



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

NORTH SYDNEY DISTRICT RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB LTD.
TRADITION • PRIDE • THRIVE



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS



PERRY LOPEZ
Chairman



MARK DOWEL
Director



MARTY LAWSON
Director



PETER MCGRATH
Director



CATHERINE OSBORNE
Director



JUSTIN OWEN
Director



SEAN WILES
Director

LIFE MEMBERS

Mr Harold Blinkhorn
Mr Frank Burge
Mr Paul Conlon
Mr Robert Cooley
Ms Rosalynd Dare
Mr Mark Dowel
Mr Greg Florimo
Mr Barry Glasgow
Mr William Hamilton

Mr John Hayes
Mr Monty Hodges
Mr Gary Larson
Mr James Lawson
Mr Kevin Marr Snr
Mr Donald McKinnon
Mr Kevin Nicholls
Mr Bill Robinson
Mr Tony Salier

Mr Robert Saunders
Mr James Schroder
Mr Jeffery Simmonds
Dr Sam Sorrenti
Mr Norman Strong
Mr Adrian Toole
Mr Horace Toole
Mr Ross Warner

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2019 saw the announcement of a new life membership awarded to Mark Dowel. Mark has always put his hand up to help the club, from stepping up as the man on the gate, in the canteen and chairing judiciary hearings. He always has a willing ear to listen and provide constructive feedback. His knowledge of the game in areas like junior development, sponsorship and governance is invaluable. The club is indebted to Mark Dowel for his many years of service. He has stood the test of time as a true icon of our club.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As we reflect on 2019 and look at our achievements both on and off the field we can see that we have progressed into a new era of growth and prosperity for the Bears.

We welcomed back to the club Jason Taylor as head coach. JT's long term affiliation with the club from his playing days here in the 90's through to his role as Head Coach has put us back on the map as a top tier NSW Cup Club. Although we missed out on progressing to week 3 of the finals, we did our members and fans proud and we will head into 2020 in an even stronger position from our learnings. I am also happy to say that JT has agreed to a further 2 years as Club and Head Coach, providing us the opportunity to build a consistent approach to coaching throughout the whole of the club at all levels and our district.

Of course, there is a great team behind JT, so to all his staff and support crew a big thank you and we look forward to continuing to build in 2020.

A club stalwart decided to hang his boots up this year. Curtis Johnston has been one of the consistent figures at our club. Curtis came through our junior system with the Berowra club, through our rep program and ultimately playing over 100 games in the NSW Cup. A great career for the Bears that doesn't stop there as CJ will return in 2020 as the assistant coach to our Harold Matthews side.

Our Harvey Normans Women's side saw us fall just short of appearing in a grand final in only our second year in the competition. A great job done by all the girls led brilliantly by Coach Rob Capizzi. This is Rob's first year as Head Coach and I am very happy to say he will be back in 2020. Also congratulations to Kirra Dibb, Nita Maynard and Teuila Fotu-Moala on representing Australia and New Zealand respectively. Kirra along with Shontelle Stowers represented NSW in the State of Origin women's game and Nita Maynard was named Player of the Year in the NSW Women's Harvey Norman competition.

Peter Palmer, Head Coach of our Jersey Flegg side will be moving on this year to assist with our NSW Cup side. Peter has been instrumental in getting our Flegg side up and running and because of that, we will go into 2020 stronger and more prepared. We also announced Paul Stringer another ex-Bear with plenty of coaching experience will be coaching our Jersey Flegg side.

Our junior rep sides were only a win away from an appearance in the finals so I'm sure that we will go one better in 2020. Thank you to all involved for your tireless efforts with the boys in getting them to the park each week and of course the many hours spent during a rigorous pre-season. This combined with a well-structured development program from 12's to 15's with great district representation will see the Bears grow stronger in 2020. Well done to all involved.

2019 saw us lose a long serving member of the board and club, Fred Thompson. Fred was involved with the Bears in both Junior League and senior clubs for over 60 years. Fred served on the Football Club board for over 20 years and he was a fantastic support for myself with the plethora of knowledge that he had accumulated. Fred was a fantastic person and his many years of service to our football community here at North Sydney will never be lost upon his passing. I know I speak for us all when I say he is missed dearly by all involved in our great club and district.

We have a clear and defined focus on what we must be doing to achieve our goals and this involves strong community involvement. Our plan is to bring our far reaching Bears community more together and attached with our club of today. We have a fantastic history that will never be forgotten, in fact, it will play a big role in moulding our future. However we, of course must look forward to what will make us a powerhouse for the future within the NSWRL.

We have enjoyed some fantastic game day events including, our Old Boys day and our Members Jersey day that will be back in 2020 along with a calendar of events that will drive community involvement.

A big thank you to the Norths Group for their continued support, to Luke Simmons CEO and Mark Holman Chairman and the board. The Bears community appreciates your support and we look forward to working hard together towards a big 2020.

2019 is the final year for the Thousand Hands major sponsorship. Thank you to Harry Cheung for being with the Bears for this extended period as our Major Sponsor. We have appreciated everything that you have done for us and we will continue to be friends in the future.

We will go into 2020 with a new Major Principal Sponsor, Stonemasons & Landscapers. Joe Moussa has signed for a two year term with a six figure deal that puts us in great stead. We are thankful for Joe's support and we will be working hard to ensure that Joe's experience as our Major Sponsor is a great one.

Of course to all our corporate partners at all levels it's a big thank you for your assistance and we are looking forward to growing together in 2020.

We have also launched our Bears Foundation, which is the charitable arm for the Bears focusing initially on, women in sport and our grassroots programme. This will be a major focus for our club as we push further into the community with these great programs that will bring us closer together and attached as a club.

Finally, we are nothing without our members and fans. Everyone plays a role in deciding who we are as an organisation. Your time and efforts to come to games, wear our colours and promote us every day wherever you may be, goes a long way to making us successful. It's not just about winning, it's about representing us in the community for who we are; a proud 1908 heritage club. A club that respects each other no matter what, and works together for what we all believe in.

I wish you all a safe and Happy Christmas and New Year.
I look forward to 2020 with great anticipation for what lies ahead.

Perry Lopez
Chairman



CORPORATE PARTNERS

The North Sydney Bears would like to thank and acknowledge all our Corporate Partners.



CEO REPORT

Firstly I would like to thank all the players that donned the mighty red and black in season 2019. As a club we achieved many improved outcomes and on behalf of the North Sydney Bears I would like to thank all players who contributed to this. The improved results on field was the outcome of all the hard work and planning that went into the off season from the playing groups and coaching staff. Congratulations also to all the award winners from our presentation night. We look forward to another improved season in 2020 for the whole club.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers, members, fans and corporate partners of the North Sydney Bears for your ongoing contribution, as without you we wouldn't exist.

In August of last year I was privileged to be appointed the CEO of the North Sydney District Football Club. This responsibility has come with some new opportunity which has been challenging at times, however also very rewarding. As an organisation we held many strategy sessions and meetings including meeting with stakeholders to understand where we wanted to be as a club and what was required to improve and be better on and off the field. From there we implemented a business plan that is set for the next three seasons, and is constantly being reviewed.

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Key areas that we needed addressing over the short term were:

- Recruitment and retention – we appointed Ben Gardiner in a part-time role in recruitment and football staffing in addition to supporting head coach Jason Taylor as assistant for Canterbury Cup.
- New and improved feeder club relationships and partnerships which we now have through the Asquith Magpies, Junior League and now the current NRL Premiers the Sydney Roosters.
- Appointed a home grown and experienced head coach, Jason Taylor who also has a good understanding of the Roosters football program which benefits our own program throughout.
- Enhance our junior representative program and pathways which we delivered results by just missing out on the finals series in both Harold Matthews and SG Ball.
- Focus on our community and brand and the presence we have in our catchment – Greg Florimo is in charge of this area in his new role driving our wellbeing and education of players whilst increasing our community engagement.
- Commercial area – this is an area that always needs investment and involvement to underpin the financial sustainability of the club. Some of the commercial results achieved this year are set out below.
- Launching and setting up our club foundation to allow us to have specific projects funded that are important to the clubs future success that we believe are strategically important.

Commercial Outcome - Revenue

Financial year	Membership	Merchandise	Events	Sponsorship
2019	23,573	83,924	91,080	589,962
2018	24,817	49,540	93,364	556,197
2017	6,320	33,154	53,386	369,844

2019 Membership and Merchandise

Membership has maintained its revenue with further engagement and we now have over 600 financial members with a total over 1020 members with our junior league complimentary offering. The club's vision for membership is to increase our fan base and more importantly increase loyalty and a sense of belonging through connecting with the club and the community. This will be achieved through a "Members First" mentality.

In 2020 we will be focusing on maintaining our membership through renewals, encouraging long term renewals and attracting new members.

The club's vision for merchandise is to increase sales by providing a variety of quality merchandise and accessories. Our focus will be on game day by providing a more professional look and approach to increase sales, engage fans and to use this area to drive membership.

2020 will see more themed and entertaining events on game day, and a wider presence in the community to drive not only our avid fans who are the traditional Bears fans but also the wider community. Our season launch will involve our members along with our fans as we plan to have a bigger and better event to kick off 2020. This will provide us with the opportunity to expand our audience and allow our existing members to feel they are more engaged with the Bears.

2019 Corporate Partnerships

We again acknowledge all our business partners and highlight again our major partner Thousand Hands for another supportive year. We thank founder Harry Cheung for his ongoing support of the North Sydney Bears over the past three seasons.

In 2020 we welcome a new major principal partner, Stonemasons & Landscaping and Joe Moussa who have in recent years been part of the Bears and are now stepping up to Principal Partner for the next two seasons.

This year a broad range of corporate partners supported the club however every year we need to give a special mention to the Norths Group and the support of their board led by Chairman Mark Holman and Group CEO Luke Simmons. 2019 was also our second year of the Harvey Norman Women's team who performed incredibly well and we look forward to another successful season next year.

Other major partners we would like to thank for their fantastic support in season 2019 are NSWRL, LION, J.J Lawson, Magpies Waitara, Quantum Healthcare, Sinalli, Zoom, Command 51, Mammoth Projects, Bidfood, Legacy Investment, Aon, Genuine Air, Buyrite Steel QLD, Butler Freight Services, Allied Sea Freight, DSBA, Essential Coffee and Storage King Artarmon. We look forward to partnering with you in season 2020.

2019 Marketing and Communications

In 2019 we continued our growth across our social media channels thanks to a strong presence in the digital space. We are looking to further our digital presence in 2020 which will be possible thanks to our new website that was launched in late October.

Maintaining and improving our presence in all social channels and utilising our new website will keep our stakeholders up to date and engaged throughout the year.

We will have a new "Members First" outlook on communications in 2020, ensuring that all Members are kept up to date on Club information and receive important Club announcements before the general public.

In 2018 we had 1,190 subscribers to our newsletter. In 2019 we have over 2000 subscribers. Our objectives for 2020 is to continue to build on this number by proactively engaging with the Bears community and implementing brand-awareness raising activities with the focus for 2020 being more content driven with increased engagement.

2020 Marketing and Communications Objectives:

- Over 3,000 on the newsletter database by the end of the 2020 season
- A combined social media following of over 40,000
- Building more engaging content for our social channels
- Regular and creative segments with members receiving priority viewing
- Increase game day engagement and have crowds with averages of approximately 1500

2020 Business Objectives

- Leverage the newly formed partnership with Macquarie University and the use of their fields and facilities so the club has a home training base.
- Ensure to use the profiles of Jason Taylor, Greg Florimo and other key Bears profiles to build our brand further.
- Communicate our new foundation and the opportunities around our programs that require corporate and private support.
- Create more content digitally and a more friendly online platform for communication of packages and promotional offers both in merchandise and membership.
- Engage in more community activity to increase brand presence, drive membership and merchandise sales and to encourage more fans to attend our games.
- Create an emotional connection to the Bears for Members, as a way of building the sustainability of the club.
- Increase our average crowds from 2019 to 2020 by 20%.
- Increase membership revenues to over \$30,000 and a target of a minimum of 1000 members by the end of season 2020
- Increase our merchandise sales to \$90,000 by the end of season 2020
- Maintain a strong corporate support with the opportunity to grow steadily whilst servicing professionally.

Finally, I thank all our fans for their support and feedback in season 2019. We do look forward to seeing all our fans and members for another successful and improved season in 2020. We have worked hard to improve in all areas of the business respecting the fact there is still plenty of learnings for us to improve even further.

Look forward to your support and seeing you at Bear Park in 2020!

David Perry
Chief Executive Officer



FOOTBALL REPORT

In 2019 the North Sydney District Rugby League Football Club fielded 5 teams in NSWRL competitions NSW Canterbury Cup, Harvey Norman Women's Premiership, Jersey Flegg Cup, SG Ball Cup and Harold Matthews Cup. In season 2019 we began a new 5 year partnership agreement with the Sydney Roosters RLFC which included the appointment of a new NSW Cup Head coach in Jason Taylor.

Canterbury Cup

It was great to be back at North Sydney Oval in 2019 as Head Coach of the Mighty Bears. I really enjoyed being part of the Canterbury Cup competition; which is played at a very high standard. While we are still hurting from the way we exited the competition, I believe 2019 was a successful season. A strong finish at the end of the regular season saw us finish in the top 4 after 25 rounds and we also won back the Frank Hyde Shield and the Jason Taylor Cup.

We had some impressive wins throughout the year and hopefully we provided you, the Bears' faithful, with something to cheer about. North Sydney Oval on a Sunday afternoon is still a very special place and a number of our best wins were right there at Bear Park. These wins were tempered, however, by some poor losses particularly through the middle of the season around representative time. In these matches we were able to offer Canterbury Cup debuts to some of the younger players in our pathways. In total we debuted 15 players which will be very beneficial for the club in coming seasons.

Thank you to the Sydney Roosters organisation for a great transition in year one of our partnership. This was well received by both parties and contributed strongly to the improvement in results in season in 2019.

Thank you also to the Asquith Magpies for the role played within our pathway partnership. We took some very positive steps forward in building stronger links in 2019 with more to come in 2020. Through the Magpies and Roosters we are able to offer a clear pathway for all of our local and recruited players directly through to the NRL competition.

The leadership and culture within the Bears Canterbury Cup team in 2019 was really strong. All players who pulled on a Bears jersey were extremely committed to the team. Our leaders Tom Freebairn, Max Bailey and Brad Deitz led the way in great fashion. They are great people and they love the club.

Jason Taylor
Head Coach

The 2019 Club awards:

Best And Fairest	Max Bailey
Players Player	Drew Hutchison
Coaches Award	Max Bailey
Coaches Award	Brad Deitz
Coaches Award	Tom Freebairn
Player of the Year	Tom Freebairn



2019 PATHWAYS REPORT

Harvey Norman Women's Premiership Cup

The 2019 NSWRL Harvey Norman Women's side had a tremendous season under the guidance of coach Rob Capizzi. With a number of key new recruits at the start of the season the team gelled nicely only losing 1 game in the regular season to finish equal 1st on the ladder. Unfortunately we fell short in the finals but with the second season of the HNWP the Bears are on the improve and are ready to go one step closer in 2020.

Best And Fairest	Nita Maynard
Players Player	Teuila Fotu-Moala
Best Back	Shanice Parker
Best Forward	Teuila Fotu-Moala
Coaches Award	Kirra Dibb
Player of the Year	Kirra Dibb



Jersey Flegg Cup

The Jersey Flegg team were valiant and were not disgraced, taking a couple of big scalps throughout the season. Coach Peter Palmer and his staff worked tirelessly to continue to mold and shape these players each and every week and continued to lift the energy and enthusiasm each session which is an amazing effort in a long season. In 2019 we debut a number of players who are still eligible to play under 20's in season 2020, with 17 players returning which is a great step in the right direction for this squad.

Best And Fairest	Max Altus
Players Player	Luke Hodge
Best Back	Connor Garrety
Best Forward	Lennox Whittaker
Coaches Award	Lekendrick Masoe
Player of the Year	Corey Fenning



SG Ball Cup

SG Ball had a competitive season finishing with 3 wins and 8 points in 12th position only 2 points outside the 8. Corey Fenning, Jake Preston, Dean Barnes, Malachi Matoe, Tyler Ah-Chong all progressing into the under 20s squad and playing an integral part in the back end of the Flegg season with Corey, Jake and Dean playing over 10 games each for the U20s and will be main stayers in this squad for 2020, this is a testament to Head Coach Trevor Schodel and his team for all their efforts in 2019.

Best And Fairest	Billy Pollard
Players Player	Jake Preston
Best Back	Corey Fenning
Best Forward	Dean Barnes
Coaches Award	Aman Singh



Harold Matthews Cup

The Bears Harold Matthews had the best season in a long time winning 3 games and finishing in 10th 1 game short of making the top 8. A number of these players continued to improve throughout the season under the guidance of head coach Tony Cunningham and his team a number of these players will return to the club in 2020 for SG Ball or Harold Matthews Cup again in 2020.

Best And Fairest	Siafolau Siafolau
Players Player	Siafolau Siafolau
Best Back	Tyler Vasilovski
Best Forward	Adam Taleb
Coaches Award	Aaron Kurnoth



On behalf of the football club we would like to say thank you to all of the staff who were a part of the Bears family this year, particularly head coaches Jason Taylor, Rob Capizzi, Peter Palmer, Trevor Schodel and Tony Cunningham. These men led the club with honor and also thank you to all of the staff across the coaching, performance and medical areas for looking after the players.

Many thanks to the Asquith club for their support throughout the year, we relied on several of their players throughout the year and appreciate the impact it had on their own Ron Massey, Sydney Shield and U/20's team.

Well done to the 2019 Development u/13, u/14 and u/15's teams. These teams are made up of predominately local players, and they experience a small taste of representative footy against the likes of Sydney Roosters, Balmain Tigers and Manly Sea Eagles. The regular Bears v Tamworth u/12's match against at North Sydney oval was a hit, thanks to those coaches and officials involved in the program.

Finally, on behalf of the players and staff, thank you to the fans who supported the teams on the road and at home. North Sydney Oval continues to grow again as the home of the Bears. The support of the members, the Junior League and all of our supporters on game day is so important. The volunteers around the ground and on the canteen make it that much more special.

NSW CANTERBURY CUP PLAYERS

FIRST NAME	SURNAME	GAMES	TRY	GOALS	TOTAL
Lindsay	COLLINS	6	0	0	0
Max	ALTUS	1	0	0	0
Max	BAILEY	24	4	0	16
Fletcher	BAKER	14	2	0	8
Egan	BUTCHER	6	3	0	12
Nat	BUTCHER	2	0	0	0
Joshua	CURRAN	11	1	0	4
Bradley	DEITZ	24	4	0	16
Poasa	FAAMAUSILI	8	0	0	0
Thomas	FREEBAIRN	23	7	0	28
Blake	GOODMAN	2	0	1	2
Setefano	HALA	13	1	0	4
Ryan	HALL	3	0	0	0
Drew	HUTCHISON	19	3	11	34
Matthew	IKUVALU	6	1	0	4
Eli	JACKSON	10	1	0	4
Curtis	JOHNSTON	7	4	0	16
Asu	KEPAOA	14	5	0	20
Jerry	KEY	15	3	0	12
Kenneth	KORO	1	0	0	0
Lachlan	LAM	13	4	3	22
Brock	LAMB	16	5	45	110
Bernard	LEWIS	18	10	0	40
Freddy	LUSSICK	4	1	0	4
Stanley	MALAE	1	0	0	0
Luca	MORETTI	2	0	0	0
Kieran	MOSS	24	10	0	40
Edward	MURPHY	18	3	0	12
Nicholas	O'MELEY	8	1	0	4
Kurtis	PREECE	2	0	0	0
Edenn	ROGERS-SMITH	1	0	0	0
Billy	SMITH	7	9	8	52
Magnus	STROMQUIST	1	0	0	0
Daniel	SULUKA FIFITA	8	0	0	0
Benjamin	THOMAS	13	0	0	0
Tagiolupe	TIVALU	1	0	0	0
Sione Havea	TUIPULOTU	1	0	0	0
James	TUITAHI	23	8	0	32
John	TUIVAITI	20	1	0	4
Sitili	TUPOUNIUA	5	4	0	16
Sam	VERRILLS	11	3	0	12



NSW CANTERBURY CUP RESULTS

ROUND	Opposition	Won/Loss	RESULT
1	South Sydney Rabbitohs	Lost	18--14
2	Blacktown Workers Sea Eagles	Won	32--12
3	Wentworthville Magpies	Won	21--20
4	Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs	Won	42--0
5	Newtown Jets	Lost	32--30
6	Newcastle Knights	Won	22--10
7	St George Illawarra Dragons	Lost	50--24
8	Western Suburbs Magpies	Won	18--6
10	Wentworthville Magpies	Won	34--20
11	Newcastle Knights	Lost	32--14
12	Mounties	Won	24--14
13	Penrith Panthers	Lost	32--0
14	Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs	Lost	42--16
15	New Zealand Warriors	Lost	32--10
16	Western Suburbs Magpies	Won	32--10
17	Newtown Jets	Won	22--8
18	Blacktown Workers Sea Eagles	Won	28--24
20	South Sydney Rabbitohs	Lost	31--24
21	St George Illawarra Dragons	Lost	22--18
22	New Zealand Warriors	Won	22--6
23	Penrith Panthers	Won	42--24
24	Mounties	Won	19--6
FINALS WK 1	South Sydney Rabbitohs	Lost	32--12
FINALS WK 2	Newtown Jets	Lost	30--28



JERSEY FLEGG CUP PLAYERS

First Name	Surname	Games	Try's	Goals	Total
Robert	AFU	7	0	0	0
Tyler	AH CHONG	1	0	0	0
Max	ALTUS	18	5	0	20
Dean	BARNES	12	1	0	4
Jermayne	COOK	2	0	0	0
Pita	FAULALO	6	0	0	0
Corey	FENNING	17	6	1	26
Potusa	FUILALA	13	0	0	0
Connor	GARRETY	19	3	38	88
Harrison	GERAGHTY	7	1	0	4
D'Arcy	HARDMAN	2	0	0	0
Luke	HODGE	18	0	0	0
William	LAWSON	16	0	0	0
Joseph	LOS'E	5	0	0	0
Lekendrick	MASOE	9	1	0	4
Malachi	MATOE	3	0	0	0
Mason	MCCARTHY	16	4	0	16
Arthur	MELHAM	6	0	0	0
Jonathan	MITSIAS	15	7	0	28
Jacob	PRESTON	12	3	0	12
Adam	RIZK	7	0	0	0
Jackson	ROHWEDER	13	2	0	8
Ali	SAAD	15	3	0	12
Sean	SABUTEY	17	5	0	20
Jubilee	SOLOA	20	3	0	12
Thomas	STEADMAN	11	2	0	8
Braeden	STEWART-THOMAS	3	2	0	8
George	SUKANAIVALU	2	0	0	0
Dante	TALIAI	1	0	0	0
Tyrone	TAUKAMO	4	0	0	0
Sosaia	TEAKARAANGA	18	0	0	0
Mark	TEPU-SMITH	1	0	0	0
Floyd	TIGHE	1	0	0	0
Ryan	WEATHERALL	3	0	0	0
Lennox	WHITTAKER	19	6	0	24



JERSEY FLEGG CUP RESULTS

ROUND	Opposition	WIN/LOSS	Result
2	Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks	Lost	24--0
3	South Sydney Rabbitohs	Draw	30--30
4	Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs	Lost	38--10
5	Wests Tigers	Lost	22--14
6	Newcastle Knights	Lost	40--20
7	St George Illawarra Dragons	Lost	42--4
8	South Sydney Rabbitohs	Lost	26--12
9	Canberra Raiders	Lost	44--10
12	Sydney Roosters	Lost	44--12
13	Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles	Lost	30--16
14	Victoria Thunderbolts	Lost	24--22
15	Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks	Lost	32--14
16	New Zealand Warriors	Lost	26--24
18	Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles	Won	36--20
19	Sydney Roosters	Lost	42--16
20	Victoria Thunderbolts	Won	17--16
21	St George Illawarra Dragons	Lost	28--16
22	Newcastle Knights	Lost	24--10
23	Penrith Panthers	Lost	56--6
24	Parramatta Eels	Lost	40--18



HARVEY NORMAN WOMENS PREMIERSHIP PLAYERS

First Name	Surname	Games	Try's	Goals	Total
Hariata	AHIPENE	5	0	0	0
Nicole	BACKHOUSE	11	1	0	4
Claudia	BELL	10	3	1	14
Kirra	DIBB	9	1	18	40
Raevyn	DIXON	7	0	0	0
Teuila	FOTU-MOALA	10	3	0	12
Sabrina	GREEN	11	1	0	4
Hannah	GRIFFITHS	5	0	0	0
Sera	KAUKIONO	10	5	0	20
Caitlin	KEEFE	1	0	0	0
Lexi	KIRIWI	10	3	0	12
Chloe	LEAUPEPE	5	2	0	8
Shenai	LENDILL	10	1	0	4
Josephine	MAEJIIRS	10	0	0	0
Nita	MAYNARD	10	3	0	12
Brittany	MERLO	3	0	0	0
Aliti	NAMOCE SAGANO	7	0	0	0
Shanice	PARKER	8	4	0	16
Isabella	PARKMAN	1	0	0	0
Jordan	PARSONAGE	2	0	0	0
Pier	PRITCHARD	7	2	0	8
Tasmin	SHEPPARD	7	0	0	0
Lacey	SHIELDS	9	0	0	0
Shontelle	STOWERS	6	3	0	12
Elizabeth	TAVITA	4	0	0	0
Matalena	WILSON	3	1	0	4
Stephanie-Kay	ZAKARIJA	2	0	0	0



HARVEY NORMAN WOMENS PREMIERSHIP RESULTS

ROUND	Opposition	WIN/LOSS	Result
1	Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks	Won	14--10
2	Wentworthville Magpies	Won	20--14
3	CRL Newcastle	Won	10--8
4	South Sydney Rabbitohs	Won	16--6
5	Wests Tigers	Won	18--6
6	Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs	Won	18--6
7	Mounties	Won	20--14
8	St Marys	Lost	8--6
9	Penrith Brothers	Won	Forfeit
10	Cabramatta	Won	20--8
11	Bye		
FINALS WK1	CRL Newcastle	Lost	22--12
FINALS WK2	Wests Tigers	Lost	22--16



SG BALL PLAYERS

First Name	Surname	Games	Try's	Goals	Total
Tyler	AH CHONG	7	1	0	4
Taeaomaninoole	AILAO	5	1	0	4
Becker	AKL	3	0	0	0
Dean	BARNES	8	3	0	12
Aiden	BROPHY	1	0	0	0
Anthony	BUCCA	2	0	0	0
Luke	BUTFIELD	6	3	2	16
Ali	CHRARA	8	1	0	4
Carlin	DEANE	4	1	0	4
Ethan	FALETOI	6	1	0	4
Corey	FENNING	8	4	16	48
Taine	GRIFFITHS	5	1	0	4
Aj	IOSEFA	6	0	0	0
Tristan	KINI	6	0	0	0
Keelin	KRONAST	1	0	0	0
Kalah	LEMUSU	2	0	0	0
Jackson	MADDEN	4	0	0	0
Malachi	MATOE	5	1	0	4
Augustino	MAU'U	4	1	0	4
Kane	MIRABILE-KUMAR	2	0	0	0
Billy	POLLARD	6	1	0	4
Jesse	POULSEN	6	3	0	12
Jacob	PRESTON	8	2	0	8
Aman	SINGH	8	0	0	0
Luke	VEA	2	1	0	4
John Wesley	VUNGA	5	0	0	0
Ryan	WEATHERALL	6	3	0	12
Brock	WELLS	2	0	0	0



SG BALL RESULTS

Round	Opposition	WIN/LOSS	Result
1	Bye		
2	Penrith Panthers	LOST	34-16
3	Canberra Raiders	LOST	18--8
4	Illawarra Steelers	LOST	54-8
5	West Coast Pirates	WON	52-12
6	St George Dragons	WON	16--4
7	Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks	WON	26--12
8	Balmain Tigers	LOST	36-6
9	Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs	LOST	50-16



HAROLD MATTHEWS CUP PLAYERS

First Name	Surname	Games	Try's	Goals	Total
Christian	ABAL	5	2	0	8
Trent	BARTON-SHAW	3	0	0	0
Blake	CUNNINGHAM	3	0	0	0
Jordan	DICKSON	1	0	0	0
Corey	FRIDAY	2	0	0	0
Joseph	HAYEK	2	0	0	0
Deon	IRO	8	1	0	4
Zac	KNIGHT	6	1	2	8
Aaron	KURNOTH	8	0	1	2
Joshua	LEIFI	8	0	0	0
Tye	LEYSHON	7	5	0	20
JOHN	LOLOHEA	1	0	0	0
Troy	MARSTERS	4	2	0	8
Rowan	MCINTOSH	5	0	0	0
Antonio	NAMOLI	8	2	0	8
Damian	NATI	6	0	10	20
Samuel	NOLLAND	8	0	0	0
Jodeci	POLUTELE	5	1	0	4
Siafolau	SIAFOLAU	7	5	0	20
Ahmad	SKAF	8	0	1	2
Adam	TALEB	8	0	0	0
Siale	TOETUU	4	1	0	4
Bush	TOMA LOI	1	0	0	0
Tyler	VASILOVSKI	8	4	0	16
Sonasi	VAVE	3	0	0	0
Samuel	WOOLLETT	7	2	0	8



HAROLD MATTHEWS CUP RESULTS

Round	Opposition	Win/Loss	Result
1	Bye		
2	Penrith Panthers	Lost	28--12
3	Canberra Raiders	Won	26--12
4	Illawarra Steelers	Lost	28--4
5	Manly Warringah Sea Eagles	Lost	58--10
6	St George Dragons	Won	38--4
7	Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks	Won	18--12
8	Balmain Tigers	Lost	18--14
9	Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs	Lost	36--10



Junior League

The 2019 Junior League season culminated in an amazing display of teamwork, determination and sportsmanship at the Grand Final Day held at historic North Sydney Oval on Saturday 31st August. With grand final games held in all age groups from U9s to U16s, the finest teams of our district battled it out for the highly coveted title of Premiers.

North Sydney Junior League is again the fastest growing Junior League in NSW, with good growth in participation numbers for the third consecutive year. Since 2015 our playing numbers have increased from 749 to 1095 in season 2019, that's an increase of 31.5% in 5 seasons. Hills Hawks almost doubled their player registrations in 2019 alone and Lane Cove Tigers maintained an impressive retention rate of 75%. With the support of the district, our volunteer run junior league clubs have been defying the odds of youth sport participation.

Following the successful introduction of the North Sydney Bears inaugural Harvey Norman Women's Premiership side in 2018, our Junior League has continued the growth of female participation in the North Sydney region going from 25 to 115 players in one year. This female growth came in both tackle and tag format of rugby league and is set to continue into 2020. Asquith Magpies welcomed their first all-female U16's tackle team to the NSWRL combined conference and four of our junior league clubs, Ku-ring-gai Cubs, North Sydney Brothers, Pennant Hills Stags and Willoughby Roos formed girls league tag teams in the U11s, U13s and U15s competitions.

There were a number of special milestones in 2019 for our district, including the Ku-ring-gai Cubs celebrating their 5 year anniversary. To commemorate this achievement the club commissioned leading indigenous artist, Vicki Golding, to produce a unique artwork that pays tribute to the local Durrumurragal people and was featured on every player's custom designed jersey. The artwork also reflects the culture of the club as a place where children, parents, coaches and volunteers can come together to connect, communicate, train and most importantly play the great game of rugby league.

With the sad passing, this year of much appreciated and highly dedicated junior league life member, Fred Thompson, the district was proud to continue his memory in the U11 Grand Final Fred Thompson Memorial Shield. The 2019 shield was won by a strong Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Stags team and we look forward to continuing this tradition for many more years to come.

With the start of Summer, we launched our second year of the fast paced and extremely fun Bears Blues Tag held at Pennant Hills High School. The competition is open to mixed teams across U10s & U12s and began on Monday 4th November. Summer tag competitions are the perfect way to keep your footy fitness in the off-season, make new footy friends and have a heap of fun doing it plus is a useful tool at recruiting and retaining junior league players for the Winter competition.

2020 is set to be a big year again for North Sydney District Junior Rugby League with a number of new projects and exclusive initiatives planned. Alongside the North Sydney Bears, our juniors continue to thrive



WELLBEING EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY



The NRL, NSWRL and the North Sydney Club are committed to providing support, education and guidance to our young players, helping them to be the best players and people they can be. There is a real focus in the game on player wellbeing, career and education and every player is to be a part of the program and have access to 1 on 1 support. The Bears had over 120 players contracted this season, ranging from 14 – 35 years old, men and women, and it was important that the clubs helps them to be fulfilled, healthy and ready to play.

The role will also see me adopt the same principles to our community, the Bears community, connecting and caring and bringing people together. Rugby League can be an ice breaker in so many environments, and I will be working with not only our identified family but also within the Norths Collective and the North Sydney Junior Rugby League. My goal is to bring North Sydney oval to life, celebrating with our community partners on game day and supporting the Bears.

Greg Florimo
Wellbeing, Education and Community Manager

Wellbeing and Education

All players were involved in the NSWRL Wellbeing and Education program in 2019. The program consisted of compulsory education for players around concussion, anti doping, respectful relations, drugs and alcohol, digital technology, mental health and career wise. The Canterbury Cup and Jersey Flegg players completed a series of questionnaires over the year to measure wellbeing, with follow up interviews and conversations about life outside of football. Those players were also required to be engaged in either career or study, with the NSWRL ensuring a no work, no study, no play approach.

Thank you to our W&E committee consisting of Mark Dowel, Dr Sam Pomeroy, Peter Sharp, Rob Capizzi, David Perry, Shontelle Stowers, Brad Deitz and Glen Jefferys.

NRL WELLBEING MODEL



Community

Bears in the Community

The Bears were active in the Rugby League Community in 2019, with many players attending Junior League club training over the year. It didn't matter that our players aren't the superstars they see on TV, the kids just loved having the Bears around and were eager to learn and train. We visited all of the North Sydney Junior League clubs, Berowra Wallabies, Asquith Magpies, Pennant Hills/Cherrybrook Stags, Hills Hawks, Ku-ring-gai Cubs, Lane Cove Tigers, Willoughby Roos and North Sydney Brothers, with players taking time off their busy work and training schedule to help out.

We also had some of the Bears current players sit the NRL Club Coaches Course with the aim of going back to their junior clubs and coaching. Players from the Jersey Flegg, Canterbury Cup and the Women's team all getting involved with the North Sydney Junior League, lending their expertise and time to help develop the young players of today.



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Old Bears

The Old Bears day at North Sydney oval was a great success this season, with ex players attending to support the Canterbury Cup team. This year there were close to 100 medals handed out to ex players and families of past players at this event, with the families of famous names such as Sullivan, Ambrum and Irvine coming along. The Old Bears were there to form a guard of honour for the players and witnessed a fine victory over the Bulldogs.

The annual reunion was held at Norths in October, as many of the ex players and officials gathered to celebrate their time at the Bears.

Crows Nest Festival

This was the first year that all of Norths Collective – Norths, Norths Fitness, The Alcott Lane Cove, The Greens North Sydney and North Sydney Bears were all under one stall.

Barney the Bear enjoyed the day playing pass the ball with kids, Bears players Brad Deitz and James Tuitahi and coach Jason Taylor. We had a lot of visitors to the Bears stall buying merchandise and membership for 2020 and just generally interested in chatting about the upcoming season. It was great to see the excitement and interest out there in the Community for the Mighty Bears.



Norths Collective 2019 ClubGRANTS

A presentation was held at Norths in September launching the Norths Collective 2019 ClubGRANTS, with recipients attending receiving their “Norths Collective 2019 Community Partner” plaque.

Norths Collective clubGRANTS:

Early Education Inc	Early intervention for children with a disability
Link Housing	Enhancing lives through community housing
Northside Community Forum Ltd	Disability service providers and home care services
Phoenix House Youth Services	Support services and programs to young people and their families
Kidsnest Crows Nest Occasional Care Inc	Child care centre
St George Community housing Ltd	Community housing support
Taldamunde Youth Services Inc	Youth services
Gidget Foundation Australia	Supporting perinatal anxiety and depression
Delta Society Australia	Therapy dogs for hospitals, aged care homes etc
Learning Links	Helping kids learn
Healthy Kids Association inc	Promoting and influencing healthy food choices for children
Society of St Vincent De Paul	Assist people experiencing poverty and inequality
Kids Like Brett	Purchase lifesaving medical equipment for children's hospitals
Royal North Shore Hospital Ladies Committee	Purchase up to date medical equipment



EVENTS

Club Events:

March 8 - Season Launch

Our Season Launch began a great year at North Sydney Leagues with around 270 people attending including all teams – SG Ball, Harold Matthews, Women's team, Jersey Flegg and Canterbury Cup. Family members also came along.



March 11 - Football Induction

This season club legend Jason Taylor returned to the fold. Training had been well underway but a special session was organised for the Canterbury Cup players including Old Boys and Directors at North Sydney Oval and the Greens. The boys were given a view of the change rooms and walk on North Sydney Oval followed by a presentation from Jason and some of the Old Boys about the history and the club greats that made our foundation club. The event ended with a group dinner at the Greens.

September 10 – Bears Annual Awards Night

Held at Norths the Annual Awards Night had over 150 people attending where players were presented with their respective accolades for the 2019 season. (Results – Football section of report.)

October 4 - Old Bears Reunion

A great turn out for the Old Bears Annual Reunion in the Ken Irvine Room at Norths. An evening spent celebrating the history and achievements of the North Sydney District Rugby League Football Club and bringing together mates to rekindle old friendships.

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Key Game Day Events – North Sydney Oval

April 7 – (Channel 9 Game)

First Home game at North Sydney Oval – Old Boys Day

In front of over 2,000 fans, the North Sydney Bears celebrated Old Bears Day as the Bears took on the Bulldogs. Medals were presented to former Bears players and families as they formed a guard of honour for the players to run through prior to kick off.

May 6 – (Channel 9 Game)

Bears v Tigers – Jason Taylor Cup

Bears were victorious over the Western Suburbs Magpies winning the Jason Taylor Cup for the club.

July 14

Bears v Jets – Frank Hyde Shield

Bears were victorious over the Jets winning the Frank Hyde Shield returning it to the club's trophy cupboard.

July 21

Bears v Blacktown Workers – Members Appreciation Round

A great day for the club as we celebrated a year with increased member numbers for the season. Members turned up wearing their special 2019 jersey with their names on the jersey as they formed a guard of honour for the boys prior to kick off.



August 4

Bears v Souths - Junior League Function and Appreciation Round

Corporate Events

September 5 - Business to Business Breakfast at Greens with Zoom

The annual official Business to Business Networking “Breakfast with the Bears” was held at The Greens North Sydney. This was co-hosted by corporate partners Zoom in association with Business North Shore.

Around 100 guests attended including Trent Robinson and CEO Joe Kelly from the Roosters, Shontelle Stowers and Kirra Dibb from our women’s team, club past greats John Gray, Bruce Walker and Greg Florimo, North Sydney Bears Directors, local businesses and partners of the Bears.

October 3 - Annual Sportsmans Grand Final Lunch

Our annual sports luncheon this year celebrated everything Grand Final. Number 1 ticket holder and Channel 9 presenter James Bracey hosted the event reliving the last 30 years.

Past greats; Raiders Brad Clyde, Laurie Daley and Tigers Ben Elias and Steve Roach relived what is often referred to as the greatest grand final ever. The 430 guests and sold out event were entertained by insights and stories from that September afternoon back in 1989.

1989 North Sydney Bears Reserve Grade Premiers also attended with Coach Steve Martin and Captain Gary Maguire having a chat with James about that great win against Parramatta. Team members Barry Mulquin, Mark Soden, Kevin Thompson, Peter McPhail, David Alexander, Kelly Egan also came along catching up with old playing mates Greg Florimo, Jason Taylor, Don McKinnon, Gavin Jones, Phil Ritchie, and Jim Stafford.

Another highlight was James interviewing Hannah Hollis, Fox Presenter and Jason Taylor discussing the 2019 Grand Final tips.

November 29 - Corporate Golf Day

Over 100 Corporate Partners and friends of the Bears attended the annual Golf Day at Northbridge Golf Club with the very first hole in one happening during play.



