light of day I think we have to be honest with ourselves & the boys & say that the level the Black Division is being played at is just a little high at the moment for this group of boys to be completely competitive. While we would all like to see our boys play at the highest level, by the same token no-one likes to be beaten week in, week out.

Positives for the year include the way the team came together, as we lost a player or two from last year & welcomed new ones into the fold.

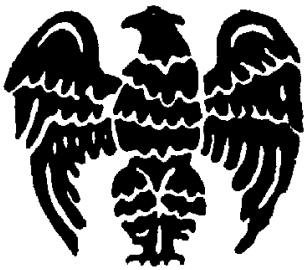
This is best shown by the number of nominations for the "Player's Player" award this year - no fewer than 11 boys from a team of 20 nominated by their peers.

Our Forward Pack was also outstanding, getting better the longer the season went on. They either beat or held their own against all comers, including the likes of the Vikings with their huge pack & the very-well-drilled Marist & St Edmunds Forwards. It always raised a smile to see opposition Forwards rush over to pack a scrum, wait while our Eagles formed at a more leisurely pace & then routinely push the opposition backwards. The whole team's backs-to-the-wall goal-line defence was also quite amazing at times. We watched games where opposition teams would be denied just short by a brick wall or be held-up over the line 5 or 6 times per half. In attack, when everyone concentrated at once, things happened, ball was held & points were scored. In the main, it was little lapses of concentration that let the attack down at times.

In closing, first the biggest thanks go to Neil & Damo for their outstanding work with the boys. To the boys themselves, for their hard work & commitment week after week when it sometimes must've gotten very hard to keep their enthusiasm up. A big thankyou to all the Parents & supporters & finally, a huge thanks to my Co-Manager & Wife Maria for all her work during the year. Here's looking forward to next season with the new U12 Junior Eagles.

Steve Goleby.

(U11's Co-Manager).



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News Bulletin No. Finals Edition 2009

Under 12's

After a disrupted season the under 12's had a draw in their semi-final after extra time against Radford college. The effort in the final game was herculean considering the conditions.

Although no points were awarded my best player was Dominic Malouf who chose the last game of the season to really step up and make some large tackles especially when they were needed. James was a great team player for turning up on the shocking day and running the water instead of playing.

The whole team should take a bow for their final effort after a tough season in a combined competition.

As for the season we had some rather large wins along the way (against Burgmann and Royals) and we copped two spankings both against St Edmunds (the eventual winners of the under 12's black division grand final. We also had two close calls (Tuggies and Radford).

Our forward pack throughout the year did not take a backwards step, especially in the scrums and as we continued through the season the work at the breakdown improved and we were getting a lot of our own re-cycled ball and pushing other sides off their ball. The backs tried hard all year with the support play really showing out later in the season.

I would like to mention several players who excelled this year.

Tyson Adam- for winning the coaches award.

Matt McKenna - for winning the 3, 2, 1 points and making the PSSA rep side.

Justin Porrecca- for winning the players player award.

Joel Bailey- for being Captain even when he changed schools mid-year and could have switched sides.

Ben and Nick Moore - really having a go this year.

Andrew Goodman - really having a go this year.

Pat Jammo - for being brave after a terrible injury.

Thomas Darby - for making Gungahlin PSSA.

The new kids- for playing with us this year.

All the boys - for putting up with my mood swings.

I would like to mention several of the Coaching staff/ support staff

The other coach- Jammo for still putting in when Patrick was injured.

The manager - Mick McKenna for being a voice of reason and his help.

The water boy- Mike Darby always first to help.

The fathers - who ran the line without any fuss.

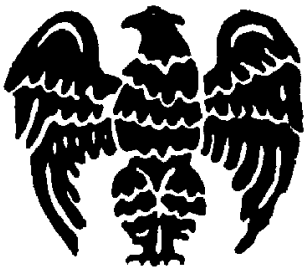
Michelle Miles- for her newsletter skills.

The Gungahlin Committee- for their tireless work to make all the behind the scenes happen.

Last but not least- the parents and supporters.

My hope for all involved with our team this year is that they have enjoyed our team and whatever sport they play in the future they just have fun.

As some of the boys are heading off to other schools next year I would like to see an Eagles Under 13's in 2010 and would ask the boys who are wanting to play for the Eagles next year to start recruiting now.



Gungahlin Eagles Junior Rugby Union

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News Bulletin No. Finals Edition 2009

Gungahlin Eagles Under 14s - End of Season 2009

Well, the season is all but over, and what a year!! The boys finished off the regular season in 3rd position, but went on to win the Grand Final in dramatic fashion with a 27-24 victory over Vikings. Their performance and bouncebackability was a testament to their determination, self belief and strength of will and was a delight to watch.

I must pay a special mention to the parents. Throughout the year they have all provided outstanding support in getting sons to the game and training, cleaning the kit, ensuring that the boys engines were full, and making sure that dirty and muddy boots were not incorrectly stored under their beds (for too long anyway). I as a parent understand this, but from my personal perspective, I just wanted to say thanks for allowing me to coach them in the manner that I believed to be right.

I know that some, if not all of you will have from time to time questioned a slight decision or training drill, but to your credit have kept this quiet from me and allowed both me and more importantly the boys to hear one voice. This really does get through to the boys as I believe they see a consistent approach and message applied from week to week.



I must also say a huge thank you to Michele Garner, our Manager, who has done a sterling job this year. She has collated all of the match statistics, 3-2-1s and provided invaluable moral support to both me and the boys throughout. There have been many times where I have needed a sounding board, and Shell has always given me her considered opinion, which I have very much valued – thanks!!

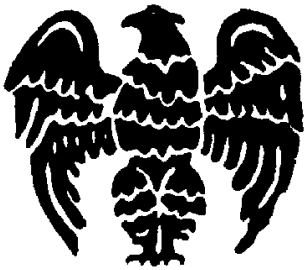
To the boys, you have been absolutely brilliant this year, displaying all of the best traits of young men through your on and off the field actions. Team work, loyalty and having fun are the key elements to any rugby player, and you have all displayed these. I know that I have, on occasion, become slightly animated, but you have all let me have my funny five minutes and responded by listening to and acting on my drills (Adam Rummery – best box kick I have ever seen!!).

I have immensely enjoyed coaching this year and although I may not be able to coach the boys in 2010, they, and the Club will never be far from my thoughts. Thank you to all and I look forward to Presentation Day, the Sevens Competition, the Avoca friendly and beyond.....

Finally, as always.....**GO EAGLES!!!**

Warmest Regards and best wishes

Nev Cook



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