



## **AquaTaxi Riwaka Rugby Club Newsletter 5 May 2016**

### **Hello and welcome to our May Newsletter!**

It's been a great month for Riwaka rugby with JAB rugby kicking off and Senior Rugby well under way.

It's a bit early to see how are JAB teams are doing however, our Senior teams are both doing well, with Aqua Taxi Riwaka currently 2<sup>nd</sup> on the table and Kahurangi mid table.

### **Club Day**

We had a successful club day on the 21<sup>st</sup>, which involved rugby from Under 6 grade right up to Division 1. From a personal perspective, it was great to see all the JAB teams running around in the morning, enjoying themselves playing rugby. It reminds me why I got involved in volunteering at the local rugby club.

A big thanks to all those involved in organising the day, particularly Jo Sturgeon and Karen Sixtus. I'm sure the success of the day made it all worthwhile.

### **The 'Politics' of Kahurangi**

There have been a few developments in our Kahurangi relationship over the last month. We are fully behind the Kahurangi team and concept, as we see it as the best way to provide Division 1 rugby for our players and progress their careers whilst remaining at Riwaka. To move the relationship ahead onto more stable ground, we decided it was time to review the current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) we have with Huia Club.

The MOU provides rules and guidelines on how Kahurangi should operate. We feel a mutually agreed MOU which aligns with Tasman Rugby Union Policy is crucial for the overall success of the side.

We drafted some changes to the existing MOU and submitted this to Huia Club for consideration. Unfortunately, there appears to be little common ground between the two clubs and we are now going back and reviewing the document once again. We hope to resolve these issues in a positive manner over the next few weeks, so watch this space.

### **100 Club**

Tickets for the 100 Club are now for sale, with draws starting at the next home game.

100 Club members pay \$100 to become a member of the club and also go in the draw to win cash back. Half the money taken in memberships is returned to members in the form of winnings. So if you want to support our club and also be in the chance to win cash, go to <http://www.riwakarugbyclub.nz/membership.html> or email me at [admin@riwakarugbyclub.nz](mailto:admin@riwakarugbyclub.nz)

## RUGBY

### Division 1 (Kahurangi)

From head coach Chris Binns:

*Kahurangi suffered another close loss over in Blenheim on Saturday, but have had some stand out performances over the last month or so. The loose forward trio of Aiden Graham, Hana Corbett-Burrows and Paea Taulanga are starting to work very effectively together and the backline rockstars of Andrew Knewstubb, Michael Wells, Stein Schreiber and Brad Tunnickliffe are starting to now run with some freedom and positivity.*

*It is going to be nice now though coming back to play the last round of the Nelson Bays competition, that always adds a bit more of the competitive spirit against our closer neighbours. Injuries aside we are starting to build for a final tilt on the competition with only 2 home games left, 1 at Sports Park (11 June) and 1 at Riwaka (9 July) hopefully we can gather plenty of extra support to help us get the job done over the next 6 weeks.*

### The Division 2 (AquaTaxi Riwaka)

Huge congratulations to our Division 2 team with their comprehensive 46-10 win over Huia on Saturday. Even in the driving rain and cold, a large crowd turned up to watch the annual Battle of the Bridge. Riwaka were behind early with a penalty to Huia. From that point on it was one way traffic, with the more experienced Riwaka team showing greater commitment and passion to take the win.

Our coaches, Matt and Tito, put the win down to more desire to win and following the game plan.

From here, the team has a very good chance to qualify for the finals; so let's get behind them and show our support. Their next home game is against Murch/Tap on 18 June.

### JAB

There is no rugby on this weekend for our senior teams however JAB rugby is on. Our Under 11 team plays Huia at 5.30 pm on Thursday evening at Cooks Recreation Ground and our Under 9, Under 7 and Under 6 White teams play at Cooks Recreation Ground on Saturday morning. It's great to see these kids play, so with no other local rugby on this coming weekend, why not go and see them play. You won't be disappointed.

That's about it for this month. Hope to see you at one of the home games soon.

See the draw here <http://www.riwakarugbyclub.nz/draws-for-riwaka-rugby-club.html>

Kind Regards  
Nick Fry | Chairman

