

## Weekly update & news from Hollywood!

---

The pre-season is still going 'great-guns' with our impressive coaching staff putting together fun, challenging and rewarding training sessions every Tuesday and Thursday. As Club Captain Rhys Blackburn said last week, the amount of new faces down at the club this year is amazing.

AJ and Rabbit went along to a meeting with NSW Subbies on Wednesday, 18 February to show them how strong we would be as a Club in 2009. Because every Division 2 club is required to field a Colts (U/21) side, NSW Subbies were particularly interested in the number of Colts we had already registered this year. The Subbies organisers were absolutely astounded when we showed **39 registered Colts-aged players for 2009!** This is a huge achievement and we are really looking forward to seeing the Colts in the U/21 comp and throughout the grades this year.

The emphasis now shifts to getting all of our existing Senior players back down to the Club for pre-season training. For everyone who has been down to training so far, well done - the rewards will be apparent when trials kick off on 7 March. To all of those boys who are yet to attend training - come down now!

Let's make 2009 a season where we return to the glory days of Breakers rugby!

And here's a message from our 1st Grade coach Hollywood:

Now training is underway I would like to thank all of those players who have made the effort in these wet conditions to attend training over the last two weeks. The ground is amazingly dry, allowing us to continue our fitness and skills drills.

Those who have not attended without reasonable excuses, ask yourselves how serious you are about getting some really good results this year and enjoying your rugby. We are playing a skillful, fast and expansive game for Season 2009, so, you have to be fit and know the game plans and moves to achieve the desired results. And that means training!

We will be providing a calendar for the year to include training dates, games scheduled, etc. We will also provide each player with a folder to include the calendar, housekeeping, general defence patterns, general playing structure, useful contacts, etc.

I and my fellow coaches look forward to seeing you at the Breakers' 'Field of Dreams'. Please feel free to call me (Mobile - 0416 100 709) or email me ([mike\\_andress@hotmail.com](mailto:mike_andress@hotmail.com)) if you have any questions relating to training, game plans, etc.

Hollywood

## Weekly update from Club Captain Rhys!

---

Breakers

We're two weeks into pre-season and things are hotting up! The number of players showing up has been awesome and is a sign of big things to come for this season. This week, the little general, Smythy, had us running an array of drills he learned from his time in the SAS, with tyre relays and sprint work. We flipped over more rubber than a schoolies hotel room! The young Colts led the charge and are making their intentions for the higher grades known.

New Super Coach Hollywood got the ball work happening, blowing the cobwebs out and getting the hands moving. Somehow he manages to sneak a lot more fitness at the same time.

Numbers are still strong, but I'm seeing mostly new faces at training. There are a lot of senior players hiding in the woodwork - NOW is the time to get down and rip into training! We are only 3 weeks out from trials! So, it's time to pull your fingers out and get down there.

Rhys

## A message from Hollywood!

---

Breakers

Well done to all those who attended our first week of training for season 2009! From what I am hearing and seeing, we have a great deal to look forward to this year thanks to our rugby committee, senior players and all volunteers at Newport Rugby and, in particular, our sponsors whose commercial partnership allows us to enjoy OUR game. I know, as always, it is tough at pre-season training, however, work hard now and the rewards will follow both on and off the playing field.

As you know, the rugby season is a long one. That being the case, we need as many players as possible to cover all teams and have a wealth of talent available through all the grades and Colts. In saying this, any players that you know not playing currently or playing for another club, get them down and let them see what a true rugby club is all about.

I look forward to seeing you all again next Tuesday - training commences at 6.30pm sharp. Please bring your runners, no boots at the moment.

Thank you for the warm welcome to Newport Rugby - THE WORLD'S BEST CLUB!

Yours in rugby

Hollywood

## Club captain, players reps and social committee announced!

---

The Breakers players held the vote that stopped the nation at the season's launch (see below) to appoint their Club Captain, Players Representatives and the Social Committee for 2009.

In what was perhaps the first ever democratic show at the club (?), Rhys Blackburn was appointed as the Club Captain for 2009! The big hooker is looking forward to a cracking

season and was absolutely stoked to see such a huge amount of new, young players (as well as the usual senior players) who had turned out for the season launch. Rhys said, "As the strongest man at the club, I think it's fitting that I was voted by the players as the Club Captain this year. After all, they know I'd pound on them if they didn't vote for me."

Rhys has already employed the services of young Colt, James "Whitey" White to be his Gopher in 2009. Whitey is being groomed for a future leadership role but, for now, he will have to see out his apprenticeship as Rhys' understudy. Asked what Whitey's responsibilities would be, Rhys said that Whitey would need to make sure his drink was never empty, as well as introducing him to some young birds.

Starksy, Rabbit, Robbo and Earl were also appointed as the Players' Representatives for this season. Tucks, Lloyd, Glassie and Ryno will assume the most important positions in the club as they make up the Social Committee.

## Season launch

---

The Breakers launched the 2009 season in style at Porters Reserve on 29 January. At least 50 players turned up for an informal game of tough footy and some more serious beer drinking and BBQ eating!

New club President Steve Hansen addressed the players as well as introducing the Breakers' new 1st grade coach Mike "Hollywood" Andress. Hollywood outlined his plans for the year, including his desire for the Breakers to play an expansive and exciting game throughout the coming season.

The senior Breakers players and committee issued a big welcome to our new Colts. Around 30 Colts showed up at the season launch and, with most of the U/21 boys having already paid their fees, they were keen to drink and eat as much free stuff as possible! Colts coaches Tim Malone and Simon "Chopper" Woods were really excited to see such a large group of committed Colts at this early stage of the season and the call has already gone out for a Premiership in 2009!

The last word on the season opener has to go to Vice President Alan "AJ" Jones, who was literally beside himself. AJ said:

"What a cracker of a night! Being one of the history mob down at the Club, never before have we experienced a happening like we enjoyed tonight! Perhaps when we won the Reliance Shield back in '97 with a crack Premier Colts team, but that was then. We have seen our new mob be embraced the Breakers and we are looking forward to being part of this evolving culture."

## New 1st grade coach announced for 2009!

---

The Breakers committee takes great pleasure in announcing the appointment of Mike Andress as the Newport Breakers 1st grade coach for 2009. Speaking of the appointment, President Steve Hansen remarked, "Mike Andress has taken on this position and is looking forward to the exciting challenge of coaching at Newport for the upcoming season. Mike comes with years of experience and I'd like you all to welcome Mike to his new home here at the Breakers!"

Mike (a.k.a. Hollywood) can be contacted on his mobile (0416 100 709) or on email ([mike\\_andress@hotmail.com](mailto:mike_andress@hotmail.com)).

## Breakers players meeting - 30 October 2008

---

The Breakers players held a meeting on Thursday, 30 October at Porters Reserve to discuss as a player group our 'on-field direction' in 2009 and to raise any issues and concerns as a player group prior to the AGM.

The following issues were discussed at the meeting:

- Club direction & strategy
- Player fees
- Coaching
- Training & selection

- Player recruitment
- Social committee & club events
- Club captain
- Pre & post-season tours
- Other matters