



# THAMES VALLEY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

PO BOX 245, PAEROA 3600. PH 07 862 6352 FAX 07 862 7677

## TVRFU Weekly Newsletter (9th September 2020)

### COLLEGE RUGBY

The Mercury Bay Area School U15s continued their juggernaut of a season with a powerful 32-15 victory over their nearest rivals Paeroa College 32-15. This secures Mercury Bay Area School the top position on the points table, and also the Frank Treanor Trophy for winning the round-robin. Mercury Bay Area School shut down the big Paeroa College ball carriers with strong defence, as well as running to a strong structure on attack which was too much for their oppositions defence. Openside flanker Marcel Campbell and Number 8 Tyrese Melde toiled away hard for Mercury Bay Area School with strong ball carries, good cleanouts at the breakdown and damaging defence. Waihi College U15s booked in 3rd place after their comprehensive 101-19 demolition over Whangamata Area School U15s in their local derby game. Waihi played a fantastic structure of rugby on attack led by their first five eight Max Baker who controlled the game well. Outside him was livewire centre Kellim Ropiha who was illusive on attack and distributed to his outsides well. Prop Joseph Frew also showed some impressive toe, and worked hard around the paddock. For Whangamata, Number 8 Jack McNeilage was an absolute workhorse for the entire match, making cover tackles, hitting breakdowns with heat and running relentlessly at the Waihi College defence line. In the other games, Thames High School booked themselves a Top 4 spot and a Semi-Final after a high scoring 46-34 win over Te Aroha College. And finally, Hauraki Plains College Black beat their school rivals Hauraki Plains College White 48-12 to claim classroom bragging rights this week. Unfortunately this wasn't enough to propel them into the Top 4, however they will have a great chance to win the plate section now.

In the 1st XV competition, Hauraki Plains College 1st XV beat Paeroa College 1st XV 43-14 to seal a Grand Final spot next week and grab themselves a week off to rest. This also added to their trophy cabinet as they won the Alistair Cochrane Trophy for winning the Major Semi Final. Mercury Bay 1st XV tipped Whangamata Area School 1st XV 10-7 in a low scoring battle of the coast. This sneaks Mercury Bay Area School into a Semi-Final this week against Paeroa College, and as they have their tails up after a few strong performances it wouldn't surprise me if they caused an upset win this weekend. Finally, Waihi College defeated Hauraki Plains College 2nd XV 31-5 to keep their season alive, as well as ending Hauraki Plains College 2nd XV's season.

Last night we had the 1st XV Girls Final at the Paeroa Domain in an epic game of Rugby. Mercury Bay Area School (**pictured**) were too good for their Hauraki



Plains College opposition winning 41-12, showing a lot of skill and awareness in their victory. Mercury Bay Area School were out of the blocks early, holding a lot of possession and were rewarded with a 19-5 halftime lead. In the second half, HPC chucked everything at MBAS but their defence stayed strong and were rewarded with 3 or 4 quick tries to open the game up. Lock Anna Stevenson was awarded the MVP for a standout performance with her damaging ball carries and aggressive tackles, as well as impressive leadership qualities. Centre Macy Costello was also sharp with her ability to break tackles and brush off defenders at ease, as well as making a few crucial turnovers. MBAS will now travel to Taupo!

### U15 Boy; DRAW:

Saturday 12th Sep	Mercury Bay Area School	vs	Thames High School	Lyon Park, Whitianga	10.15am Start	Rick Rennie
Saturday 12th Sep	Waihi College	vs	Paeroa College	Waihi Athletic Rugby Club	10.15am Start	Aaron Miller
Saturday 12th Sep	Hauraki Plains College Black	vs	Hauraki Plains College White	Hauraki Plains College	10.15am Start	Stu Pinny
Saturday 12th Sep	Te Aroha College	vs	Whangamata Area School	Te Aroha College	10.15am Start	Justin Randall

### 1st XV Boy; DRAW:

Saturday 12th Sep	Paeroa College	vs	Mercury Bay Area School	Paeroa College	11.30am Start	Simon Craggs
Saturday 12th Sep	Whangamata Area School	vs	Waihi College	Whangamata Rugby Club	11.30am Start	Ryan Rogers
Saturday 12th Sep	Hauraki Plains College 1st XV	vs	<b>BYE</b> to the Grand Final			

## UNDER 16s

The Thames Valley Rugby Football Union are excited to announce that there will be an U16 Representative team taking the field this year, at a Northern Regions Tournament in Cambridge on Sunday 18th October.

There will be a trial on Tuesday 22nd September, 6.30pm at the Paeroa Domain.

The team will be coached by Wok Mathis (Head Coach), Matt Walker (Assistant Coach) and Shaun McKain (Assistant Coach).

# TRIAL



## DID YOU KNOW?

### National Representative; Associated with Thames Valley Rugby

Name	Number	Years in Thames Valley	Comments
<b>Players</b>			
Ned Barry	<b>397</b>	Coach 1956	• 1932-34 All Black
Harry Rowley (Netherton)	<b>516</b>	Representative 1951	• 1949 All Black
Bob O'Dea (Patetonga)	<b>562</b>	Representative 1951/52/53/55	• 1953/54 All Black

Kevin Barry (Mercury Bay) (Paeroa West)	<b>623</b>	Representative 1954 1962-67	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1962, 1963/4 All Black</li> </ul>
Warren Gatland	<b>892</b>	Assistant Coach 1995/96	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1998/89/90 All Black</li> <li>Also coach of Ireland, Wales and British and Irish Lions</li> </ul>
Graeme Purvis (Waihi Athletic)	<b>899</b>	Representative 1993	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1989/90/91/92/93 All Black</li> </ul>
Frank Bunce	<b>917</b>	Assistant Coach 2014-2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1992/93/94/95/96/97 All Black</li> </ul>
Carl Hoeft (Cobras)	<b>971</b>	Representative 1993/94/95/96	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1998/99/2000/2003 All Black</li> </ul>
Keith Robinson (Cobras)	<b>1021</b>	Representative 1998/99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2002/2004/2006/2007 All Black</li> </ul>
<b>Referees</b>			
Keith Lawrence		Provincial Referee 1971/72	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1984-1991 International referee – 13 tests.</li> </ul>
<b>Selector Coach</b>			
Ross Cooper		Representative 1980-83 Coach 1988-90 2006/07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1995-98 All Black Selector Coach</li> </ul>
Rafael Ibanez (France)		Resource Coach 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1995-2007 France. 98 tests.</li> </ul>

In addition to the above, the following Black Ferns did their schooling within the Thames Valley

**Lauren Engebretsen** – Hauraki Plains College

**Renee Wickliffe** – Paeroa College

**Eloise Blackwell** – Mercury Bay Area School

## UPDATES AT TVRFU HEADQUARTERS

The TVRFU Staff have been taking some pride in their history & heritage in the TVRFU Office and

Paeroa Domain. Thames Valley Swampfox teams from 1952—2019 have been streamed around the office (albeit a few missing) as well as a legends wall around the changing room at the Paeroa Domain, something coach Leon Holden introduced in 2003!







## UNDER 23s



The Thames Valley U23 team was named on Monday with an exciting 30-man squad named for their upcoming campaign. Well done to the following players;

**Forwards:** *Brooklin Toia, Trinity McQueen, Jade Church, Bryson Williams, Ben Stephens, Scott Day, Joe Downey, Joshua Barker, Torrin Campbell, Troy Leef, Owain Leemings, Liam Black, Oshea Te Oka-Cox, Shontayne Dare, AJ Mead, Jeremy Blair, Ryan Leopold.*

**Backs:** *Leroy Neels, Lamaono Vea, Rhys Manning, Zac Stephens, Hayden Mulgrave, Kahn Caddy, Boston Hale, Marcus Save, Joel Taylor, Sergio Schular, Sione Vakapuna Etoni, Tane Wilson.*

Friday 2nd Oct	Thames Valley U23s	vs	Bay of Plenty U20s	Rotorua Stadium	Kick off TBC
Saturday 17th Oct	Thames Valley U23s	vs	Taranaki U20s	Te Kuiti	Kick off TBC
Saturday 31st Oct	Thames Valley U23s	vs	Waikato U20s	Thames	Kick off TBC
Saturday 7th Nov	Thames Valley u23s	vs	Counties Manukau U20s	Pukekohe	Kick off TBC

## RDO'S COACH OF THE WEEK

This weeks RDO Coach of the Week goes to Mercury Bay Area School U15s coach **Mike Campbell**. Mike attended the DRC Level 2 Coaching Course earlier in the year in Whangamata and was a real asset to the course, with a great player knowledge and translating it into coaching. Mike has put this into place with his Mercury Bay Area School team this year, transforming them into favourites for the U15s title whilst playing an attractive brand of Rugby.

Mike has played a handful of games for the Thames Valley Swampfoxes, and with this experience it will definitely rub off on the players he coaches.

All the best for the rest of 2020 Mike!



## RDO'S PLAYER OF THE WEEK

**Max Baker** was in outstanding form on Saturday in his teams comprehensive win against Whangamata Area School. His command from first five eight for a youngster was impressive, with his ability to control the game and direct their attack. He consistently communicated with his forwards and backs which enabled them to build phases and break the opposition defence.

Max was a member of the successful Thames Valley U14s last year, and has clearly taking some great learnings out of that campaign.

Max is also the current Captain for the Waihi College U15s.

Good luck for the Semi Final this weekend Max.



## OTHER NEWS

**Friday Morning Rugby Chat:** Live on our Facebook at 9.05am every Friday talking everything Rugby!

**Women's Rugby:** THURSDAY 6PM WAIHI ATHLETIC—ALL girls over 16 are welcome. Get in touch with Head Coach Josh Kewell if you have any questions or queries; 0220293790.



**Thames Valley Rugby on Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/thamesvalleyrugbydevelopment/>

**Primary School Visits:** If you would like Scott to come and deliver any form of rugby at your school, flick me an email on [scott@tvrfu.co.nz](mailto:scott@tvrfu.co.nz) and get in touch. More the merrier!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Secondary School Finals Day:** Saturday 19th September, Paeroa Domain.

**FINALS TIME!**

**Youth Rugby Board AGM:** Monday 28th September, 7.00pm, TVRFU Office.

**Secondary Schools 7s:** Wednesday 21st October, Paeroa Domain.

**TVRFU Club 7s:** Saturday 14th November, Waihi Athletic Rugby Club.

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

If any of our Thames Valley Rugby supporters have a photo that they think could be worthy of our 'photo of the week' for the 'Foxhole' newsletter – please send it to [scott@tvrfu.co.nz](mailto:scott@tvrfu.co.nz).

### Photos:

How awesome to see 42 Secondary School Girl Rugby Players taking the field yesterday at the Paeroa Domain. The skill level was fantastic and we are hoping that these girls can come and attend the Thames Valley Womens Vixens trainings starting on Thursday night, 6.00pm at Waihi Athletic.



"Keeping Rugby in The Valley stronger together"

