

I am pleased to present my 2021 Annual report for the Bond University Rugby Club (Bond University RC). The club continues to be the Club of choice for male and female rugby players on the Gold Coast striving to reach their individual rugby aspirations and to develop these in a holistic and supportive team environment.

2021 was the Club's most successful year in its short history, with 4 out of our 6 Premier teams competing in the <u>final's series</u>, our AON Women's 7s team crowned National Champions, and our Men's 7s team winning the University Nationals Championships and the inaugural State Club 7s Championships. From these successes, we had a number of representative honours across all programs, including one third of the QLD Super W squad comprising players from Bond University RC, and two players achieving Olympic Games selection in Rugby 7s.

CLUB PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

AON Women's 7s: <u>National University Champions 2021</u> Men's 7s Program: QLD Club 7s State Champions 2021 1st Grade Men: 5th 1st Grade Women: Final's 4th 2nd Grade Men: Final's 3rd 3rd Grade Men: 6th Colts 1: Final's 4th Colts 2: Final's 4th Coomera Crushers Women: Grand Final 2nd

The success and continued growth and depth of our programs has enabled the Bond University RC to strengthen the relationships and provide support to the Gold Coast and Districts Rugby Union (GCDRU). Bond University RC had a record 79 dual registered players with GCDRU Clubs, which in turn supported the depth of our Women's XV's and Colts development programs while assisting in the improvement of the GCDRU competition.

This year Bond University RC had 331 Registrations, including 150 Men's senior players, 46 Women's senior players, 24 Women's AON7s players, 50 staff and as well as many <u>volunteers</u>. I am proud also to acknowledge that more than 50 of these player registrations were <u>Bond University Students</u> which is important for our long-term strategic engagement plan.

REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS

During the year, our continual focus on the development of our coaches and an investment in a program by "<u>Leading</u> <u>Teams</u>" to focus on our club culture, enabled us to develop our club leaders, staff and players which led to an admirable representative selection from players at the Club.

Wallabies: James Slipper

Wallaroos: Alleena Greenhalgh, Lucy Lockhart

Australia u20s: Dion Samuela, George Blake, Zane Nonggorr, Wilson Blyth

Australian Schoolboys President's XV: Joshua Radcliffe, Tai Dowling

Super Rugby: Alex Mafi, Zane Nonggorr, Angus Blyth, Jack Winchester (Force debutant), James Slipper (Brumbies), QLD Super W: Alleena Greenhalgh, Lucy Lockhart, Caity Costello, Carola Kreis, Diaz Seumanutafa, Emily Bass, Madi Schuck, Melanie Wilkes, Sophie holyman, Grace Qaranivalu, Ana Drotini.

Men's Reds Academy: Spencer Jeans, <u>Wilson Blyth</u>, Dion Samuela, George Blake, Hamish Roberts *Men's QLD u19s*: Aisea Aholelei, Tyrone Albertyn, Toby Mayes, Nik Mitchell, Ezekiel Stewart, Ethyn Martin, Tai Dowling.



Olympic Games Tokyo 2020: Maddison Levi, Charlotte Caslick

Australian women's National 7s Contracts: Teagan Levi, Maddison Levi

Women's AON7s All Stars: Emily Bass, Maddison Levi, Sophie Holyman, Teagan Levi

Women's 7s Oceania Team: Emily Bass

Women's QAS Academy: Alleena Greenhalgh, Lucy Lockhart, <u>Caity Costello</u>, Destiny Brill, Faythe Manera, Carola Kreis, Diaz Seumanutafa, Emily Bass, <u>Melanie Wilkes</u>, Sophie Holyman, Ana Drotini, Teagen Levi, Miah O'Sullivan, Georgia Sims.

Men's Club Rugby 7s: University National Winners, Fiji Day 7s Winners, <u>ECP Gold Coast 7s Winners</u>, Club State Championship Winners and losing 2 games in 5 tournaments.

SPONSORS

Our Club would not operate without the generous support of our sponsors. In this regard I would like to acknowledge our major Sponsors, Land Rover Gold Coast, Kennards Hire, ECP Asset Management and Morgan's. All considerable contributors and supporters of our Club. I would also like to acknowledge Cutter & Buck, Local search, New Balance, Webninja, AC Fitouts, ASAP Mobile Mechanics, Maries pizza, QLDBCCC, Tyrepower Varsity Lakes, Airey Electrical, Pacific Fertiliser, SK Vintage, and Zone Planning for their support in 2021.

I would like to thank our Phoenix Club members for their donation to a very worthy cause, our Rugby Board, Bond University, and the Rugby Staff who worked so hard throughout the 2021 Rugby season to ensure that rugby was able to be played during what were very trying times.

I would like to thank Terry Jackman AM, and John Eales AM, who support and enable the opportunity for a selected player, annually, to study and play rugby at Bond University under the prestigious <u>John Eales Rugby Excellence</u> Scholarship.

We proudly supported the following charities: Donate Life, Marcus Mission and 10c Tom.

EVENTS

Due to a year disrupted by COVID-19, many of our major events were cancelled, including the annual Oceania u20s Championships, a Wallaroos v Samoa Test Match, Australia u20s camps. We did run some successful events which were important to get off the ground this year. Ladies Day, Indigenous Round, Old Boys Day, an Alumni event, our season launch, and presentation night were all among these events. We hosted the Wallabies and the <u>All Blacks</u> at our training facilities during the Rugby Championships and hosted and won the Women's <u>AON University National 7s</u> <u>Final tournament</u> which saw some valuable and extensive streaming exposure. We brought Premier 7s back to the Gold Coast with a successful ECP Gold Coast 7s tournament with 32 teams, 76 games across 2 days.

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT

We enjoyed success in our Written and Social Media strategy in 2021 with the help of McLeod Publishing who helped our Club tell the story of our achievements, engage with new markets and to provide better sponsorship reach.

We are disappointed to have our 1st grade team miss out on the Final's series this year after spending the whole year in the top 4 and we look forward to the 2022 season with less disruption and another strong year for the Bond University Rugby Club.

Dr Manny Pohl AM President Bond University Rugby