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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Signing Off

The 2024 season was one of the most successful in recent history for the Petersham Juniors. We proudly finished **3rd in the Sydney Juniors Rugby Union Big Club** (6+ teams) competition, an accolade based on the grades played and competition points earned throughout the season. Congratulations to all our teams for their consistent performances this achievement truly reflects the hard work and dedication displayed by everyone involved!

This season, we fielded teams from Under 6s through to Under 16s, including a joint venture with the Balmain Club for our Under 15s. Additionally, we participated in the Summer and Spring 7s competitions. Despite our robust representation, overall XVs player numbers decreased slightly from approximately 230 to 210. This trend isn't unique to Petersham; the wider Inner West district has experienced a decline in player numbers of up to 40% post-pandemic. A particular area of concern is Minis Rugby, which has seen the most significant drop. As a rugby community, we need to address this challenge collectively to ensure the sustainability of our player base in the years ahead.

Despite these challenges, I am incredibly proud of what we achieved as a club in 2024.



1) Indigenous Training Jersey Launch

This year, we launched a new Indigenous-designed training jersey that beautifully tells the story of our club. For the first time, our Seniors adopted the same design, creating a unified "one club" look during training nights at Camperdown. Special thanks to Nick May for leading this meaningful project.

Our Under 13s toured the Central West, creating memories and experiences that will be

2) Under 13s Central West Tour

and experiences that will be cherished for years. The tour, combined with the annual trivia night at Leichhardt Town Hall, exemplified the spirit of our club.

3) New Canteen Model

Martin Davies, a former coach, spearheaded a new canteen model by volunteering his Sundays to run the BBQ and canteen operations. Our Under 15s players also contributed by earning volunteer hours for school or Duke of Edinburgh awards. This initiative allowed parents to enjoy their children's games without the added responsibility of canteen duties—a true display of community spirit.

Acknowledgements

A heartfelt thank you to our sponsors—Holman Barnes Group, White Cockatoo Hotel, Red Rooster (Summer Hill), CrossFit Play, and Belle Property Newtown. Your continued support directly benefits our players and volunteers, providing the stability needed to focus on the game.

I'd also like to recognise the committee members whose tireless work keeps the club running smoothly. From managing registrations (Nick), maintaining websites and

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social media (Rauri and Claire), ordering canteen supplies (Martin), and handling finances (Trudie), your behind-the-scenes efforts are invaluable.

Special mention goes to Trudie Harriman (Treasurer) and Nick May (Gear Manager), who are stepping down this year. Trudie's leadership revitalised our canteen, managed finances with precision, and ensured we achieved financial stability. Nick's management of club gear and his vision for the Indigenous jersey project have left a lasting legacy.

Personal Reflection

This will be my final President's Report for the Petersham Juniors, as I step down from this role. It has been an incredible journey over the past seven years on the committee, including five years as President. Thank you to everyone who has supported me, especially my wife, Marcie, and my children, Javier and Thalia. Their unwavering support made it possible for me to dedicate so much to the club.

Being President is a demanding role, but the rewards—seeing the joy on our players' faces as they leave the field at St. Lukes or Camperdown—are unparalleled. I am deeply honoured by the creation of the John Kilkenny Award for Most Improved Shammie and look forward to

celebrating future recipients.
While I am stepping back from this position, I won't be far away and will continue to cheer, "Go Shammies!" alongside all of you for years to come.

Yours in Rugby,

John Kilkenny (JK)
President

Petersham Juniors Rugby Club



THANK YOU TO OUR CLUB SPONSORS



Premium Sponsors







Pillar Sponsors





























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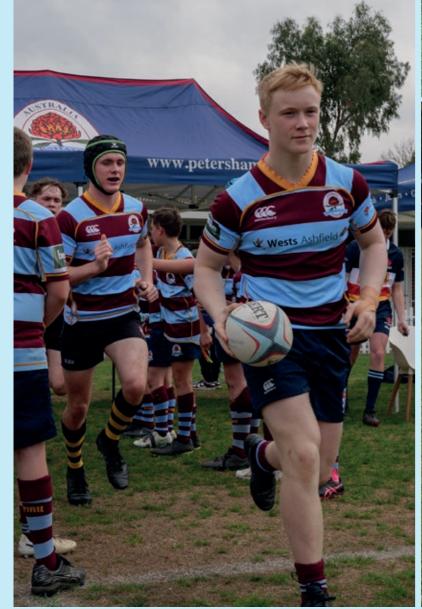




























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SHAMMIES AIMS

1. Fun

Ensure all kids and parents have fun in a safe atmosphere where kids improve their abilities.

2. Values

Ensure kids learn more than how to play rugby.

3. Community

Ensure the Shammies play a role within our broader community.

4. Coaches

Support all our coaches and managers to develop.

5. Pathways

Connect our Club from minis through to seniors rugby.

6. Partners

Align ourselves to progressive businesses within the Inner West with shared values.

2.03

2024 **OBJECTIVES**

- Improve recruitment by 100 new kids
- Provide alternative pathways for players to stay in the game and connected to the Club e.g. referees, touch rugby, coaching, sense rugby
- Deepen connections with Shammies seniors and Sydney University Rugby

- · Be the lead on 'Girls Rugby' in the inner west
- Evolve 'The Shammie Way' of coaching - improve coaching and managers through training and accreditation
- Rugby tourists!

2.04

PJRU COMMITTEE



JOHN KILKENNY

PRESIDENT

DAD OF JAVIER (U15) & THALIA (U10)

TRISTAN WORLEDGE

SECRETARY

DAD OF HAMISH (U11) & TOBY (U9)

TRUDIE HARRIMAN

TREASURER

MUM OF WILL (U14)

DAN WATERWORTH

CLUB COACH

DAD OF LIAM (U14) & FINN (U10)

NICK MAY

GEAR GUY

DAD OF MAX (U15)

EBEN RAINEY

MINIS COORDINATOR

DAD OF LINCOLN (U8) & JAKOB (U11)

NICK GORMLY

REGISTRAR

DAD OF JAMES (U15)

RAURI ROCHFORD

WEB GUY

DAD OF KILLIAN (U8)

MARTIN DAVIES

CANTEEN

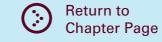
DAD OF EX SHAMMIES JUNIORS FRANKIE & SPENCER

SHOGO KIKUCHI

REFEREES & GIRLS

DAD OF MIREI (U13)





Petersham Junior Rugby Club Season Report 2024

CLUB FINANCES

Petersham Juniors Rugby Club Incorporated is registered as an incorporated association in New South Wales under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009. Number INC1601391.

A copy of the Club constitution is available by request to a committee member. The following financial statements were submitted for the club for the financial year ending 30 June 2024.

2024 has been a solid year for the club from a financial perspective. We have been able to maintain a strong cash position, despite experiencing a number of cost increases throughout the year.

Our sponsors have remained a critical part of our community and aside from the financial support, provide a strong link to our community. We are grateful for their ongoing support be it financial, support in kind or volunteering at our events.

Our Canteen and BBQ remain a critical part of our ongoing fundraising and we appreciate the efforts of Martin Davies in bringing this to life. Not only is the canteen an important source of revenue, it also contributes to the atmosphere on the day. We understand that volunteering time can be a challenge for many, but it really does help to contribute to our club in a meaningful way and helps build connections and club camaraderie.

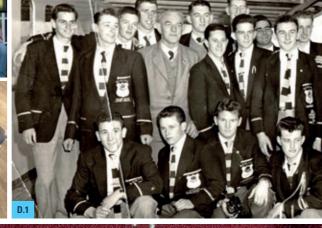
In 2025 we will continue to look for ways to contribute to our club revenue to keep our registration costs down for families, but also to invest in the many activities we have been able to fund for our players and families throughout the year. If you have any leads on potential sponsors or partnerships, please reach out.

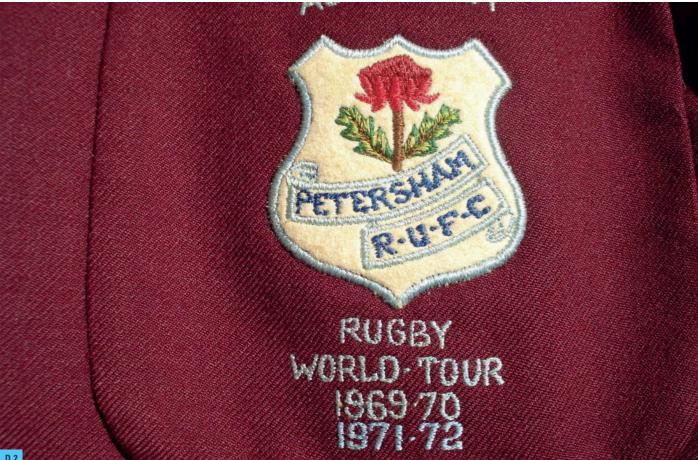


REVENUES	Y24 (1 Jul 23 to 30 Jun 24)	Y23 (Partial FY23)
Registration - net	\$31,303.26	\$35,153
Sponsorship	\$14,068.52	\$17,500
Tour Fundraising and Parent Contribution	\$110,800.20	\$4,026
BBQ/Canteen	\$10,123.70	\$9,915
Misc revenue	\$1,650.06	\$0
Total revenue (ex-tour)	\$57,145.54	\$62,569
Total Takings	\$167,945.74	\$66,595
COSTS		
Gear - Kids and General	\$34,761.54	-\$43,474
Digital Marketing Promotion & Media Costs	\$6,667.10	-\$978
Presentation day	\$10,539.24	-\$1,910
Committee/Coach/Mgr Meetings		\$00.00
Affiliation	\$3,107.00	\$00.00
Tour - contribution	\$00.00	-\$2,500.00
Ground Hire	\$5,997.52	-\$5,320
Tech/Software		-\$2,624
BBQ, First Aid, Misc	\$4,143.48	-\$9,555
First Aid (broken out in F24)	\$2,788.50	\$2,788.50
Tour Costs (fixed costs for all travelling pax)	\$101,398.12	-\$5,333
Total costs (ex-tour)	\$68,004.38	-\$66,360
Total costs	\$169,402.50	-\$71,694
Total PY	-\$10,858.84	-\$5,098
Total PY (ex-tour)	-\$1,456.76	-\$3,791
CASH HELD AT BANK (Main Account)		
@22.09.24	(incl. approx \$22k for 2024 tour)	\$78,663.51
@30.06.24	\$54,975.00	\$46,485.21
@30.06.23	\$54,975.00	48,232











2.05

PETERSHAM SHAMMIES SUPPORTERS GROUP AND A BIT OF HISTORY

Petersham Old Boys and The Shammies Supporters Group

The PSSG enables anybody to become a supporter of the on and off-field activities of both the Senior and Junior arms of the PRUFC.

If you would like to join, transfer your desired funds to:

PRUFC
BSB 062 009
A/C 1097 4062
REFERENCE
'YOUR NAME-MSHIP J'
(J signifies Juniors)

Our magnificent club has been operating for 141 seasons, in fact PRUFC is the oldest continually operating rugby club in the NSW Suburban Rugby (Subbies) competition, and, is The Most Travelled Rugby Club in World Rugby History, having completed countless tours to all parts of Australia and the rest of the world, many times over.

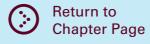
With such a long history, of course, there are many, many hundreds of Old Boys, and now Old Gals, as our first ever Women's team started playing in 2022, and this season, the team achieved their historic first ever win.

SUPPORTERS GROUP

Much has happened in 140 years in providing boys, men, girls and now women, the chance to play the sport of rugby for Petersham.

IMAGE CREDITS

- A 150 years of Shammies
- \boldsymbol{B} Where your Support goes. Back in to the Club
- C For the first time ever, a Shammie Womens team sang the club victory song, Newport on Saturday 7thJuly 2024
- D.1 Round the World Tours
- D.2 1955 New Caledonia by boat





1883 **AWARDS**

For exemplifying the enduring spirit and values of the mighty 'Maroon & Blue'

This honour is proudly awarded by the Club to the players that the coaches deem to have epitomised the spirit of Shammies Rugby.

The guidance provided to coaches to select a player for the award include:

Effort

- Commitment to practice
- Effort on the field

Attitude

- Good sport
- Respectful of players, coaches, managers and officials
- Maintains positive attitude

Improvement

- Ongoing commitment to improve core skills, fitness and game knowledge
- Responsive to Coach feedback

Team and Club

- Supportive of teammates
- Helps coaches and managers
- Displays Club spirit

Congratulations to these 1883 players for 2024!

- U8 Crawford Laing and Edward Glanville
- Matthew Conti
- U10 Dara Forrest
- U11 Mali Smith
- U12 Finlay McFarland
- U13 Charlie Cox
- U14 Freddie Finlayson and Tom Nelson
- U15 Daniel Villate-Gallagher and Angus Turnbull
- U16 Jessey O'Neill



TURNBULI.



PJRU

Exemplifying the enduring spirit and values of the mighty 'Maroon & Blue'









U/9





U/13

U/15



U/11







U/14

U/15

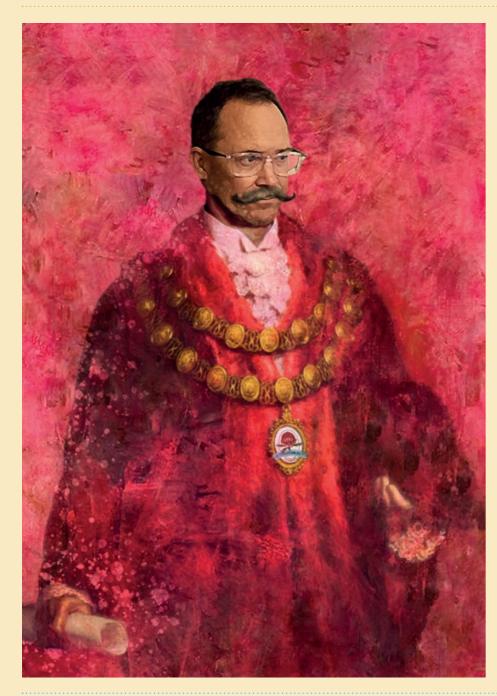


O'NEILL

U/16



JOHN KILKENNY MOST IMPROVED PLAYER AWARD ('THE BRUCE')



This award honours John Kilkenny, who served as Club President for five years and coached for over a decade. Known for his organisation, drive to improve, and commitment to high standards, John was dedicated to developing players and the club. The award recognises a player who embodies John's values by demonstrating outstanding effort, dedication, and significant improvement throughout the season.

The Inaugural
PJRU Presidential Mural 2024
President John Kilkenny
(Digital Artwork by Eden Barros)

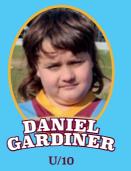




JK M·I·P

AWARD

Awarded for exceptional commitment to skill improvement continuous learning, and dedicated development.















100-200 GAME AND LIFE MEMBERS CLUB

The 100 Game Club is for players and coaches that have represented Shammies for at least 6 seasons. The 200 Game Club is for players and coaches that have represented Shammies for at least 11 seasons.

Shammies warmly acknowledge the contribution made by them. Their enthusiasm, loyalty and dedication is the bedrock of the Club and is appreciated by all. 100
G A M E S
200
G A M E S
LIFE

HONOURS

100



U/12

Q1. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Bacon & Eggs for breakfast.

Q2. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: After a win singing the team song in a huddle with the team.

Q3. Who are your sporting heroes?

Cricketers, Steve Smith and David Warner.

Q4. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: None.

100 G A M E S



Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: Playing a Friday night game after basketball at Drummoyne

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Hitting the top of the door frame before a game in the change room on the way out to a game.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: Going on the New Zealand trip with mates.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

Hakeem Olajuwon and Tracy McGrady.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Listening to the coaches, go to training and improve on what the coaches tell you to do.

what the coaches tell y

100 GAMES



U/10

Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: I remember in my first game with the Shammies I scored a try & it made me feel super happy!

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Yes, Petting my dog Poppy for good luck!

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: Scoring a try for the Shammies this season at Camperdown Oval.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

Ronaldo in football & Latrell Mitchell in Rugby League.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Come & play because you'll never regret becoming a Shammie!

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U/11

Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: My earliest memory at the Shammies is watching my Dad play winger.

Then getting to play winger at minis myself!

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: My pre game ritual is to put a ribbon in my hair and eat a banana.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: My favourite moment is sidestepping the opposition to score

a try and playing in the rain and mud.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

My sporting hero's are Maddison Levi, Charlotte Caslick and my Dad!

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: All new Shammies need to practice the song!

100



U/10

LOO.



Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: Eating a sausage from the BBQ at the end of training.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Make sure I have a laugh and am smiling before games.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: When I scored a try against Briars a few years ago. I still remember that!

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

Sam Whitelock and Tom Luchi.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Try hard and just enjoy!

Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: My earliest memory is running onto the field for my first game, feeling both nervous and excited. Ryan and Simon, our top coaches, were super encouraging. I remember the cheers from the sidelines and the thrill of making my first tackle.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: In the locker room, we boys get ready, tape our laces and our injuries, and get pumped up! Listening to our getting ready songs and doing a quick warm-up routine which really helps me focus on the game ahead.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: Giving my best every game is important to me, but my favourite moment was the win against Balmain way back in 2020! I'm also a big fan of the mud – must be my Celtic blood!

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: My sporting heroes are Michael Hooper #7 and Latrell Mitchell and the South Sydney boys. I know it's a different code, but I love it all the same. Their passion and skill inspire me to always give my best on the field. Another hero is my dad - our manager. Mick Dandy - who has also nearly had 100 games!

Thanks so much to our coaches, DC, Angus and Simon for every moment on and off the field and to my year 2 teacher Mr Lawson who got me into the Shammies with my old mate Zeke!

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Trust your teammates and coaches. Enjoy every moment and don't be afraid to make mistakes. Rugby is all about teamwork and learning, so support your teammates and have fun out there!



Petersham Junior Rugby Club Season Report 2024

100.....

U/12

HONOURS

Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: I remember the first ever training session in the Under 7s, our coach was away and we trained with the U8s where we did tackling and passing drills. I had no idea what I was doing but my new teammates helped me settle in.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Not specifically. I make sure I get to the ground early, warm up and focus on my role and what I need to do in the game.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: My first ever try at St Lukes. I remember crossing the line but was not sure what to do next. Thankfully the parents on the sideline gave me some advice.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

All of the Wallabies. Dad tells me it should be Mark Ella or Stephen Larkham.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Train hard and listen to your coaches. Over time the techniques and skills will come to you in games when you least expect it.

A M E S



Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: The first day when I was in normal clothes at the back of a passing drill and was talking to Xavier. I got to the front and caught the ball.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Mouthguard in. Laces up. One lap of the field.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: Cleaned up a loose ball in the middle of the field, dodged, darted, and twisted though the other team to score a try.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: Cathy Freeman - her speed power and personality made her a hero for everyone - also my school house is "Freeman".

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Don't be scared to go into contact.

100 GAMES.



Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: I remember when we were younger and Hugo passed me the ball so I could score my first try.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: I jog on the spot to get myself energetic and I stretch my ankles.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: The game the year before we started playing on the full field, and so I scored three tries in one game!

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: Angus bell because he is a front rower like me!

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: It's good to kick the footy around and score tries.



U/12



U/13





Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: Playing minis at St Lukes.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Eating Baked Beans and listening to Guns n Roses Welcome to the Jungle.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: Fitness training.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: Aaron Smith, Nathan Power, Glen Maxwell.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Have fun and train hard.

Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: My earliest memory is on my first game for the Shammies I went to score a Try and I ran past the try line before putting the ball down because I didn't know where the lines were. It was my very first game.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: No

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: When I won the Spirit of Rugby award in my first year.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: Jonah Lomu - he was the first really good rugby player that I watched in old games on tv with my dad when I was young and just starting to learn about rugby.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Always look out for your team members.

Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: One of my first trainings when dad helped me during a drill and then became coach for the next 5 years.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Listen to pump up music.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: Some of my favourite moments playing for Shammies were meeting new people.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: My sporting heroes are Aaron Smith, Rob Valentini and Marika Koroibete.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Always try to be a team player.

Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: When I was in under 9s, on the first training session we trained with the under 10s because one of our coaches wasn't there.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: No, I just show up.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: We played a really fun game in West Milton on our NZ tour. It was freezing cold and raining and we ate massive pizzas with the other team afterwards.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: None.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Don't be afraid to make tackles.

Petersham Junior Rugby Club Season Report 2024

HONOURS

Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: My earliest memory is getting my Shammies top and feeling like a professional rugby player.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: I like listening to music before the game to get fired up.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: My favourite times are when we have a great team game, but my favourite moment is when I scored my first try.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: My favourite rugby player is Bundee Aki, and I love Michael Jordan.

I also like Anthony Davis and Steph Curry.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: My advice would be enjoy it, don't focus on just the win but have fun with

your teammates working hard together. Train hard!



U/11

U/11

Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: Absolute smashing a teammate during training, like I smash Big Macs. I felt like I was him in that moment. Hmmmmm Big Macs (Homer Simpson meme).

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Breakfast Cereal and touch footy to warm up the rig.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: Winning Man of the Match in minis U8s.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: Steph Curry and Michael Jordan.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Smash kids, like I smash Big Macs.

100



Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: Having Richard coach us through my first season.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Getting ready to play, getting my head in the game.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: Singing the song after a win.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: Ian Thorpe - great swimmer.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Always have fun and enjoy the game.



U/10

Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: Scoring eight tries on my first game. Then I got a photo with the senior Shammies who were playing their first games.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: I listen to my favourite music and I like to eat a decent breakfast.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: Playing with my friends and when we sing the Shammies song.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

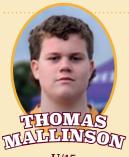
A: Iliseva Batibasaga who was my teacher at childcare. She played for Sydney Uni, Waratahs and Australia.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Train hard. Never give up. Listen to your coaches.



Petersham Junior Rugby Club Season Report 2024



Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: First game for the Shammies in 2019! Mum and Dad were away so the Lennox family kindly gave me and my Grandma a lift. I cannot remember the result but I think the Shammies won.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Egg and bacon breakfast always!

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: The come back win against Manly in 2023.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: Alyssa Healy and Taniela Tupou.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Keep consistent even during the off season training.

G A M E S



Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: Smashing another team in my birthday 40-5.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Not really. Just a decent breakfast.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: Beating Manly in the finals.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: Dan Biggar (Wales), George North (Wales), Rees Zammit (Wales).

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Play hard, listen to your coach, tackle low.

100 GAMES



Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: My first memory is playing a touch game with Paddy and Ryan at training.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: I learnt to make my own breakfast that has scrambled eggs.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: I had to miss two games this year due to a concussion, so I made up for it in the last game by scoring two tries!

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: Josh Papali'i because he plays for my team the Raiders and is a prop like me.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Don't pass the ball forwards, tackle below the hips and concentrate!

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PAST·CLUB
MEMBERS

2015 PLAYERS Bertie Alcock, Will Burraston, James Crawford, Tom Maclean, Harry Russell, Tommy Treharne. COACHES Michael Crawford, Nik Treharne • 2016 PLAYERS Lipina Ata, Nils Bacic, Ben Brown, Eric Carney, Josh Cartwright, Frankie Davies, Oscar Greville, Finnley Harding, Siaosi Mahe, Kye Martin, James McGregor, Maran Petkovic, Harry Stephens COACH Tim Greville • 2017 PLAYERS Hugh Crakanthorp, Fletcher Gill, Jack Lennox, Lucas Pollard, Quillan Ung, Conor Dunn COACH Ben Stephens • 2018 PLAYERS Tom Chanter, Oscar Swerdlow, Andrew Lyons, Mannix Ung, Spencer Davies, Aston Lebler • 2019 PLAYERS Billy Nicoletti, James Gormly, Tom Lennox, Elijah Hassan, Willem Teong, Lucas Kohen, Ewan Gleeson, Brendan Bennett, Maddox Oddy, Sam Hassan, Finnley Harding, Jules Holland, Oscar Ortolani, Will Chanter COACHES Simon Teong, Ryan Swerdlow • 2020 PLAYERS Aiden Lee, Declan Cohen, Giovanni Briguglio Magazinos, Jasper Cohen, Jasper Jones, Javier Kilkenny, Jemima Zoud, Jonas Cook, Josh Chen, Kyle Ritchie, Liam Waterworth, Max Blombery, Nate Travis, Noah Zoud, Owen Lloyd Jones, Ryan Gleeson, Sam Cameron, Sam Rudd COACHES Martin Davies, Peter Lloyd-Jones and John Kilkenny (JK) • 2021 PLAYERS Dominic Cheng, Ezekiel Barros, Jack Cooper, Julius Rego, Kobi Hetariki, Levi Mikhiel, Rowan Bhatia COACH Frank Rego • 2022 PLAYERS Alexander Mitchell, Edward Walker, Fletcher Lapthorne, Hamish Kelly, Jake Matthews, James Baranowski, Josh Baranowski, Louis Ruelle, Max May, Owen Charles, Walker Gaff, Wiiliam Harriman-Khan, William Jamison COACH Richard Chen • 2023 PLAYERS Fin Chanter, Finn Waterworth, Fionn Rafferty, Harley Donohue, Jack Farley, James Junior Breen, James "Jimmy" Reilly, Michael Keenan, Mirei Kikuchi, Otto Gerber, Tom Jamison COACHES Shogo Kikuchi, Andrew Clarke, James Breen



Petersham Junior Rugby Club Season Report 2024

MES

HONOURS

Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies? A: Scoring one of my first tries when I was younger.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Not really I sometimes listen to music on the way to games and do a lot of stretching.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: The New Zealand tour we did a few years ago that was definitely a highlight and hanging out with all of my mates.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: Jonah Iomu, Michael Jordan.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Always try your hardest in what you do and give 100% effort to the game. Also make sure you're having fun while doing it. That's what matters.

Z U U G A M E S



U/15

Q1. What is your earliest memory of playing for Shammies?

A: My earliest memory playing for the Shammies is back in the under 6s in 2013, when I was first learning how to play rugby. I've loved playing for this great club every season since.

Q2. Do you have any pre-game rituals?

A: Not really. I usually just listen to music for a while before the game and that seems to assist me get into the zone and ready to play.

Q3. What is your favourite moment playing for Shammies?

A: My favourite moment with the Shammies is from back in the Under 10s, when we clinched the grand final in 2018. It was our first season out of minis, and despite finishing second on the ladder, we managed to win a nail-biting game. It was an unforgettable day, full of excitement and joy.

Q4. Who are your sporting heroes?

A: My favourite sporting heroes include Quade Cooper, Dan Carter and Ian Thorpe.

Q5. Any Advice for new players joining the Shammies?

A: Dive into training with enthusiasm, give your best on game day, and, most importantly, have a blast playing rugby with your teammates. Remember, rugby is not just about challenging yourself but also about enjoying the journey with your mates. Embrace the friendships, celebrate the small victories, and always keep the fun of the game at the heart of everything you do.



2020 PLAYERS Thomas Maclean, Tommy Treharne
2021 PLAYERS Frankie Davies, Kye Martin, Nils Bacic, Oscar Greville
2022 PLAYERS Quillan Ung COACH NIK TREHARNE



2020 INDUCTEES Adam Dunn (Dunny), PRESIDENT 2014-2019
2022 INDUCTEES Sarah Pinchbeck and Jo Bacic



SYDNEY UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES



Celebrating Excellence

Petersham Junior Rugby Club is part of Sydney University rugby district. There are 12 Junior Rugby Districts in the Sydney metropolitan area. Together with our friends at Canterbury and Balmain, we provide selected players to trial for the representative team for Sydney University Juniors.

The selected players participate at the NSW State Junior Championships held in June each year. These are for ages 10 through to 18 and are very competitively contested by the Sydney District teams, NSW Country teams and often Victoria and ACT selections.

In 2024 JK was appointed as the Sydney Juniors President as well as holding Petersham President position.

CONGRATULATIONS

James Gormly who was selected NSW Gen-Blue and Alexander Motuliki selected for NSW City Barbarians rep team.



2024 Representative Players for Petersham Junior Rugby Club that competed at the State Champs or Stat development galas were:

U10 PLAYERS Charlie Furey, Daniel Gardiner, Dara Forrest, Finn Waterworth, Jack Scholes, Thomas Luchi, Thalia Kilkenny

COACH Paul Luchi
MANAGER Chris Furey

U11 PLAYERS Hugo Mesley, Joshua Johnson, Liam Francois Lategan, Lincoln Mesecke-Trent, Patrick Taylor, Ryan Tappin, Seyi Barros, Sidney Hawkins, Xavier Alexander.

COACH Francois Lategan
MANAGER Kristy Alexander

U12 PLAYERS Carter Rolfe, Finlay Mcfarland, George Furey, Hugo Erispe, Mac Callon, Will Shepherd

COACH Andrew McFarland
MANAGER Chris Furey

U13 PLAYERS Finley Askew, Mirei Kikuchi, Robert Clarke, Orlando Ponzetta, Sakiasi Matairavula

U14 PLAYERS Aiden Lee, Freddie Finlayson, Harrison Bell, Jacob Antoniolli, Jake Quailey, John Amalani Motuliki, Kristian Mackay, Liam Waterworth, Lucas Villate-Gallagher, Matthew Tydd, Rocky Hawkins, Sebastien Triccas, Thomas Nelson, Tom Branson, William Harriman-Khan.

COACH Ben Khan, Dan Waterworth, Shane Lee **MANAGER** Jules Bates

U15 PLAYERS Alexander Motuliki, Angus Turnbull, Cruz Vasea, Daniel Villate-Gallagher, Ezekiel Barros, Javier Kilkenny, James Gormly, Max Dunne, Max May, Myles Harrington, Sam Dunne, Terrance Hou

MANAGER Nick May





















SHAMMIES ON TOUR

Aotearoa, New Zealand

Following a terrific season as Minor Premiers and GF runners up, the 2023 U13s set off on our week long NZ tour on the 26th of September 2023. With the support of many across our club and community following a successful fundraising effort, we departed Sydney as a team, including a shout out from the Qantas Captain wishing us good fortune on our tour.

Arriving into Christchurch, we were met by our coach driver who drove us to the mighty Christchurch Football Club (CFC), in Christchurch Park, which was to be our home for 5 days. CFC is New Zealand's oldest football club, and we were excited to experience everything the club had to offer, and we weren't disappointed!

We stayed onsite at the club, in their fit-for-purpose apartments, and were treated to a fantastic food experience with a local multigenerational family who have been catering for CFC for many years.

We had use of the well-equipped clubhouse, trusted to use the bar (!) and the kids were able to use the fields at night, complete with access to the lights, which gave everyone a real feel for rugby in NZ. After a great first dinner, the boys went to bed promptly at midnight (Australian time!) and learnt the hard way that it pays to have a good nights sleep when you wake up to a

full gala day on Day Two kicking off with breakfast at 8 and warm-up at 8:30!

After a gala briefing by our hosts, we were excited to play in a round robin with several South Island teams including CFC Juniors and a collection of district rep teams from Mid-Canterbury, South Canterbury and a Christchurch-based cultural rep team, Waitaha. We were blown away by our first experience of a local haka and welcomed by the locals warmly.

We had a win against CFC and some hard-fought losses against the district teams. The games were tough but fair and well-played and we saw some of the best of the South Islands junior rugby talent. We were fortunate to be hosted for a big group BBQ and presentation as well as a farewell haka which was truly memorable.

Over the days we stayed at CFC we had some challenging weather, but made the best of our time with trips around Christchurch, including a special canoeing trip down the Waka, where the boys got to learn more about the Maori culture and local history.

We were lucky to have another couple of games winning against CFC again and also a fantastic trip to West Melton for one of the great games of the season. In very challenging conditions the boys went down on the buzzer in what was a fantastic match up, played on a terrific regional field, complete with sky-high hedges and locals popping down to watch the epic tussle. The pizza night was a memorable one, with lots of laughs with the locals, drinking them out of prosecco and beer!

We departed on our coach to Queenstown, with a detour to play Waitaki Boys High in the incredible school grounds of one of the South Island's storied boarding schools in Oamaru. This was by far the most challenging of games, playing against one of the top rugby schools in New Zealand against a team a year older than the boys.

We were able to sub on a couple of older siblings (thanks Tom and Daniel!) and then started swapping players to even it up a bit, but it was certainly one for the history books with us watching what will surely be some future All Blacks on the field!

We departed Oamaru bound for Queenstown and a few days of fun. We enjoyed the best of Queenstown with the boys and families enjoying the Shot-over jet, the gondola and some epic races on the luge. A few scares in the haunted house and some karaoke and bowling downtown.









U6 REPORT

Growth, Teamwork and Achievement

Coaching & Management

MANAGER

BRENDON BELL

COACHES

CLIFFORD RANDERSON

Now that our first season of Shammies rugby is over, I wanted to share a few highlights and thank everyone for making this such a fantastic year for our Under 6 squad.

Preseason

We had quite a young crew this year, with many of our players starting out as 4-year-olds since there wasn't a Mighty Under 5's program. The younger and older kids managed to train and play well together which was great to see.

This was our first go with the new tri-tag competition. Instead of touching opponents, the kids learned to rip tags, which was a whole new skill and a lot of fun to watch. Compared to the old rules of touch, it made for a much better game for the kids to play as there was no ambiguity around whether you're touched or not, it meant more kids were able to cross the line for tries, and got the kids to focus on getting low which is good for when they transition into tackle.

We ended up with a goodsized group, so we split into two teams: the Blues and the Maroons. A big shoutout to Christian's dad, Brendon, who stepped up to coach the Maroons. Having the two teams meant all the kids got a lot of game time every week rather than subbing in and out. Thanks to the parents who sometimes swapped teams to even up the numbers when required.

Kick-off

Our very first game was a memorable one! It was an early 8am start out in Penrith, and the rain was relentless on the way there. Thankfully, it cleared up just in time, and we kicked off the season with a splash.

Over the year, winter didn't exactly play nice with us. We missed quite a few games and training sessions due to the weather, and even had one round in the full-on rain. Fingers crossed we get more luck with the weather next year. The kids were eager to play however they could, and we found ourselves with a good group at training even through the school holidays.

In terms of the rugby, the kids started off well, but you could really see their confidence and skills growing as the season went on. By the end of the year, the difference in their abilities was incredible, night and day compared to the start.

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Season Highlights

Blues vs Maroons Grudge
Match: What a game! A supercharged training session.
Gala Day at Riverwood Park:
The kids came together as one
team for this Sunday event, and
seeing the trophies had the kids
(and the coach) super motivated.
They worked hard together and
managed to take home their
first trophy!

Wallabies vs Georgia: Israel and Christian did us proud and stepped in to help the under 7's represent Petersham ahead of the test match.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to see how the kids will fare in Under 7's next year. For our younger players, it'll be another year of Under 6's, and I'm confident they'll continue to grow and thrive. It's a great group of kids coming through. A massive thank you to everyone—whether you were bringing oranges for halftime, snakes for after the match, helping at training, or just getting the kids to all the sessions. Your support made this season great.

Can't wait to see you all next year. Here's to another fantastic season ahead!

Cheers, Cliff















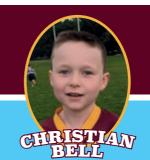


Angus began the season a bit tentatively but quickly found his rhythm as the season went on. In his second year of Under 6's, but first time playing tritag, he emerged as a leader in the Maroons, scoring tries and contributing strongly in defence, making good tags. This season has been great preparation for him as he heads into Under 7's next year.



Started very nervously, gripping onto coach Dad's leg the whole first match, but came into his own at the Riverwood Gala Day and was a changed player after that, maybe our most changed player, running hard, scoring tries and putting pressure on defence. One of our young kids, Bryce will be back in under 6's next year.

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Christian has been a standout player this season with his incredible speed and unwavering passion for the game. As a strong leader on the team, he consistently demonstrated great defensive skills and worked hard at every training session. His commitment and leadership will bode well for his performances in Under 7's next year. Keep an eye on Christian as he continues to develop into a star player.



Israel started the season with obvious speed and ball skills, and he grew more confident as the season progressed. His ability to back his pace, run straight and get over the try line improved significantly, and his focus on defence became stronger as well. With his combination of speed and size, Israel is set to be a star in Under 7's next year. We're excited to see his continued growth!



Jai has been a delight to coach this season. He started off a bit nervous, but grew more comfortable as the season went on. His natural speed and attentive listening mean he has what it takes to become a key player next year. The highlight of his season was scoring his first try, which was a proud moment for him and for us. Being one of our youngest players, it's exciting to think about how much more he will grow. We're looking forward to seeing him back for another great season in Under 6's next year!



Freddy was a relative latecomer, but his enthusiasm for rugby was evident at every training session and game. He brought great energy in attacking play and always put on solid pressure in defence. His ability to listen and adapt during the game has been impressive. As we head into next season, Freddy will have to decide between moving up to Under 7's or another year of Under 6's, and I'm sure he'll perform well whichever he chooses.



Jack has shone this season with his outstanding defence and energy on attack. His ability to make crucial tags when it mattered most was impressive, and he consistently proved to be a try-scoring machine. As a strong leader, Jack took great care of his younger teammates, ensuring they felt included and sharing the ball effectively. He's a star of the future, and we can't wait to see what he'll achieve in the seasons to come.



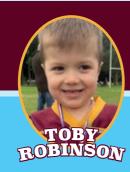
Leo's passion for the game has been evident all season. His evasive running and tenacious defence set him apart as one of our best players. His commitment to improving and his ability to stay focused on the game have been great to see, and his listening to instruction has improved out of sight as well. He's good enough to go up to under 7's next year but will be a welcome leader in the under 6's should he decide to go around again next year.







Levi started the season a bit unsure but quickly demonstrated his potential. His stand-out moment was scoring three tries at our away fixture in Drummoyne. With good size and promising attributes, Levi has the makings of a great player in the future. He's also a good listener at both training and games, which has helped him improve throughout the season. We're excited to see how he continues to develop as heads into Under 7's next year.



Toby, along with his twin brother Will, is our youngest player, but he never let that hold him back. His enthusiasm was contagious, and he made significant strides as the season progressed. Toby's defensive work was excellent, and he also developed into a capable try scorer. His support play has been great, and we're excited to see him continue to grow and shine in Under 6's next year.



Max had a bad run of sickness earlier in the season, but strung the games together after that and it's clear she has what it takes to be a strong player. She's got speed and a killer instinct, and we're excited to see her fully harness these traits next year. Despite the challenges she faced this season, Max has shown great potential. We're looking forward to seeing her start strong in Under 7's next year!



Will, our other youngest player, brought a lot of fun and energy to our training sessions. Although he was a bit tentative at the start, he found his stride as the season progressed and started crossing the try line with increasing confidence. His positive attitude and gradual improvement have been fantastic to witness. We're excited to see how Will continues to develop and contribute next season.



Xavier was also a latecomer to the season, but picked the game up quickly and has become a key member of the team. Xavier has got good speed and a really good sidestep. He's enthusiastic at training, running hard during red rover and focussing well during the drills. It's been a great first year for Xavier and I'm sure he'll start with a bang next year in Under 7's.

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U7 REPORT

Development, Teamwork and Perseverance

Coaching & Management

MANAGER

BRYONY GEROFI

COACHES

DANIEL CLAMPETT

As our Under 7 rugby season wraps up, it's incredible toreflect on how much the boys have grown, both as individuals and as a team. This year, they demonstrated their ability to learn new skills while working together as a team, and adapt to different roles and responsibilities at the breakdown.

Henry's elusive running and quick tagging were a constant challenge for opponents. His ability to dart through gaps and secure vital tags made him a key player in both attack and defence, Billy's spectacular diving tags were a highlight, and he also shone in attack, using his quick feet and jinking runs to outmanoeuvre defenders and score some memorable tries.

River's strength in the middle of the park made him a formidable presence, always hungry for the ball and quick to charge off the line to shut down space. His enthusiasm for tackling and his knack for finding the try line added real value to the team. Tom's speed and knack for finding space resulted in numerous tries, making him a stand-out finisher this season.

Liam's endless energy kept him at the heart of the action, always eager to get involved and support his teammates. George's tireless work at the breakdown was crucial, as he consistently cleared out and set the platform for quick ball. Arlo's blistering speed on the wing turned him into a try-scoring threat, often outpacing defenders. Easton's all-around rugby intelligence shone through with his crafty dummies and precise kicks, keeping the opposition guessing and his teammates well-supported.

The highlight of the season was our intense match against Oatley, where the boys demonstrated their teamwork and skill, executing quick ball and aggressive clearing out. It was a testament to their hard work and growing understanding of the game.

We also had some unforgettable moments, like our first tackling session that left three kids in tears after just two tackles—a memorable rite of passage for the team!

A huge thank you to our fantastic coaches, Ben and Daniel, for their expert guidance, Manager Bry for keeping everything on track, and all the parents and grandparents who cheered from the sidelines. The boys have laid a strong foundation this year, and we're all excited for the next season, especially as we move into full-contact tackling and scrums!







Arlo has truly come into his own this season as an out-and-out speedster on the wing. Always hungry for the ball, his blistering pace has left many defenders in his wake. The only thing that can stop Arlo from scoring is the sideline! His immense progress this year shows his dedication and natural talent. A rising star with a bright future ahead.



Easton has showcased his impressive skill set this season, leaving defenders bamboozled with his outrageous dummies and well-timed kicks ahead. His enthusiasm in training is infectious, and his versatility on the field hints at a bright future in rugby. Whether he evolves into a commanding second-rower or a crafty number 10, Easton's talent and passion for the game are undeniable.



Henry has been a stand-out this season with his knack for grabbing last-minute tags and his mazy, elusive runs. His ability to break through defences has led to some stunning tries, marking him as a future centre in the making. With his sharp instincts and agile footwork, Henry's contributions have been vital to the team's success this year.



River has dominated the middle of the park this season, showing a relentless hunger for the ball. Always in the thick of the action, he loves charging off the line to pressure opponents and has enthusiastically embraced tackling. His hard work paid off, racking up tries and breaking his parents' piggybank with all the \$3 rewards. A powerhouse performance from start to finish!





Billy has proven to be a defensive powerhouse this season, becoming an absolute tag machine. His incredible full-stretch diving tags are a sight to behold, and his fearless tackling during late-season training has been impressive. Offensively, Billy's quick and elusive jinking runs keep defenders guessing. A stand-out year for a player who excels on both sides of the ball.



George has been a workhorse this season, always first to the breakdown and clearing out with determination. A future backrower in the making, he consistently shows up to training, listens attentively, and does the hard graft that allows the fancy players to shine. George's commitment to doing the dirty work has been invaluable to the team, making him a true unsung hero.



Liam embodies the spirit of a true rugby enthusiast. Hungry for the ball and always eager to run, his lightning speed and agility make him a stand-out player. Whether darting through defenders or supporting his teammates, Liam's passion for involvement at every level shines through. His energy and determination have made this season an exciting one to watch.

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Tom continues to impress, adding more tries to his tally this season. With blistering pace and an exceptional instinct for finding space, Tom is a constant threat on the field. His ability to read the game and exploit gaps has made him a key player. Another outstanding year for Tom, showcasing his talent and rugby smarts.







U8 REPORT

Welcome to Ruck, Scrum and Tackle

Coaching & ManagementMANAGER

EMMA HUCKINS

COACHES

LENNY HANNIFORD EBEN RAINEY The excitement for the start of the 2024 season amongst the U8s was palpable - this year the team were moving into the big leagues, they were allowed to start tackling. Mouth guards were moulded and head gear was purchased - then the rains came...

After a couple of false starts due to the notorious Sydney downpours, the season eventually kicked off with a gala day at Windsor. Mud soaked ground, a cold wind and a few minor rain showers were not enough to dampen their spirits, and after three games of their own the team keenly stuck their hand up to play an extra game after the chance arose, starting their season with the enthusiasm they intended to carry through to the end.

From that point, their skills grew exponentially. Tackles became more precise each week as players overcame their fear of being run at by imaginary rhinos. They mastered quick offloads, realising they couldn't always fend off oncoming tackles like Sione Lauaki. They perfected placing the ball and clearing out like professionals, but their most favoured skill was ripping the ball—no doubt honed through training, where they fought over the same ball like siblings battling for a half-eaten Chupa Chup.

For the third year running, Eben Rainey coached the team, dedicating his time and expertise to guide their development. His fortitude during training with the often rambunctious group was much appreciated. This year, he was joined by Lenny Hanniford, who brought his Welsh defensive expertise to the team. We are sincerely grateful for their efforts.

A special thanks goes to the parents for their unwavering enthusiasm each week. Their support for the Shammies, watching the beautiful chaos as the kids' gameplay evolved, and joining in the journey as their tiny players transformed into budding rugby players was a joy to witness.

At the final gala day of the season, held at North Curl Curl, the U8s played for the first time without their coach on the field. Over four games, we watched from the sidelines as they grew in confidence, trusting each other and making their own decisions. By the last match, Eben whispered, "I think they may do better without me on there," and we knew: they were ready. Ready to move on, ready to become more independent, and ready to be U9s.

Bring on 2025!







Nothing like the sight of Bo charging down the field batting would be defenders away with ease. His power game has really come into the U8 arena. Born to be a second-row work horse. We really have enjoyed watching him become one of our power forwards, and the aggression is ramping up with every game. Bring on next season!



Ok, let's talk about defence; we often say get your shoulder on to make a tackle, but really, we should just show a video of Crawford getting about his work every Saturday. A quiet lad with the heart of a lion, he would tackle a small truck if you told him to! A team man for sure, always working hard and we love his strong commitment.



Finn has been finding his inner rugby demon in the latter part of the season and his been using his strong body to impose some dominant tackles. A powerful player with a bright future in the game of the gods, we love seeing his hard shoulders at work.

A young George Smith.



Pace, power and a step to match. Lincoln has one of the keenest eyes around when it comes to spotting a space on the outside. Give him a glimpse and he will burst through even the smallest gap. While his running game makes for great highlight viewing, its most pleasing to see his defence developing and he often makes great cover tackles.



Aggression and attitude, it's a powerful combination and the result is the natural field presence of Oscar. Always keen to get the ball and run it up hard, what we like best about Oscar is his ability to think about the next phase and complete a quick recycle to his teammates. Never takes a step back and is a strong team player.



Learning his trade in and around the park, Xavier shows a deceptive turn of pace when running hard and straight. He is improving every week on the field and we look forward to seeing him develop next year. His stand out quality though is always turning up with a great attitude ready and willing to play - you cannot teach that!



Strong leg drive is a phrase often associated with the likes of Ardie Savea, it can equally be used when describing the one man wrecking ball that is Chris. A powerful ball carrier, he always breaks the advantage line. It has been great to see Chris develop his skills on both sides of the ball with his defensive game stepping up to match his destructive running.



Rugby really is a game for all types, from the big bodies in the forward pack to the electric outside backs capable of turning on the fireworks. Edward fits into the latter, blinding fast with the ability to tear an opposing team open if you give him even a little space. A bright future as an outside back awaits.



What a great year this young man is having, his confidence is going one way, to the moon. He shows great pace and is rapidly developing his rugby skill set. A strong set of shoulders, when Killian steps up the opposition must feel like they've been hit by an unmovable object. A great team man to boot.



Consistent, dedicated and a great reader of the game. Mitchell has come along hugely this year and is a good player on both sides of the ball. Straight hard running is a trademark of Mitchell and he shows a fine turn of pace. We are particularly enjoying it when he gets his head into the rucks and cleans strongly. Not sure he has ever missed practice!



A natural talent. Tomy is a menace on defence and many opposing players have been "sat down" by his technically perfect tackling technique. His attack is coming along strongly with a fast and direct running style that means you only get one shot to take him down.



Who else to run the cutter in our key 1st five position but Zach. A tough warrior that has silky distribution to his outside backs but is equally happy to take it to the line. Give him an outside option at your peril, as he has shown to be a lethal finisher. Our favourite is watching him get to work with a strong tackle game. Enjoys the physical side of the contest.



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U9 REPORT

Rucking Mastery, Camaraderie and that Bloody Weather

Coaching & ManagementMANAGER

DANIELLE NORTH

COACHES

MALCOM TANGI TRISTAN WORLEDGE WILL MILES This season has been a fantastic journey of growth for our Under 9s rugby team, and boy, have we come a long way! One of our main goals was to up our game in rucking and recycling the ball, and let's just say, we're now experts at keeping hold of it. The team's newfound skills in maintaining possession have turned into some impressive performances on the field.

We've also made great strides in reducing penalties, particularly those pesky offside calls. While we're not penalty-free yet, the number of infractions has dropped significantly, showing that our players are getting the hang of the rules and discipline. One of the highlights of the season has been the incredible positivity from every player. It's obvious that everyone is excited to be part of the team, and this enthusiasm has created an amazing vibe both on and off the field.

The friendships that have blossomed this season are truly heartwarming. It's not just the long-time players who have bonded, but also the newcomers who have been welcomed with open arms. This sense of camaraderie has been a key ingredient in our success. The team displays a perfect mix of speed, bravery, strength, and commitment, with each player adding their unique flair to our collective achievements.

As for the season's weather, it's been a bit of a soggy affair from the get-go. Our first game was washed out, but our memorable trip to Penrith, where we played in the mud and rain, turned out to be an unforgettable adventure. Despite the less-than-ideal conditions, the kids tackled the challenge with huge smiles and boundless enthusiasm, setting a fun and positive tone for the rest of the season.

A huge, heartfelt thank you to our co-coaches Mal and Will, manager Danielle, and all the parents and players who've made this season a stand-out success! Your support, dedication, and hard work have been the secret ingredient to making this season so memorable. We couldn't have done it without your cheers, encouragement, and the weekly kilo of halftime oranges that the team devoured with gusto every week!

Next season is like levelling up in a game—get ready for a bigger field (yes, more running!), 12 players on the pitch (more chaos, I mean, coordination), conversions (time to practise those kicks!), contested lineouts (don't worry, no jumping required!), and a larger scrum (brace yourselves!). These new challenges are coming our way, but I'm confident our team is ready to tackle them head-on—preferably with a well-timed pass!



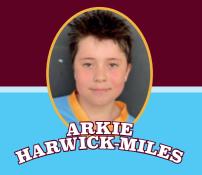












Ferocious tackling and unstoppable running—meet our dynamo. Arkie's the first to charge out of the line, tackling opponents and breaking their momentum like a wrecking ball. His support play and rucking are equally impressive, shoving players off the ball and giving the Shammies a crucial push forward. But the real spectacle happens once Arkie's got the ball in his hands; his runs are so relentless they could probably be classified as a natural disaster.

Future position: Prop



A gifted talent who dominates whenever he gets close to the play. His crushing tackles in defence and unstoppable runs with the ball in hand make Cooper the scourge of any opponent unlucky enough to get too close. Already playing up an age group, he looks unchallenged against all but the fastest and strongest opposition the U9 competition can offer.

Future position: No. 8



When receiving the ball you can almost see Hene transform into some kind of sleek half human greyhound with ears pinned back, whipping straight towards the tryline. Unmatched in speed, when he switches it on, Hene is little more than a blur of blue and maroon streaking away from the last ruck, leaving defenders grasping at his wake.

Future position: Wing

JOSHUA BRIGHAM

quickly settled into his new home

and made great friends with the

has been working on his running

outstanding straight runs at the

end of the season to set up great

field position for the next phase.

Call out to Josh's massive chase

after a line break from a former

Balmain teammate, getting within

nanometers of a try-saving tackle

on the touch line.

Future position: Wing

rest of the crew at training. He

this year, showing us some

Our star import for 2024, Josh



In the early morning mists of the fields of St Luke's, a team of rugby players huddle together, peering through the haze towards the Shammies line. Suddenly, ripping at their already tightened nerves, a battle cry of unbridled power tears through the silence. The players dissolve into chaos as a moment later the scream seems to physically coalesce into the form of Jude hurtling towards them

No Mercy! No Prisoners! All Jude!

Future position: Second row



Meet our U9s Antoine Dupont: a speedy, powerful runner who expertly uses his low centre of gravity to dance around the opposition. Matthew is our tackling powerhouse, always up for bringing down the opposition with his strength. In the latter part of the season, he's been expanding his rugby union skills, making impressive strides in rucking and protecting the ball. It's like watching a superhero in training—just with a few more muddy puddles!

Future position: Scrum Half



Looking back to those days when Max A was just a tiny tot in U6, I'm not quite sure when he transformed into 'Big Max.' But as his skills have grown over the past couple of years, so has his size. He's now a formidable blend of speed, power, and skill—a real force to be reckoned with. Max reads the game like a seasoned pro and is a relentless workhorse all over the field.

Future position: Fly half



I feel the need, the need for speed, and Michaela is the perfect embodiment of that. Once she's off the mark, there's no catching her—she's been untouchable when out in front this season. Whether zipping to the breakdown to support or swiftly making plays with the ball, she thrives in fast-paced games, especially when playing 7s and matching numbers with depleted opponents. Michaela shows up to games with a smile and extras to share with her teammates.

Future position: 7s centre



Underestimate Toby at your peril. As the season has progressed, he has developed into a resolute runner who charges forward regardless of the danger ahead. Toby's go-forward approach and ability to stay on his feet long enough for the cavalry to arrive have consistently allowed the U9s team to maintain momentum in some very tough games.

Possible future position: Flanker



Little Max is a rugby enthusiast who dives into every game with gusto. He's quick on his feet, has mastered the art of rucking, and loves to get stuck in at the breakdown. Max is like our team's secret weapon—always knowing exactly when to turn up the intensity. He plays with a grin that's as big as his passion for the game and adds a generous dose of fun to every training session.

Future position: Scrum Half



New to the team this year, Theo has quickly made a name for himself with his lightning-fast feet and knack for finding soft spots in the opposition's defence to make impressive runs. His cover tackles, commitment at the breakdown, and attacking lines often make it seem like there are multiple Theos on the field! He's also pulled off some of the season's best 'textbook' tackles, chasing down opponents and taking out their legs before they reach the try line.

Future position: Outside Centre





U10 REPORT

Progression, Perseverance and Bonds

Coaching & Management MANAGER

MELANIE ROBERTSON

COACHES

CHRIS FUREY PAUL LUCHI

Season 2024 was hectic before it began! Coaches Chris and Paul learned that the inaugural Battle of the Inner West, an all-ages gala day against Balmain, was set for mid-February. Pre-season was brought forward by three weeks, including gruelling Sunday sessions, and we were away.

We welcomed Jack, Max, Yaniv, Owen, James, and their families to our ranks, and received a huge boost with Finn and Thalia staying with the "Tens" after playing up an age group last season.

The move from a central venue in the minis competition to a homeand-away format added layers of administrative tasks for our phenomenal manager, Mel. Thank you! A huge thank you also to our parents who took on a more hands-on role for home games. The roster was always filled promptly, and the never-ending supply of oranges and snakes was eagerly snapped up by the young ones.

The season provided opportunities to compete against teams not encountered on our Shammies journey. Night games, official team sheets, real scores, a competition ladder, and Google Maps added excitement to our weekends. After trials, the club song was sent out with "homework" from Chris and Paul. A round two victory at Western

Raptors gave us our first chance to "sing it loud." We got there in the end!

Our team dinner following the Friday night victory at Hunters Hill was another highlight.

Core skills like tackling, passing, and being present at the breakdown remained our focus. All improved in these areas, with players becoming accustomed to their specialised positions. By season's end, we'd thrown in a trick play or two with great success. Some players excelled, but all improved, helping us finish fourth on the ladder and qualify for the semi-finals. Congratulations, Team!

Sadly, the weather's impact was more noticeable than hoped for. The annual visit by current NSW Waratahs had to be cancelled twice, and ground closures hampered skill acquisition. The coaches made it work, and the players showed up with positive attitudes and huge smiles.

Congratulations to our Syd Uni reps, Finn, Thalia, Jack, Dara, Daniel, Tom, and Charlie, and to Flynn, Thalia, and Dara for joining the '100' club. Special mention to Dara for receiving the Shammies 1883 award.

Coaches Chris and Paul







Without fail, Aiden was the first onto Camperdown Oval each Tuesday, either running sprints or practising his ball skills. He is beginning to make the front row his 'home,' a reflection of how hard he trains. Illness cut Aiden's season short and his effervescent smile and positive attitude was missed. We're looking forward to seeing you next season.



Bill loves a scrap and was very effective with his ball running, particularly in the second half of the season.He didn't mind a wrestle or two at training either!! When focussed, Bill was the most disruptive forward to any opposition and his line out throwing improved as the season progressed.



Daniel's game in 2024 transitioned from a league style running forward to that of a loose head prop. Strong in contact, a robust no nonsense defender and an emerging weapon in the scrum, Daniel's hard work at training and in games in 2024 resulted in selection to the Sydney Uni U10s where his game stepped up even further. On his current trajectory, Daniel could be something special. Well done Daniel!



Finn Waterworth has some of the fastest feet in the Inner West. Normally a scrum half, the coaches saw Finn's true threat wider, and it paid off in 2024. Not only an attacking force with his pace and lethal step, Finn is also one of the best tacklers in the district, often saving situations by cutting attackers off at the ankles or dragging down opponents twice his size. It's been a pleasure watching Finn play, and he was rightfully selected for the Sydney Uni U10s squad. Another cracking season, Finn!



It's hard to believe this was Jack's first season of rugby! Watching that white headgear move about in the first trial game against Balmain, it was obvious we'd uncovered quite a prospect. Jack has become more than that with his physical presence at the front of the lineout stealing much opposition ball. Jack's selection to the Syd Uni U10s saw a rapid development in his skills at the break down and his confidence has grown enormously since.With a powerful running game that became more damaging with each game, season 2025 looks exciting indeed!



Max's first rugby season has been a joy to behold. At first the coaches thought we had a strong back rower on our hands and then we saw Max running in open field. Quick, strong in contact, a rugged defender and a competitive nature, with another year of skills development Max will have the game of rugby at his mercy. Fantastic first season Max, we hope to see you again in 2025.



Alex looked to continue his improvement from 2023 and a consistent attitude to training ensured this occurred. His ability to be the first player to the breakdown following line breaks ensured we kept possession for multiple phases. Alex was indirectly responsible for many tries and his confidence with taking the ball into contact has risen making him a more complete player this year.



CHARLIE

Having made the move to halfback in the U9s, Charlie's distribution and communication has moved up another level in the U10s. His role is to simply get the ball into the hands of a very talented back line as quickly as possible, to marshal his forward pack around the ground and to snipe when the opportunity arises. In all three areas Charlie has improved immeasurably in 2024 and his hard work at the base of the scrum earned him a call up to the Sydney Uni U10s squad. Well done Charlie!





2024 was a season for Dara to remember. A pacy and elusive runner with an equally dangerous swerve and step, Dara was a threat each time his hands were on the ball. Equally dangerous in defence, very few opposition attacks would yield results on Dara's wing. His efforts on field and at training were always consistent which culminated not only in selection to the University U10s, but also as the U10s 1883 Award Winner. Both are recognition of the hard work put in throughout the season.. Amazing effort Dara!



Improvements with his passing were evident very early this season and as he became physically stronger, Flynn's confidence at the breakdown rose as well. Always carrying a smile, sometimes a cheeky one, Flynn is a true clubman. He is liked by everyone and is congratulated on receiving his 100 game award this year.



James is another first year rugby player in the Shammies U10s. Amongst some serious back line talent, opportunities to shine were hard for him to come by in 2024. A consistent trainer with a can do attitude, with increased exposure James' game has risen alongside his team mates which, on his current trajectory, will see him become a very handy player in 2025. Keep up the hard work, and well played James!



Maximiliien's rugby seems to come naturally with a little dabble of French flair. Fast, elusive and with that little bit of extra time that the backs of le tricolore always seem to have. A great cover tackler, Max has closed down many threats in 2024 while in attack he always seems to be in the right place at the right time. Another top season Max. Well done you!







Another first timer to the code, Owen soon slotted into the lock position and looked to impose himself each week. We could feel a talent bubble waiting to burst once those basic break down skills were learnt. Without having to second guess his role in general play, Owen was able to make inroads in attack and be equally effective in defence. A great first season Owen.



Ryan selflessly played out of position when needed and on a couple of occasions subbed in for opposing teams when they were short. Ryan's unconventional defensive style brought down many opposing forwards and his effectiveness at the break down improved throughout the year.



Tom has been a stand-out for the U10s this year, also representing Sydney University at the State Gala. Tom excels at the breakdown, consistently securing possession and turning the tide in his team's favour. His powerful running game makes him a formidable threat, often breaking through or around defensive lines with ease and he is gradually developing the ability to put his teammates into space making him a more complete player. With countless tries and conversions to his name, Tom is not just a finisher but a gamechanger. Great season Tom!



Roscoe's presence made a difference each game. He took every opportunity to charge at opposing defences gaining many meters and was quick to the break down from set pieces. Roscoe trains hard, plays hard and thinks about the game. He was a worthy captain, lead by example and one who the rest of the team wanted to follow. Only missing Sydney Uni selection due to unavailability, we can expect a huge season from Roscoe in 2025.



A Sydney Uni U10s representative, Thalia has again been a stand-out for the Shammies in 2024. Sometimes it is though she has spiders on her, such is the reluctance for the opposition to tackle her when in full flight. Thalia is a thorn in every opposition's side with her pace off the mark, strength at the breakdown and robust defence. On top of this, Thalia is developing a strong combination with her centre partner Tom which been a joy to watch unfold as they terrorise defences. Thalia is definitely one to watch!!



A mid-season addition to the Shammies, Yaniv quickly grasped the breakdown basics and then showcased some hard running rugby league skills. Yaniv was willing to be a physical presence and will only improve as his confidence grows. There's plenty of potential here, and a strong pre-season will see Yaniv becoming a force to be reckoned with in 2025.

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U11 REPORT

Team unity and the Shammies Spirit

Coaching & Management

MANAGER

KRISTY ALEXANDER

COACHES

TOM TAYLOR
FRANCOIS LATEGAN
EDEN BARROS

Our U11 Petersham Rugby team's 2024 season was more than a campaign; it was an odyssey shaped by a cohort of coaches with eclectic backgrounds, forming perhaps the most unique mosaic Petersham Junior Rugby has seen.

Leading the charge was Tom Taylor, affectionately known as Gandalf the Red, who returned with wisdom, wit, and a touch of magic, proudly guiding his son Paddy at #9. Francois, our impassioned South African, inspired us with stirring oratory, urging us to never relent. Eden, a newcomer to coaching, navigated the whirlwind of U11 rugby with quiet determination. Kristy, our indefatigable manager, was the linchpin, orchestrating logistics and weather disruptions with enviable poise, her phone a constant companion during turbulent weekends. Together, we built a foundation of support that underpinned our success.

The 2024 season was about far more than results; it was a celebration of unity, growth, and shared purpose. We forged a robust team identity—our "DNA"—rooted in playing with heart, supporting one another, and rising to every challenge with resolve. It was about

belonging to something greater than ourselves.

Unity became the cornerstone of our journey, echoed by our spirited sideline of parents. Each player's unique talents were woven together through passion and camaraderie, creating a tenacious team. This bond was forged on the training ground, tested in battle, and tempered by triumph and adversity.

Our "why" inspired us. We played with respect, discipline, teamwork, and perseverance, epitomising what it means to be part of Petersham Rugby: valuing character and effort as much as the scoreboard. This ethos propelled unforgettable performances, none more significant than our response to a humbling 0-41 defeat by Collaroy. From this drubbing, we found renewed resolve, going undefeated for the remainder of the season (and scoring 193 points while conceding just 22).

By season's end, we stood proud in the Plate Cup Final, clinching a 19-12 victory against Lane Cove and concluding our adventure on a triumphant high.

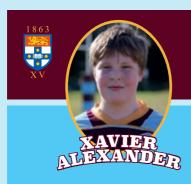
Lastly a very big thank you to all U11 parents for being the lifeblood of our teams success.







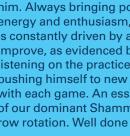
Lincoln embodies the unstoppable force of a locomotive on the field, charging through would-be defenders. His joy and passion for the game are evident in every play, his smile lighting up the field and inspiring those around him. Always bringing positive energy and enthusiasm, Lincoln is constantly driven by a desire to improve, as evidenced by his keen listening on the practice field, pushing himself to new heights with each game. An essential part of our dominant Shammies front row rotation. Well done Lincoln!



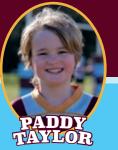
Xavier is a quiet storm. Unassuming off the field, yet a brooding and formidable presence on it. His bravery and dedication are evident in every match. In defence, he seeks out the biggest fish, delivering bonecrunching tackles. On the attack, he's elusive, slipping through seemingly narrow gaps. As a front row linchpin at hooker, Xavier anchors what is arguably the best scrum in NSW, his unmatched strength and technique driving his team's success. His commitment to his teammates and his craft is second to none.



Liam Lategan, a junior rugby loose head prop, is a stand-out player known for his impressive strength and tactical acumen. His competitive spirit and powerful presence make him a key figure on the field. As a jackaling machine, Liam's relentless energy and skill in winning the ball back are remarkable. His dedication to crucial plays and tireless effort ensure he's a pivotal player in driving his team's success. With his inspiring performance, Liam continues to shape the team's future and motivate those around him.







Paddy's return to U11s was a gift from the rugby gods, showcasing his irreplaceable presence and trademark grin. Combining cerebral brilliance with an allheart mentality, his high IQ and tactical acumen enable pivotal on-field decisions. His relentless blue-collar work ethic and physical resilience highlight his leadership and ability to stay icecold through ruck chaos. With this exceptional blend of attributes, Paddy's future in rugby looks exceptionally bright, promising an exciting and successful Shammies career ahead.





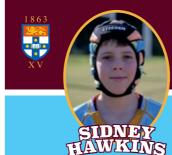
Like watching the opening of Nat Geo doco, a slo-motion Cheetah in graceful stride glides into frame, (the warm voice of David Attenborough enters the fray). An apt description once you witness Hugo darting his way to another one of his penchant, bigplay meat pies. As our #10, he's crucial to the team central nervous system with half back Paddy (Taylor), his partner in crime. His creative flair, uncanny sixth-sense, raw talent and never-say-die attitude, make him a stand-out end-to-end rugby weapon. A joy to watch.



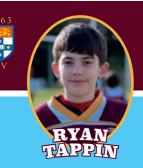
If the rugby gods designed a center, it would be Jakob. He embodies the position with his broad stature, natural strength, and hard-nosed running style, effortlessly slicing through defences. Jakob excels in attack, breaking through tacklers with ease, and in defence, delivering textbook tackles that set the standard. His well-rounded skill set, combined with his innate talent, makes him a compelling all-around future star for Petersham, destined to leave a lasting impact on the field. Watch this space!



Mali is an outstanding front row powerhouse and a cornerstone of our scrum, which excels thanks to her father Tom's expert training. Her role provides essential power and stability, ensuring a solid foundation for the team. With remarkable endurance and never needing to be substituted, Mali's strength asserts dominance on the field. As our "Re-enforcer" and rock, she addresses weaknesses and boosts confidence, earning the prestigious 1883 Award for her exceptional performance and dedication.



Sidney is a remarkable rugby player, known for his exceptional cardio and stamina, which keep him going strong throughout the game. His big lungs and flexibility allow him to contort his body at the breakdown, making him highly effective in tight situations. Sidney's versatility shines as he steps into the hooker role when called upon, showcasing his adaptability. However, his true calling is as a natural-born lock, where his endurance and understanding of the game make him an invaluable asset to the team.



Ryan is a formidable young rugby savant, known for his unmatched endurance and ability to outlast opponents in our back row. Despite his size, he's a "Pound for Pound" powerhouse, delivering strength and effectiveness that rival much larger players. His quiet, unassuming nature off the field hides the "Quiet Colossus" within—a player who makes a massive impact during the game. Instantly recognisable by his sky blue headgear, he's a blur from ruck to ruck, embodying constance and perseverance for the Shammies.





Josh's blistering pace and flashy style, marked by his fluoro pink boots, socks, and mouth-guard, make him a constant threat on the field. In his debut year, he brings immense heart, non-stop energy, and determination, adding a vibrant flair to his big runs. His relentless drive and dedication keep defences on edge. If this season is his first and last with Petersham, we will always remember and be grateful for the electrifying impact he brought to the team.



Eleanor, with her golden hair and remarkable speed, demonstrates tremendous promise as a rugby player. Her dedication to weekly improvement and her receptiveness to feedback are truly commendable. With the backing of the coaching team, she is poised for substantial growth. Her unwavering commitment to as a student of the game, they play in heaven, suggests a budding star in the making. She is a joy to coach, and we look forward to seeing her flourish in 2025 and beyond.



Will, with his unmistakable golden headgear, is a developing winger known for his strong work ethic and dedication. Even when unwell, he tried to play, showcasing his mental toughness and commitment to his team. Will consistently gives 100% effort, displaying patience and determination on the field. His desire for more playing time highlights his commitment to growth. As he continues to develop, Will's progress in a competitive back line is eagerly anticipated. Well done William.





Strath boasts a burly farm-boy physique and shows immense future potential. His development and growing confidence are evident as he begins to show a better feel for the game and tote the pill more often. With his natural gifts and investment in his craft, Strath is poised to become a stand-out forward, promising a dynamic and impactful presence on the field. His commitment to improving ensures he will be a key player, contributing significantly to the team's future success.



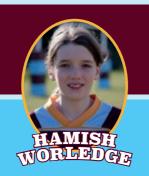
A promising debutant, Tom, is quickly making his mark on the field with his broad shoulders and growing power. Though still developing, his presence is already notable, and opponents sense his potential. Tom's confidence is building steadily. As he continues to grow and gain experience on the field, his natural strength and determination hint at a formidable forward in our already strong forward pack. Congratulations on a solid first year Tom!



Spencer is as relaxed as a bloke fresh from the beach, but on the rugby field, he's a dead-set beast. With the burly frame of a prototypical Aussie backrower, he transforms into a relentless jackaler, always on the hunt for the ball. When he has possession, he's like a steam train with no brakes, flattening anyone in his path. His easygoing and laidback demeanour off the field contrasts sharply with his on-field ferocity. Spencer's future in rugby is undeniably bright, and he's a player to keep a close eye on.



Aiden is a versatile rugby player and our U11's "Swiss Army knife", adapting seamlessly in either Forward or Back spots. A team player at heart, he supports and fills in wherever needed, always demonstrating maturity and skill for such a young age. His wellrounded abilities and consistent performance make him a valuable asset to the team. Its players like Aiden, who have a well rounded base and understanding of the game, that transition best as they develop into the older age groups as players.



Hamish is a unique blend of lightning speed and bigheartedness, darting past opponents and creating scoring opportunities. His flowing hair symbolises his impressive Samson-Like strength, remarkable for his age. Fearless on the field, Hamish tackles challenges head-on without flinching. His versatility shines in various back line positions. With his talent and determination, there's great excitement about his future impact in the maroon and blue, as he continues to develop and grow in the game.



In his debut season, Jack has already made a significant impact on the field. His wicked, thriller side-step has been a standout feature in his developing repertoire, consistently destroying ankles like it's going out of fashion. It's inspiring to see new players like Jack back themselves, and when he decides to make a move, it's a truly rewarding experience for everyone watching. As his understanding of the game continues to deepen, and his confidence grows, so too will his opportunities on the field. Great debut season Jack!



Seyi is a rugby force of nature a human wrecking ball. His unmatched tenacity sees him charging forward with toughness that withstands even the toughest tackles and creating gaps with pure iron will. Seyi handles pressure with seasoned cool and a sharp rugby IQ. He has a keen nose for the ball at the breakdown, always unflinching when committing to the ruck. His smothering line speed in defence shuts down opponents before they can breathe, he is, simply put, irrepressible!





Beau's debut season has been remarkable. Starting as a winger, his growing confidence quickly led him to explore various positions, showcasing adaptability and eagerness to embrace new challenges. Joining a little after the season commenced, his natural competitiveness and passion stood out. As the season progressed, Beau proved himself invaluable, demonstrating potential as a future utility player. With further skills development, his versatility promises a bright future.











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U12 REPORT

Growth, Gratitude and Teamwork

Coaching & Management

MANAGER

KATE JAMIESON

COACHES

LIZ BIRD
ANDREW MCFARLAND
KIERAN SHEPHERD
MICHAEL CHANTER

What a memorable season of rugby it was for the u12 Shammies. The season began with the challenge of moving towards proper rugby, going from 12 to 15 players on the field. We welcomed 5 new players to the team, all of which were new to the sport.

The 2024 season could be best described as a season of two halves. The first half being a period of adjustment, to a style of rugby the team was not use to. With the second half seeing the team blossoming into a cohesive, effective team, who thrived at playing attacking rugby.

To all our parents, those returning and those joining us for their first season with The Shammies. It makes the job of coaching and managing so much easier with such a supportive, willing and harmonious group of families. We certainly had the most enthusiastic bunch of supporters in the competition this year, and the players thank you very much for it.

To our retiring president John (JK) Kilkenny and the PJRU committee, thank you for of your tireless efforts this year. There is a tremendous amount

of work undertaken by all involved to get teams training and playing weekly throughout the season. From fundraising, organising gear, and managing communications. We parents/coaches/players are most appreciative.

A HUGE thank you to our amazing coaches - Liz Bird, Kieran Shepherd and Michael Chanter. Your commitment, expertise and passion bought the best out of our players. Both as individuals, but most importantly, collectively as a team. To our Superstar manager - Kate Jamison. Thank you.

And lastly to the players of u12 Shammies Team, what an amazing group of young people you are. It was a joy to watch you all grow and develop across the season. From the Malcom's and Broncos of pre-season, to the Semi Final against East. You listened to your coaches, put in the hard work and you reaped the benefits. Thank you for allowing me to be part of your rugby journey this season. I look forward to seeing you all in the Maroon and Blue next season.

Up the Shammies!









Carter is our industrious and dependable forward leader who thrives on hard work and consistency. Carter stands out as a powerful, elusive runner, providing crucial go forward momentum for the team. Carter's continued improvement across the season on his effectiveness at the breakdown was tremendous. A vital pack leader, he sets and maintains high team standards.



A mainstay of the u12's team, who is a quiet unassuming young man off the field but turns into the beast on it. The driving force of the front row. Alex's work rate was second-to-none. Whether it was with the ball in hand, at the breakdown or in defence. Another great season for Alex, which saw him go from strength to strength.



Another Shammies debutant this season, Lachlan has equipped himself with distinction in the front row. A boxer by trade, once Lachlan realised that the sideline was the ropes, the pitch his ring, and the referees whistle the starting bell, he played like his was sparing Mike Tyson. As the season progressed, Lachlan developed into a real ball-carrying weapon. Lachlan will only get better with more time on the field, but any team would be lucky to have such a dependable front rower.



HARRY JOHNSON

Harry has been one of our most improved players this year. At training he was always eager to learn, listening to his coaches and working hard to improve as a player. Across the season, Harry improved across all aspects of rugby, particularly in defence. Unfortunately, Harry's season was cut short due to injury, and was greatly missed during the u12's charge into the finals.



Our Mr Dependable. Each week you know exactly what you are going to get with Hugo – 100% commitment, combined with 100% quality. During each game Hugo would switch effortlessly between openside to hooker, which provided continuity within our forward pack. A strong defender and equally strong ball carrier, Hugo wouldn't hesitate to put his body on the line to tackle the oppositions biggest player or take an early hit up and run through a brick wall.



From a total beginner to one of the strongest forwards, Vinnie had an incredible first rugby season. His dedication to training saw rapid improvement in tackling, rucking, and scrum skills, making him a stand-out defender. As the season progressed, he developed his attacking game, with strong ball carries gaining significant meters. Vinnie's respect for coaches, teammates, and opponents was unwavering. A remarkable debut season for Vinnie, showcasing his potential for many great seasons ahead!





Mac has continued to develop as a young rugby player, in particular as a scrum half. He has all the makings of a great scrum half. His service to the back line has been excellent this year, and his judgment of when to run is improving with each game. Mac plays with his heart on his sleeve and never backs down. He gives it his all 100% of the time and is an invaluable part of the team.





Our captain courageous. George is a true competitor, who never takes a backwards step. George developed his skills as a Fly Half as the season progressed. Learning that there is more to playing 10 than simply tackling and passing. Across the season, George learnt that the position is also the team's playmaker. And by seasons end, George was marshalling his forwards and organising his back line. Where his accurate passing game has laid a wonderful platform for everyone playing outside of him.



A newcomer to the Shammies, and wow, what a player. This was Will's first year playing rugby and it is safe to say he has left his mark. Playing mostly at 12, Will was one of the most elusive runners in the competition this season. His quick turn of speed and potent sidestep resulted in many an opposition defender tackling his shadow. In addition, Will bought his round ball skills to the rugby field and took on the duties of goal kicking. The effortless power and accuracy of his right foot being the difference on close games. Congratulations Will, on a stand-out season.





This season was Will's second in rugby, but you wouldn't have known. With the quality of his performance each week, you would be forgiven for thinking that it was Will's tenth. Will made the No 13 jersey his own this season. Providing structure and potency out wide. And through his hard work and dedication at training, his defence improved immensely across the season.

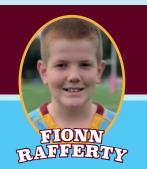


Another great season for Raf, which saw him terrorise opposition defences with his acceleration and speed. With ball in hand, Raf caused great havoc for the opposition. But this season saw Raf develop his defence skills to great effect. Raf would regularly shut down the opposition attack by making smart decisions in defence. Not a game would go by where Raf wouldn't put his body on the line for the sake of his team. We hope your enjoy a rest full offseason Raf – your body needs it!



The 'Mr Cool' of the u12's, nothing ever seems to worry Iggy. Throughout the season Iggy was asked to play almost every position across the back line (though he did refuse his coaches request to play in the forwards...) and did so effortless determination. Iggy is the ultimate teammate, never wanting to let his fellow Shammie team mates down. In attack, Iggy needs to back himself more and take on the opposition. Once he does, he will be even more of an attacking threat.





Fionn started the season eager to continue his rugby progression confident in his abilities. But the coaching staff challenged Fionn to not just continue on his rugby path, but to progress. Fionn took on constructive criticism and worked even harder to improve his game. In particular defence, Fionn worked hard on his technique across the season. And by years end, Fionn became the self-appointed captain of the defensively line. Well done on your season Fionn.



The 2024 season saw Finlay announce himself as a rugby player. His hard work and dedication to training, saw Finlay convert his potential into practice. Finlay worked tirelessly to improve his skills and overall game awareness, which saw him develop into a key member of the u12's. Finlay's sportsmanship was on display each and every week, whereby he would not leave the field post-game without shaking the hands of every opposition player, and the referee – even if he had to seek them out. A worthy recipient of the 1883 award.



Fin has had an outstanding season this year and was one of our best players each week. After begrudgingly accepting his coaches request to move from his preferred playing position of inside centre, Fin really shone as a flanker. His tireless defence and constant threat at the breakdown saw Fin win countless turnovers and/or penalties for the team this season. Which helped lay the foundation for the team to play expansive rugby.



A newcomer to Rugby this year. Archie applied himself all year. A good listener who is always willing to try his best. A big heart and valuable team member. He trains hard and has absorbed tackling, rucking and scrum skills quickly, improving every training session. Experience, game time and continued hard work will bring big rewards for Archie.





Tom has taken to the role of fullback like a duck to water. His last line of defence was impregnable and his positional play exceptional, which only improved throughout the season. His ability to make oppositions stand still while stepped past them was a joy to watch. He is one who certainly makes the most of his skills and has been a joy to watch develop across the season.



New to the team and new to the sport, Harriet embraced the challenge of playing rugby and has made continued improvement throughout the season – never taking a backward step. As the season has gone on, her tackling improved to a point where she makes a real impact in defence. To the point that her teammates fear being paired against her during defence drills. More time in the game will no doubt help develop Harriet into a very dominant player in years to come.



Blake has greatly improved as a Rugby player throughout the season. Starting with preseason, Blake listened to his coaches, applied himself at training and as a result, he made his presence felt on the field. Blake has continually worked on all facets of his game, his tackling, body height and dominance over the ball, whist his ball running has improved immensely. He has been able to turn himself into a well-rounded, confident player. We are all looking forward to seeing what Blake can bring next year.







U13 REPORT

Elevation, Resilience and Unity

Coaching & Management

MANAGER
SHOGO KIKUCHI

COACHES

NICK BOYLE
PETERS SCOTT

The move into Under 13's provided a significant step up for our players, with lifting in lineouts and an obvious new standard in the need to compete at the breakdown, make effective tackles and work as a cohesive team in attack.

The season started with 8 consecutive wins against Norwest, Dee Why, Easts, Manly Savers and an impressive 55-5 win against old foes, Mosman. This ultimately saw us re-graded into a very competitive U13 D Grade competition.

A loss to competition heavyweights, Northen Barbarians confirmed that we would no longer be cruising to victories. The step up in the physicality of under 13 rugby (and the fact that many players have school sports on a Saturday) saw us with key injuries and short numbers in the back half of the season.

Nevertheless, the team put in spirited performances each week. Character and resilience shone through, as even when chasing an untenable lead, the team were united and as driven as the first 5 minutes.

With one round remaining the Shammies U13 were still a chance of finals, but needed to pull off a win at Lapstone and other results to go our way.

A special mention needs to be made for the parents and players that got behind fundraisers at the Shammies Old Boys Day and a very successful trivia event.

Our focus now turns to a late September/October Tour of Regional NSW.







Alec joined the Shammies just this year and fit in straight away. He was a true team player, working hard in the loose forwards, jumping in lineouts and prepared to run the ball into a wall of opposition. Typical of Alec's can do attitude - in one game he ran on the field asking the wrong Robbie to come off and slotting himself into the role of tight head prop before we could notice! He held his own as well!



Charlie had an outstanding season, scoring 25 tries, continuing his role as the top try-scorer from 2023. What stood out this year was his resolve and resilience. Even when the team was under pressure, Charlie supported teammates, stayed calm, and linked well with the back line. He made crucial chasedown tackles and never gave up. Even in tough losses, opposition players and coaches frequently noted Charlie's performance, often calling him one of the best on the field.



Harley is one of our most versatile players - he plays the game hard in the middle with a great work rate in the breakdown and was also a quality jumper in lineouts. He looked equally at place in the back line with smooth hands in the centres and good defensive reads on the wing.



James was a great addition to the Shammies U13 cohort this year. He worked hard at every training session and developed into a strong and consistent player quickly. James' strength and speed meant that he was versatile enough to play at second row, back row or on the wing. He has a mind for curiosity and growth asking questions and honing his skills.



Jamie has been a long serving and valued member of the Shammies. Jamie plays the game hard with little thought for self-preservation. Jamie's progression into the under 13's brought a number of injuries that saw him sidelined for much of the season. In the time that he did take the field he was an obvious threat on and off the ball.



Joey was a welcome addition to the Shammies family. A strong ball runner with a good rugby brain and silky hands. Joey might best be described as a half, with a front-rower's frame, playing in the back row. A highlight for Joey was his man-of-thematch performance against the Northern Barbarians turning up

on no sleep after a birthday party.



Callum showed a lot of development in the 2024 season with a growing confidence to run the ball and support around the ruck - both on the ball and in defence. He put in some big efforts and long minutes at the back end of the season, gaining a coaches mention in the points in our last game.



ININIE PE

Finn is a clever tactician on the rugby field. He has an eye for detailand plays beyond his years with bold passing and kicking. He was an important part of our leadership team in the vice captain role, taking on the captaincy on occasion and calling all of the plays in the back line.



As a lineout sharp-shooter - the addition of lifting this year really played into Hugo's hands. We very rarely lost on our own throw, and he showed a keen eye for positioning on the opposition throw. Hugo was an important part of a powerful scrum, and really developed his ball running and guard tackling as the season progressed.



It was great to have James join the Shammies this year. He showed is skill and pace on the wing, playing and training with a steely determination. James showed great improvement as the season went on, developing an understanding of defensive structure as well as attack on the wing.



Jarvis is not only the biggest, but possibly the most insightful rugby player in the U13's. He leans into training, listens and applies learnings on the weekend. Jarvis carries the ball to devastating effect. Jarvis was laid out with injury for much of the season, which meant that the opposition did not know what hit them in our final games. With the development he's shown in his two years with the Shammies, Jarvis has a strong future in rugby.



Lachy is one of the team's most consistent forwards. He is always working hard at the breakdown and in defence. He sets the tone at training and on the field. All coaches have learnt the hard way to brace when holding a hit shield to Lachy's charge. Lachy plays the game hard and fair and has developed as much as anyone in the team over the last few years, growing into powerful young rugby player and a key part of our engine room.





Lawson progressed in his rugby this year, developing a better understanding for attacking and defensive structure as the season went on. Lawson listened well to coaches and put what he had learnt into practice on the field including moving towards better ball retention after tackled.



Mylo was one of a few players that started the year with preseason cross fit and it really paid dividends. He continued his devastating runs from previous seasons, but this year became a very important part of our ball security at the breakdown blasting into rucks consistently and effectively. Mylo was one of two players who got a call out from an opposition coach when he stopped mid-game to support a badly injured opposition player that had not been noticed by the referee truly epitomising the spirit that we aim to foster at the Shammies.



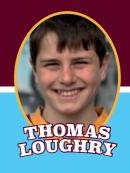
Oliver managed to get just a few games in for the Shammies, but had a devastating impact when he did. With his first touch of the ball for the Shammies, this bullocking second-rower went on a damaging 55 meter charge to set up a try against his old club Easts.



Clarkey is another forward leader. He was best on ground against a strong Linfield team with some barnstorming runs and a great props try (one of those ones that was scored from a greater distance from the try line as the years progress). Our front rowers took no backwards steps this year, and dominated the scrums of the strongest teams. Clarkey and his crew will be a force to reckon with when allowed to push beyond the 1.5m! Robbie also gets the award for chief recruiter taking over the mantle from Mylo.



Saki was a great addition to the Shammies family this year. He's one of our quickest players and deceptively strong. He has beautiful instincts for the game, and left coaches and team mates clutching for air in any games of touch football played this year. Saki is a keen student of the game, and picked new concepts up very quickly. He will be a force to reckon with in season 2025!



Tom was a great addition to the Shammies U13 this year. He was our main man in the lineout, regularly securing the ball of our own throw and pinching opposition lineouts. Tom is a brave ball runner and has great resolve in defence. He also retained information from training and lead by example to put it into place on the field. Tom earned the nickname 'Mr Perpetual Motion' scoring a U13 record of 54 tackles in two minutes at training.





Mirei is our most consistent player and the hardest trainer. She has an excellent brain for rugby, reading the play well and finding the perfect opportunity to take a half-back dart. Mirei's passing and kicking game progressed this season, but it was her tenacity in attack and defence that really stood out. Mirei was an important leader in the team this year and will be going onto big things on the rugby field in years to come.



Nyah is potentially the most versatile player in the club, starting the season in the tight 5, before heading out to the wing. He would cover games at prop when we were short, but really found his place at home as a strong ball-runner at inside centre. If Nyah continues to develop in the inside centre position in line with his trajectory this year, he will be a force to reckon with in future years with representative honours looming.





Orlando stepped up into captainship this year, and really grew into the role - encouraging and helping teammates develop. He plays the game hard and fast all the time, with a huge thirst for work and to get his hands on the ball. Orlando always looks for 'extras' - on the field, at training, backing up for the U14's, as a ball boy for the opens and working hard to support our fundraising efforts.

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Robbie Walker provided some good grunt in the engine room with effective play at the ruck. He showed good technique at the breakdown and quickly picked up the structural play coaches were working to establish.



Sam was consistent and reliable throughout the season. He has a mindset to attack the game from fullback and also in the games where he wore the number 9. Sam is a skilful and talented footballer, was a sharp shooter with his goal kicking and had a knack for bringing down much bigger opponents when defending through a combination of courage and technique.



5.09 **U14**

U14 REPORT

Effort, Cohesion and Growth

Coaching & Management

MANAGER **JULIANA BATES**

COACHES

BEN KHAN SHANE LEE

Still riding high after returning from an amazing U13s tour of New Zealand last year, we were looking forward to getting the team and families (including the Better Siblings Crew) back together in 2024! The playing group and families have really developed into a tight unit and always have a good time together.

The 2024 season started with a promotion to B-Grade, and we were excited to welcome four new players and families to the team. All have fitted in beautifully. It's great to see new families joining the Shammies, getting involved straight away as volunteers, and supporting club events. What a fantastic group we have.

Most of our players have played together for years, for some it's their 9th season with the Shammies. For others, it's their first, but the cohesion is already strong, and the skills and toughness of the team continues to grow. This has can be seen by the impressive progression from U12E premiers to U13C minor premiers to U14B in three years.

If I had to summarise the U14s season in one word it would be EFFORT! They never quit. Often the smaller side, both in size and numbers, the U14s have been able to find ways to win. Through grit and teamwork, they have managed to retain possession and get the ball into space, scoring points and frustrating their opposition. But it is their defence that has seen the biggest improvement.

The team has become accustomed to larger opposition and missed tackles are becoming rare. Every player has really committed to making their tackles, and this has resulted in winning 8* of the 12 games played and kept the undefeated home record intact for the fourth year. It is a close competition, and we have had wins against every team on the table at least once, finishing 3rd overall

I would like to congratulate the fifteen players that achieved representative honours with Sydney University Juniors Rugby Union (SUJRU) and competed at State Championships in Dubbo over June long weekend. It is always an extremely tough competition. Our players put in a strong performance making the Bowl final against Randwick.

This year it has been a privilege to be part of the coaching group with Dan Waterworth, Shane Lee, and Brendon McKeon.

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As the players' skills improve, and strategy is becoming a bigger part of the game, having access to the expertise of this coaching group has been critical.

A massive thank you to our amazing manager, Jules Bates and all the parent volunteers. Also, a big thanks to our officiallyunofficial club photographer Jay Hawkins and the tireless efforts from JK and the club **Executive Committee.**

Finally, and most importantly, the players. Thank you for caring, thank you for your commitment to the team, and thank you for the effort you put in each week at training and on game days. It has been a pleasure to celebrate our wins and learn from our losses with you!

Ben Khan, U14B Coach

*I'm including the victory at Camperdown against minor premiers Eastern Suburbs in round 6, even though that round was unfortunately wiped from the competition as rain cancellations meant the other teams didn't get to play.







Aiden has had another outstanding season. He gets through a ton of work at a very high intensity. He is able to read the game well and anticipate where he needs to be, and gets there! As backrower, he's tough and loves to tackle but it's his speed and powerful carries that make him an even greater threat and our top try scorer in the forwards, currently on 9 tries for the season.



Lani has made a huge contribution to the team in his first year at the Shammies. Playing hooker primarily, Lani is often first to training and will be found practicing his lineout through against the goal posts. A powerful runner, Lani has crashed through for some impressive short-range tries this year. In defence, Lani will never take a backwards step and will stop anyone in his channel.



Harrison is a powerful scrummager and solid defender. His speed and ability to find the try line has been on show recently, with tries against Lindfield and Norths going down as classics. His defence against the bigger opposition is great to watch. Harrison played most of the season at loose head and hooker. He has a great set of skills and is a pleasure to have in the team.



Jack continues to put his body on the line against big opposition. His speed and ability to finish has made a big contribution to the team this year. Jack played on the wing and his ability to catch a ball off his toes or above his head whist fanging it down the sideline has been impressive. Jack continues to improve each season and we love to see it.



Kristian is continuing to develop his skills. One of our biggest gentlemen on and off the field, but with the ability to stop large opponents time and time again. Finding himself on the wing and outside centre this year, Kristian has impressed with his handling skills and ability to retain possession and make metres in heavy contact.



Our specialist #9, Liam plays well above his weight every week. He is developing all the skills to become a great player. A fast and accurate pass, combined with speed and a great feel for the game make him a constant threat. But it is his defence that is even more impressive, shutting down line breaks as our sweeper or taking down the big runner's front-on from a penalty tap.



Alex has continued to develop as a powerful ball runner and fierce defender. Playing on the wing and outside centre, Alex has been able to put his stamp on a game by shutting down the opposition's attack with aggressive line-speed and wrecking ball tackles. Alex is one of those players you want to be playing with and not against.



Freddie is a student of the game, our #10 and our goal kicker. This is his first season at the Shammies, and he has made an outstanding contribution with 3 tries and 27 conversions so far. He is very tough and an excellent defender, playing well above his weight. As a skilful ball player with great vision, Freddie has played a key part in our attacking success this year. Above all of this, Freddie has demonstrated outstanding character, covered multiple positions when called on and always gives 100%. Freddie is our joint recipient of the 1883 Award.



He is one of the fittest in the side and always putting in 100% at training. Always looking to learn and develop his skills, Jack is one of our most improved players this year. His ability to buy time and recycle the ball when isolated out wide is a great skill he possesses. Jack's speed and ability to shutdown opposition's attack out wide has been on show this season.

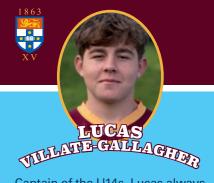
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Jacob has had an impressive first year with the Shammies. A naturally powerful #8, Jacob's contribution to the team has been his ability to draw-in multiple defenders and make consistent metres with ball in hand. His defence is equally as impressive, and his breakdown and set piece skills are continuing to develop well. A very welcome addition to the Shammies.



Freakishly fast and a brutal defender. Jake played most of the season at outside centre and when given any space, he'd punch through like the Flash. Jake can bounce out of wouldbe tackles without losing any speed and once through a hole there's no one that can catch him, scoring 16 tries so far this year including his winning try against Drummoyne in round 7. He is a great team player and held in very high regard by all. His skills, knowledge and personality make him one of the leaders in the team.



Captain of the U14s, Lucas always leads from the front. Getting through a huge amount of work every game. His outstanding speed, strength and skill mean he can play any position on the field but this year he made the 12 jersey his own! His bone-rattling defence make him someone you'd hate to play against but love to have on your team. His powerful carries have seen him cross the line 19 times so far, this year.





Second season with the Shammies, Mahe is developing into a powerful player. A very strong scrummager. Capable of playing anywhere in the tight five, he spent most of the season at loose head and lock. He has the ability to change the momentum of a game with his powerful counter ruck and as saved turnovers by securing a loose ball and carrying it forward. A gentleman on and off the field.



Owen is becoming our lineout specialist, combined with his strong scrummaging ability, he fits naturally in the lock position. His speed and heat seeker-like pressure on the oppositions' #10 also make him an effective flanker. He is another versatile member of our pack that has contributed greatly to the success of our team this year. His energy and quick-wit keep spirits high in the team.



Sam missed the start of the season but returned to the Shammies at a critical point. Injuries had claimed a few of our squad and we were down to 14 players. Sam's versatility meant he can cover multiple positions in the tight five and can also take on goal kicking duties, slotting three against Linfield. It was fantastic to have Sam back in the team that he has been part of since the U6's.



This is Tom's first season with the Shammies, and he has fitted in beautifully. Tom was selected for representative duties with Sydney University and performed well against much bigger opposition. He is a pleasure to coach and always looking to learn and develop his craft as a tight head prop. Tom's strength is in the rough stuff. His work in the set piece and breakdown have really contributed to the team's success this year.



Tom had another great season, despite breaking his shoulder at the State Championships in June. While sidelined, he attended every game, supporting his team. Back in August, Tom showed his toughness, thriving in the scrum, delivering big tackles around the ruck, and trucking it up front. Since joining the Shammies in 2020, he has consistently displayed character and 100% commitment to his teammates. Tom is a deserving joint recipient of the 1883 Award.





A gifted footballer who will have many great seasons ahead. Unfortunately, this year Matt suffered a season ending shoulder injury in Dubbo at the State Championships in a game against Penrith. We really missed Matt's bulletproof defence and powerful carries this season. We are looking forward to seeing him fully recovered and back on the field where he shines.





Rocky has had a great season. Still the nicest player off the field but capable of brutal cleanouts (blaster) and tackles on the field. Playing at lock and a key lineout jumper, Rocky has taken on extra responsibly this year and delivered. Most of Rocky's real work happens in dark places and may not be obvious from the sideline. But his work in the scrum has improved out of sight and his speed to the breakdown



Seb has had another great season. One of the most versatile players in the team. His size and skillset meant he has been able to cover multiple roles across the field and has played lock, backrow, wing and fullback this season. He is extremely tough and a great defender. It doesn't matter what position Seb plays, you know he'll give it everything.

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Tom played most of the season at fullback. His size, speed and skill make him well suited to this position. Tom's positional play is continuing to develop, and I have lost track of the number of tries he has saved this year by making crucial tackles or securing loose ball. Tom is equally as damaging with ball in hand and his counterattack and support running has resulted in some great tries this year.



William continues where he left off last year. At home in the backrow, he loves nothing more that tackling and competing at the breakdown. His repeat defensive efforts and speed over the ball in both attack and defence have made big contributions to the team and something we have become accustomed to seeing each week. His ability to support the ball carrier and link up with team mates has led to some great team tries this season.





and work over the ball has

improved out of sight. Rocky achieved representative honours with Sydney Uni this year.

U15 REPORT

Rivals United, Foundations Forged, Memories Made

Coaching & Management

MANAGER

MARCIE KILKENNY

COACHES

JOHN KILKENNY JAMES BREEN SCOTT BLACKFORD

ASSISTANT COACHES

DAVE SIMS
NICK MAY

EDEN BARROS (THE BAREFOOT AR)

The seeds were sown late in 2023. Both Petersham and Balmain u14s knew it was going to be tricky to field a full u15s squad for their respective clubs in 2024. Genius Coaches and Managers got together to discuss a possible union; a merging of two rival clubs.

But how would they go? A bunch of kids who rose to greatness each time they played each other, each claiming superiority. Rivals playing together as one? Madness, they said. That's crazy talk—it will never work!

But somehow, the union was made. Coaches met at our sponsor's White Cockatoo Hotel, plans were laid, and playbooks rewritten.

A squad of 30 strong players came together for a memorable season, even adding players from outside the inner west. Playing under the Petersham banner but with Balmain socks and cries of Wolves in the Shammies victory song.

Our coaching staff guided the boys to a roughly equal win/ loss ratio while creating a solid foundation for years to come. Managed by Marcie Kilkenny, with great support from Sam Mallinson, and filmed professionally by Jeremy Brocherie, who posted games to YouTube to much anticipation.

We had several boys at State Champs with Sydney Uni. Huge congratulations to James Gormly and Alexander Motuliki for making the NSW Gen-Blue and NSW City Barbarians rep teams!

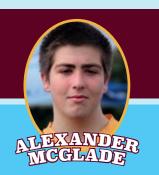
Wrapping the 2024 season, we thank everyone who supported Petersham Balmain U15s. To our parents for getting the boys to training and games (mostly), and to coaches, managers, and staff like Lee-Ann, Matt, and Dione W—your guidance has been invaluable.

Finally, thank you U15s 2024 squad! You came together and gave it your all—we couldn't be prouder! Let's do it again in 2025!

U15s Coaches and Manager







Alex is another player that has come out of his shell a bit this year, turning into a potent forward either in the front or second row. The odd growth spurt has helped the cause, as has Alex's commitment to training and development. As the season has developed we've seen more of a fighting attitude come out of Alex. And as the rugby IQ grows along with the confidence we will see Alex grow into even more of a rugby titan.



A relative newbie to rugby in only his second full season, but you wouldn't think that when watching the games. Whilst last season saw a tentative Angus, this season has seen a powerhouse of aggression, energy and fast relentless rugby. It's great to see when things 'just click' and boy has it clicked for Angus. This has come from continued hard work and a demand Angus puts on himself to continuously develop (even giving himself a rugger haircut). Keep working Angus and don't look back - the future is bright for you!



Arlo has proven this season to be the ultimate utility forward, capable of excelling in nearly every position (except maybe loosehead prop—Big Tom's got that covered). Against Manly in the last game, he even played on the wing, though he should probably stick to the forwards and leave hairdressing to the back line. He's a gutsy tackler and a pest to the opposition as a jackal. We'd love to have such a versatile player on our roster next year.



ASHTON

A new joiner to the Shammies this year but an experienced hand at this game thanks to school rugby. Ashton brings some muscle to the wing and safe pair of hands to boot. Hard working at training and showing commitment to his new team, Ashton has shown he will be a great Shammie for the next few years. As he gets to know the players more, and them him, we will certainly see a few more tries from Ashton. A great addition to the squad.



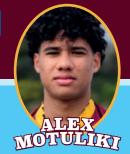
Cruz is just a talented footy player, whatever the code. We've seen some mazy runs down the wings this season and some crunching hits in defence. Nothing you wouldn't expect from such a class act. This does come at a price and Cruz has had his fair share of injuries over the years. We hope this doesn't put Cruz off as there is a bright future ahead.



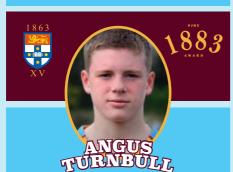
When Zeke is in the house we all know about it. Grit, determination, focus, 100% attitude, never take a step back and that's just warming up before training!

Zeke has built on last season with greater strength and power in running the ball, and unwavering commitment to defending. He has crossed the line several times for the team and made try saving tackles when it really mattered. A lift in communication and leadership rounds off another fantastic season.





Leki has bought a bit of bling to the Shammies in his first season at the club. He got a taste of playing with the boys in the u14s Sydney Uni team and decided to make it a permanent move. The team has always been known for their powerful forwards, and now Leki brings the razzmatazz to the pack. His searching runs off of rucks and fleet footed steps through defensive lines resulted in several tries this year, including for Sydney Uni. The season was topped off with selection for the Sydney Barbarians team. Great to have you on the team Leki.



Gus has had a stop start season with head injuries and concussion that cruelly robbed him of taking the field for Sydney Uni. This hasn't stopped him being one of the biggest contributors to the team – at training (even when injured) and on the field as the ever-dependable full back. Technique is great, positioning is great, strength is great, handling is great, kicking, communication etc. etc. Just a class act and a pillar of the team. The example he has set to the team and respect to his new club and coaches has earnt Gus the 1883 award this year.

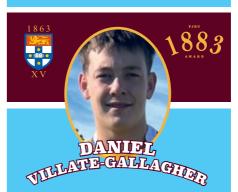


Archie has taken another strong step in his rugby development, that was only started last season. It can be tough learning the technique at the same time as the game play, tactics and decision making and Archie has shown he has what it takes to work through it all. Keep working hard Archie and it will all click. Key to this is confidence. We all see a rugby player in Archie – big, strong, committed and athletic. Bring it to the field next season Archie.

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Bryn has had a strong season and impressed a lot of people. He's not big but has been working on his strength and power at Cross-Fit and the gym, and it has shown with some tackles that have left opposition players wondering what happened. As a confidence player Bryn may not always agree with the above but if he can keep the faith and continue to work hard, he will have a long future in the game.



DVG is our central wrecking ball-strong, powerful, and hard to tackle, yet light on his feet and quick off the mark—everything you want in a centre. Dan had a stellar season, representing his school as a forward, Shammies as a centre, and Sydney Uni as a winger, where he earned the best backs award!

Dan's attitude is exemplary. He works hard, never complains, demands excellence from himself and others, and is highly respectful to players, coaches, and referees, earning him the 1883 Award this year.



Harper joined the Shammies this year after playing Sydney Uni U14s with a lot of the Petersham and Balmain boys. Sadly the distances involved and some great success in that other code we don't like talking about meant Harper couldn't quite make the season. Harper's natural talent and determination with ball in hand means he is always welcome back.





Over the summer break and this season, Balmain's "Little Henry" has had a growth spurt, but his huge heart has grown threefold. Now "Pretty Bloody Big (PBB) Henry," he's been invaluable at hooker. His lineout throws are pinpoint accurate and powerful, and his tackling is clinical, taking down even the biggest players. His greatest quality is his courage—fearlessly tackling big lads or charging into a brick wall of defenders and still making meters.



The ever-dependable Junior at half back has been a constant for the Shammies for so many years now. It just seems weird when he isn't there (rarely). Junior's individual skills are up there with the best, and this season his ability to communicate with the forwards to push the opposition back and keep them guessing has been at the core of a lot of our success. An increase in size and strength over the off-season has bought a new edge to Juniors game with some hard tackles and the odd try to round of a fantastic year.



The best moment of the season was seeing JK Junior break his tryscoring drought (3 seasons?) during a huge victory against Manly. The crowd went wild, and the Manly parents couldn't make sense of it all.

Javier oozes quality in every facet. His hard work across the pitch builds the platform for others to shine, but without his presence and leadership, the team would struggle. A great season with Sydney Uni representation, like all the Kilkennys, Javier is part of the club's fabric, putting in work behind the scenes.



Levi has been an ever present at the Shammies for so many years. His development continues with some serious strength coming in behind the good technique, and that is transferring from the training field to the playing field.

We've seen Levi grow in confidence this year as well. Solid performances week in week out tease us with little indicators that there is more to come. Be bold Levi, show us what you can do!



Captain Max has been a constant presence this season. His wellmannered, polite rapport with the refs betrays his steely, ruthless domination of the ruck and rib-tickling hits. The powerful runs keep coming (with clinical offloads a new feature) and his defensive work has made Max a bogeyman for the unsuspecting back. Well known in both JV teams, the boys voted him captain, a role Max has used to build a strong team unit. A classy display of leadership on and off the field. Sydney Uni representation as co-captain.

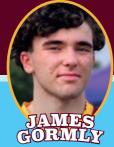


A few cameo roles from Noah this season, with each and every one contributing the usual safe hands, fast feet and strong shoulder. It's a shame we didn't see more of Noah. Hopefully we will see more of you next year.



Fitzy is a true utility back. His safe hands, including under the high ball, and his vision for eyes up rugby has seen him move between full back and fly half with ease. The fluid transition from forward to backs through Fitzy at fly half has been a feature of our season, particularly towards the end. And dropping to full back to cover injuries has not phased him at all. A great team player and ever-present at training.





James' pre-season goal was to transition from the forwards to the backs, playing fullback or wing. He ended the season as a NSW Gen-Blue representative... at LOCK. Any talk of being a back is now punished with 5 broncos back-to-back. This richly deserved award reflects his dominance at the breakdown, improved tackling, and his basketball skills making him a menace at the lineout. His try-scoring runs, including from the wing, continue. Congratulations James "the LOCK" Gormly, from everyone at PJRU.



The returning Shammie who played a few seasons ago, left, and then returned this year with his smile, sharp haircuts and strong team attitude. Leon is a pure forward, putting himself where those fancy backs would never dream of. We have benefited from this approach to the game and Leon has earnt the respect of the infamous Shammie tight five.

We hope to see you again next season Leon, don't leave us again!

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Max Dunne is what we would like to label as the epitome of controlled-aggression. His trademark Irish spirit shows through in every minute he plays for us, never stopping, never quitting, and always going hard. Playing on the flank, he is able to cut down the 5/8's space in the blink of an eye and you can always rely on him to make that tackle. He also represented Sydney Uni, including Syd Uni Co-Captain this year, alongside a number of Balmain Boys.



Opposition players generally hear Myles coming before they see him, then feel him thunder through the pack. Never short of a quip or two to get under the skin of the front row he is staring at and, luckily for us, he brings the goods to back up the chat. A valued member of the team and Sydney Uni representative. Miles is also one of our clubs accredited referees who many of our younger players will recognise from their games. A passionate rugby man and credit to Balmain (and now Petersham).



Rui is another relative newbie to Union in only his third year of playing. He is quiet, a bit shy, and sometimes the more 'colloquial' phrases used by our boys can be confusing, but...when it all clicks and comes together Rui is like a silent assassin who has contributed to match days with hits, runs, rucks and tackles to be proud of. His development over the months has been a credit to Rui with hard work and an eager to please attitude at training.





Ryan joined the Shammies this year after moving to Sydney. He brings experience playing in the forwards but has shown his aptitude across other positions, particularly on the wing where his pace, step and safe hands has been a valuable asset for the team. We hope to see a bit more of Ryan next season as his natural talent is clear to all.



A bright start to the season came to a grinding halt for poor Spencer with a broken leg during sprint training (yes, he is THAT fast). Sadly we missed Spencer's contribution to the Shammies for most of the season but only on the field. His presence on the sidelines and at training meant a huge amount to the players and coaches, and his continued support and assistance was inspiring. Come back stronger Spence, we need you next year!



Little Big Tom is a crowd favourite. He brings a smile and a chuckle to training and to the game, and this season has learnt to step up with some runs and tackles. Tom worked hard on fitness over the off-season and has gone the extra mile at scrum training. Continued work on positioning and game IQ will see Tom improve further and continue his rugby journey.









Sam has been one of the many shining stars of the Balmain-Petersham roster this season with some great moments to sum it up such as his dominant performance against Forest with a Hat-Trick. Playing in the centres and Flyhalf to fill in for Fitzy on occasion, Sam has been a hard hitting, fiery-spirited anchor in our Back line and also for Sydney Uni at the State Champs.





Terry, Terry, where do we begin? Is it with his ruthless, powerful, albeit a bit leaguey, tackling? Or his ability to make 10 meters post-contact? Perhaps his killer mentality and Olympic-level physicality that would make Reece Walsh tremble in his boots? The Smiling Assassin can't be defined by one quality; he's a multi-faceted asset to the team. His signature grin can be seen from a mile away as he pole-axes the opposition. Terry, we hope you return next year to continue inspiring the boys with your physicality and love of contact.



Will is pure rugby. A dedicated trainer, strong team leader, an awesome ball player and for a couple of seasons now an accredited referee who has overseen many a younger age group game at Camperdown and Leichhardt ovals.

Will may not have the 'girth' that some of his team mates bring but it doesn't stop him dishing it out on the field, wherever he plays across the back line. Strong running, good hands and a tackle that would be fitting from a player twice his size. A great season and a valued player.







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U16 REPORT

Resilience, Mateship and Heart

Coaching & Management

MANAGER
MICK DANDY

COACHES

ANGUS MACDONALD DAVID COOPER SIMON TEONG Well, folks, the season has drawn to a close, and what a season it has been! If there were awards for grit and determination, our U16s Petersham Juniors Rugby Team would have won them all. Despite a calendar packed with rain and injuries that could put an insurance company out of business, our team charged into the semi-finals. Not too shabby for a season full of surprises!

Let's start with the elephant in the room: injuries. If there's a medal for most bandaged players, we'd be top of the podium. We might as well have had a revolving door for the RPA this year! But in true rugby spirit, our team didn't let it rain on their parade. With a forward pack that was thinner than a piece of paper (thanks to those injuries), we called in a few of the brave U15s who stepped up to the plate with all the enthusiasm of a kid at an ice cream van.

The weather this year could only be described as 'British'—and no, not in a charming, quaint way. We're talking torrential downpours, muddy pitches, and the sort of weather that makes you wonder if you should have brought a canoe instead of your rugby boots. Yet, our team tackled these conditions like true warriors, showing that it's not

just about playing the game, but surviving it with a smile and a sense of humour.

The semi-finals were our crowning glory. Our players gave it everything they had, showing the sort of commitment that had the coaches and supporters cheering (screaming) from the sidelines. Every match was a testament to their hard work and passion for the sport. We might not have made it to the big dance, but the fact that we made it to the semi-finals despite all the hurdles is a massive victory in itself.

To the U15s who joined us this year - Max, Javier and Ezekiel: hats off to you! Your dedication and enthusiasm were a breath of fresh air – backing up for another game and then dominating around our breakdown, it was inspirational to watch. These young stars helped prop up our beleaguered pack, proving that age and experience sometimes don't mean a thing when you've got heart.

As we wrap up this season, let's take a moment to appreciate the camaraderie, the laughs, and the unforgettable memories. Each game was a chapter in a story of resilience and teamwork. The way our players stuck together through thick and thin—

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sometimes literally thick mud and thin player numbers—is nothing short of inspiring.

Thank you to the players, ground marshals (Diarmaid/Dave), assistant referee (Tim), trainer/strapping (Richard), cheering (Ross), families and supporters (two trips to Hawkesbury this year) who made this season so enjoyable. Your cheers, support, and good humour through all the rainy days and tough matches made our job as Coaches and Manager so much easier.

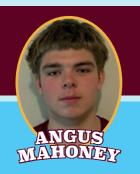
Next year the boys move into the Opens (17/18) age group and likely the opportunity to train with the Petersham Colts and get a taste of what rugby as an adult looks like. Our young men are definitely ready for this next step and we hope that as a team they can come together next year and represent the mighty Petersham Juniors in the Opens division. Wishing everyone the best for the rest of 2024!











Angus made a phenomenal return this season as our dynamic Number 8. He added a powerful new dimension to both our defence and attack, with tackles so formidable that opposing teams often tried to avoid him altogether. Angus's relentless energy and sheer force on the field were crucial in turning the tide of many games. His impressive comeback season was unfortunately cut short by injury before the semi-final, but his impact this year was undeniable. Congrats on an awesome return this season.



Our versatile powerhouse! Cooper's tackles are mighty, and he plays with the heart of a lion. Despite some unfortunate injuries, he made an impact with his amazing defence every time he was on the field. We are so proud of the way Cooper has matured on the field this season, keeping calm and taking any frustrations out with huge tackles, well done, it was so awesome to see. He will always make an impact in any team he plays in, and we look forward to following his rugby career.



Finn made a stellar return this season, bringing unmatched enthusiasm, blazing speed, and a strong sense of team camaraderie. His ability to sprint down the wing and chase our strategic kicking game was a key asset to our squad, and he always put pressure on the opposition. His positive attitude and support for his teammates exemplify the spirit of the Shammies. Great to have you back this year.



Our indomitable backrower!
Fred's fearless defence and
inspiring presence make him a
stand-out player. Another player
struck down by injury, we missed
his bone crunching defence and
ability to get from breakdown to
breakdown with ease. Another
team man who attended training
and games whilst unable to play,
we thank you for your dedication
to the team and supporting your
teams and the coaching staff
each week, well done Fred.



Our multi-talented centre! Hamish's leadership and versatility are second to none. His tackles, line breaks, and breakdown skills make him a true rugby maestro. If not ripping the ball from the opposition, he would single handedly send their ball runners and support players backward, a true master of the craft. Another fantastic season Hamo, thanks for being one of the true rocks within our squad and our great Club. We look forward to watching your rugby career into the future as you will be an asset in any senior team you choose to play for.



Our unassuming powerhouse! Poor Jack was another casualty to injury this season, still in a moon boot come semi-finals. We missed his backrow prowess, strength and breakdown skills. We wish you all the best with your recovery, thanks for being a great team man and look forward to a massive 2025 season injury free, you deserve it.



Austin brought a blend of quiet confidence and exceptional talent to the wing this season. His solid defence and lightning-fast runs down the flank consistently put us in great positions throughout the year. Despite his understated demeanour, Austin's contributions were crucial and made a significant impact on our performance. It's been a pleasure having him as part of the squad again, and we look forward to seeing more of his stellar play and quiet leadership in the future.



Our multi-talented field general! Eddie was our versatile forward, playing hooker, second row, flanker and number 8 during the season, making him another standout player. We missed him with injury for part of the season and our back row suffered, missing his ability to make three tackles in a row, or clean out entire breakdowns by himself. This flexibility and willingness to help the team in any position required was not missed on the coaches, thank you Eddie for being such a great team member and well done on a great season.



Our supersonic whirlwind! Flynn's speed and defence has made him the complete package. His ability to multi-task on the field, get into position and his relentless pursuit of excellence are all noticed. Another solid season and with a little more confidence around his tackling he will be an anchor for any rugby team in the future. Well done this season.

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Our team's perpetual motion machine! George's enthusiasm is infectious, making him the life of our squad. With his unyielding spirit, eagerness to get on the field and get involved, he's improvement this year was simply amazing! Our highlight was his semi-final performance and ability to single handedly stop a try attempt from the back of the oppositions scrum, securing cheers, hugs and high fives from his teams and coaches. We look forward to seeing what George can do next on the rugby field, congrats on a fantastic season!



The team's epitome of grit and determination! Known for his legendary toughness, he managed more game time this year, avoiding injury, and the team was better for it. Harry's strong performance on the wing showed his great understanding of the game, his fantastic defence and quick speed. Always listening at training and quickly picking up tactics and moves, we were happy to have him fit and ready to play this season. Congrats on a great season.



Jesse was a stand-out player this season, thanks to his incredible speed and boundless enthusiasm. His powerful runs and rock-solid defence made him a key asset, often prompting the coaches to shout, "Get it to Jesse!" Despite still learning the game, Jesse's progress was evident each week, culminating in a memorable try in the semi-final, running the perfect line to split the defence. What a fantastic season—his potential is limitless, and we can't wait to see him continue to shine.



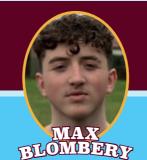




Jessey joined the Shammies this season and made an immediate impact with his infectious energy and enthusiasm. From day one, his vibrant spirit and leadership qualities shone through, making him the clear choice for captain. Jesse led from the front with remarkable communication both on and off the field, uniting the team and driving us forward. His first season with the Shammies has been nothing short of exceptional. Congratulations, Jesse, on a stellar debut and a job well done!



Lachlan wears his heart on his sleeve and approaches every game with unwavering commitment and enthusiasm. His knack for analysing the game and seizing opportunities in attack and defence has been key this season. A highlight has been his growth in self-control and emotional understanding, showcasing his maturity and development. His dedication and athleticism make him a stand-out player, and his performance has been fantastic. We're excited to see what the future holds for Lachlan and more achievements ahead!



Our number 2 specialist. His line out throws improved throughout the season and his movement around the park started to resemble a backrower, could a position change be coming? Was unfortunately struck down with injury, but as the true team man he is, attended all the games to support his s. Thanks for being such a great supportive member of the team and well done on another great season.



Oisin delivered a stand-out performance this season, putting his body on the line every week with unwavering commitment. His dedication and relentless effort were evident throughout, culminating in a semi-final performance that was nothing short of exceptional. Oisin's ability to consistently give his

best and lead by example made

a significant impact on the team.

our back row maestro-his hard

What a remarkable season for

work and passion truly shone

through, well done.

Patrick impressed us all as a new second-rower this season. He picked up the game with remarkable speed and consistently gave his best effort on the field. Paddy's commitment and hard work were evident in every match, and his willingness to support his teams made him a stand-out team player. With his rapid development and unwavering dedication, Paddy is well on his way to becoming a key force in the forward pack.



Stuart made impressive strides this season as our solid second rower. His aggression, ball running, and defensive skills saw significant improvement, making him a formidable presence on the field. Stuart's eagerness to learn and improve was evident in every game, and his willingness to listen and adapt made him a pleasure to coach. His dedication and hard work truly paid off, and we're thrilled with his progress. Well done, Stuart-here's to many more outstanding seasons ahead!



The squad's own speed machine! Kubi's ability to slice through defences with the finesse of a chef carving the Christmas ham makes him a true gamechanger. His knack for scoring crucial tries is unmatched, and his communication from his new position at fullback was superb, an area we were hoping he felt more comfortable with, and he delivered in spades. A natural athlete, Kubi will only continue to improve, and we look forward to seeing him continue his rugby journey, well done on a great season.



Our impressive new halfback who made a powerful impact this season! Liam played with relentless heart and energy, quickly proving himself as a key player with his passing skills. His ability to deliver precise and impactful passes added a new dimension to our game. His kicking around the field was also a highlight, well done on a great first season with the Shammies!

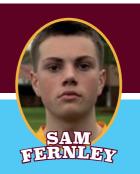


Michael's growing confidence as a player and his more aggressive ball-carrying skills have redefined his role on the team. His roars when running the ball up or tracking for a big tackle are legendary. When he is 'on' the opposition are shaking in their boots. Well done on a great season and we look forward to watching your continued improvement.

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Our unyielding force around the field! Ollie's season at loose head prop has been nothing short of impressive. His willingness to put his body on the line in every game shows his dedication and pure joy in playing this great game. Ollie was always focused at training, listens to instruction and leads from the front. His defence is bone shattering and his ball running would impress any rugby scout. Congrats on a fantastic season and looking forward to watching your rugby career blossom in the future.



Our versatile back line strategist! Sam's adaptability and defensive prowess make him a key player in our squad. Although sometimes the quiet achiever, he looks for opportunity at all times and moved the ball across the back line with ease. His double cut out in the semi-final leading to our only try has been watched multiple times by the coaches. Well done on a great season.



Our versatile centre with a booming boot! Tom's powerful runs, improvement with his passing when breaking the line and goal-kicking prowess made him a game-changer for the team this season. His friendly banter and strong support for teams was also invaluable. Well done on a great season Hallsy and we missed you in the semi-final.





Our unstoppable force on the field! Tom's explosive presence and seismic tackles make him a formidable opponent for any team we face. Week on week out, Tom put his body on the line, making momentum changing runs or huge tackles to stop the opposition in their tracks. His ability to lift his team by 'doing' was a pleasure to watch. Thanks for another fantastic season big man, your teams love playing with you and the coaches love to watch!



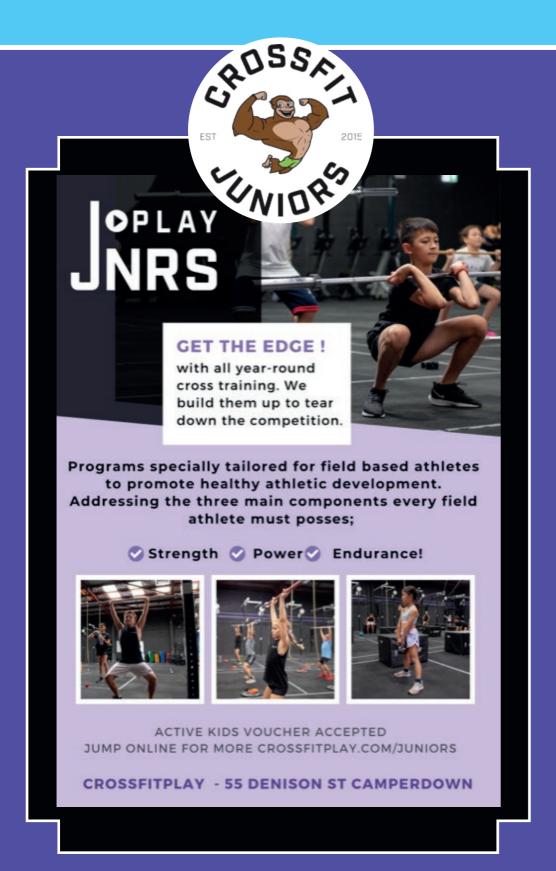
Will brought exceptional tactical acumen to the team this season from the Number 10 position. His experience and communication skills were pivotal in organising our back line defensively and orchestrating attacking moves with precision. Willem's targeted kicking plays consistently put us in advantageous positions. A true team player, he thrived on being a key part of the Shammies and his contributions were invaluable. It's been fantastic to see Willem's strategic mind in action and his dedication to the team has been exemplary.



We missed the big man for most of the season as he was struck down with injury. Would have loved to see his mid-field runs as part of our forwards pod structures. Whilst out injured Will has focused on his health and is looking fantastic, well done, and we look forward to seeing lean Will run through the back line gaps in the future!







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