



## DE LA SALLE YEAR BOOK -----2024



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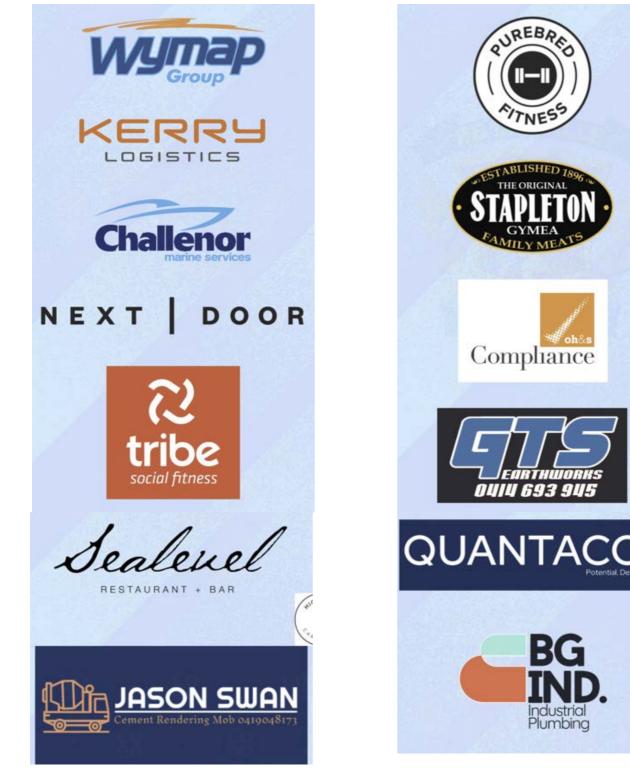




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## 2024 Rep Players

#### HAROLD MATTHEWS

Liam Challenor

Spencer Swann

Dhardyan Patten-Hill

Daniel Green



SG BALL Lachlan Arullo Harry Samuel Jasper Catton Alex Challenor Tanna Featherstone Kurt Montgomery Bryce Sait Ashton Simmonds Jack Taper Blake Woodger Max McCarthy



## 2024 Rep Players

#### JERSEY FLEGG

Alex Challenor	Chaz Jarvis
Max McCarthy	Kobie Wilson
Te Weh <mark>i Waitere</mark>	Liam Sutton
Lachlan Crossle	Cruiz Devine
Lachlan Arullo	Oscar Catton
Nicholas Stonestr	eet
Dylan Christe <mark>ns</mark> er	
Kai Raper	



#### **NSW CUP**

Jamie Humpfreys Samuel Stonestreet Kurt Dillon Jed Stuart Chaz Jarvis Kade Dykes y non estreet n



NRL

Connor Tracey Jaemon Salmon Samuel Stonestreet Reece Robson Kade Dykes Samuel Hughes Luke Metcalf



## **2024 Rep Players**

#### LISA FIAOLA CUP

Tameika Dorahy Kahlea Fisher Jessica Stonestreet Summer Anderson Chloe Shepherd Keely Latta

Tara Brown



Charlotte Hall Montana Allman Makayla Vakauta Kalahni Crews



## 2024 State & Internationals

#### NEW SOUTH WALES / AUSTRALIA

Reece Robson

#### MALTA

Tyso<mark>n Jackson</mark>

Kahlea Fisher

Cooper Axiak

LEBANON

Dane Corbin

**ITALY** Xavier Dinuccio

Liam Bova

#### NIUE

Kysen Pulevaka









## 2024 State & Internationals

NEW SOUTH WALES / AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLBOYS

#### Alex Challenor









## De La Salle JRLFC 2024 Executive Team



## <u>Title</u>

President Secretary Asst Secretary Senior Vice-President Senior VP Asst Junior Vice-President Junior Vice-President Girls Vice-President Registrar Treasurer Junior League Delegate Child Protection Officer Sponsorship Canteen Manager Bar Manager Grounds Manager Gear Steward Graphic Design & Website Compliance

### <u>Name</u>

David Nicholson **Troy Augustus Ben Vickers** John Little Luke Manahan Jason Swan Matt Sweeney Sam Dorahy David Luthje **Troy Augustus** John Little Katrina Fisher Luke Manahan Katrina Fisher Jarrod Dykes Gary Bacon Leisa Sweeney Jess Ford Ben Knox

## De La Salle JRLFC Life Members



Year Name 1972 Jack Stewart\* 1976 Pat Donohue\* 1976 Reg Hansard\* 1979 Lloyd Dowd\* 1979 Ron Ricketts\* 1980 Bro. Killian (Ryan) 1980 Ron Streeter\* 1981 Frank McCarthy\* 1981 Paul Newbury\* 1984 Clarke O'Brien 1985 John Ettinghausen 1986 Rob Edwards\* 1987 Danny Lewis\* 1990 Warren Lynch\* 1991 Marie Lewis\* 1993 Kevin Moffitt\* 1993 Warren Thomas 1997 Mark Taylor 1998 John Dykes 1998 Dennis Sant 2000 Gary Hilton\*

Year Name 2002 Steve Finnegan 2005 Colin Beath 2005 Bill Bryant 2006 Ron Arnold 2006 Henry Rodgers 2007 Les Cooke\* 2007 Michael English 2008 Chris Gardner 2009 Roger Lord 2009 Philip Manahan 2011 Craig Hodges 2011 John Little 2012 Kerry Brustolin 2012 Tanya Hilton 2013 Steve Andrews 2013 Darren McConnell 2014 Greg Plevey 2019 Vera Andrews 2021 Mark Sant 2022 David Luthje 2022 David Nicholson

## De La Salle JRLFC 25 Years Playing Service



<u>Year</u> <u>Name</u> 2003 Shane Thomas 2013 Daniel Bryant 2018 Shaun Walker

## De La Salle JRLFC 20 Years Playing Service

#### Year Name

1987 Michael Finnegan 1987 Steve Hancock 1987 Mark Robson 1987 Robert Rowan 1988 Craig Purcell 1989 Mark O'Grady **1991 Peter Newbury** 1991 Chris Weeks 1996 Murray Edwards 1996 Mark Sant 1996 Bob Tindall 1996 Shane Thomas 1997 Darren Thomas 2001 Matthew Lewis 2001 Gavin Sant 2003 Kyle Cavanagh

#### Year Name

- 2003 Brad Cavanagh
- 2003 Nathan Sant
- 2006 Nathan Gardner
- 2008 Daniel Bryant
- 2008 Mark Cregan
- 2009 John Bailey
- 2011 Chris Arnold
- 2012 Chris Pryer
- 2012 Scott Faddy
- 2013 Shaun Walker
- 2014 Nathan Donnelly
- 2017 Drew Burns
- 2020 Blake Bouzounis
- 2021 Matthew Andrews
- 2023 Nathan Andrews

## De La Salle JRLFC 15 Years Playing Service



#### Year Name

1978 Michael Corbett 1978 Greg Pitt 1980 Michael Finnegan **1980 Stephen Hancock** 1980 Kevin Jessop 1980 John Morrissey 1980 Damien Murray 1981 Martin Daly 1981 Rick De Leede 1981 Paul Guiney 1981 Mark O'Grady 1981 Mark Robson 1981 Michael Sharp 1982 Chris Donohue 1982 Anthony McCarthy 1982 Mark Newman 1982 Craig Purcell **1982 Chris Ricketts** 1983 Brian Jessop 1983 Warren Lee 1983 Robert Rowan 1984 Mark Steele 1985 Chris Weeks 1986 Murray Edwards 1986 Lee Howell 1986 Michael Lee 1986 Peter Newbury

#### <u>Year</u> <u>Name</u>

**1988 Peter McCarthy** 1988 Steven Newcombe 1989 Martin Jessop **1989 Darren Thomas** 1990 Michael McDonald 1990 Shane Thomas 1990 Bob Tindall 1991 Robert Corben 1991 Paul Day 1991 Mark Sant 1991 Anthony Vaughan 1993 Mark Deluca 1993 Gavin Sant 1994 Pat Hamill 1995 Matthew Lewis **1996 Michael Moffitt** 1997 Nathan Sant 1998 Kyle Cavanagh 1998 Brad Cavanagh 1999 Luke Sant 1999 David Watson 2000 Michael Buck 2000 Charles Challenor 2000 Mark Cregan 2000 Scott Faddy 2000 Wally Hall 2000 Bryce Watson

#### Year Name

2000 Jarrod Watson 2001 John Bailey 2001 Nathan Gardner 2001 Simon Harvey 2001 Chris Jessop 2001 David Kennedy 2001 Stephen Taylor 2002 Daniel Bryant 2003 Chris Challenor 2003 Albert Nasralla 2004 Murray Taylor 2005 Scott Capelin 2005 Brendan Jones 2005 Josh Palmer 2006 Chris Arnold 2006 Daniel Harvey 2006 Evan Jessop 2007 Nathan Donnelly 2007 Jarrod Dykes 2007 Grant Palmer 2007 Chris Pryer 2008 Mark Burns 2008 Shaun Walker 2009 Ron Arnold 2009 Mark Beath 2009 Justin Elliot 2009 Matthew Sears

## De La Salle JRLFC 15 Years Playing Service



#### Year Name

2011 Adam Buckley 2011 David Burns 2011 Kieran Donnellv 2011 Jonathon Harris 2011 Sam Keogh 2011 Isaac O'Brien 2011 Matthew Rafterv 2011 Roy Steele 2012 Aaron Bolton 2012 Ben Harvey 2012 Drew Burns 2012 Nathan Streak 2012 Jack Keppel 2013 Zac Steele 2013 Jackson Jobe 2013 Luke Manahan 2014 Adan Burke 2014 Steve Lemone 2014 Jye Mullane 2015 Blake Bouzounis 2015 Mitchell Bouzounis 2015 Josh Cooke 2016 Matthew Andrews 2017 Jason Andrews 2017 Brandon Finnegan 2017 Campbell Plevey 2018 Nathan Andrews

#### Year Name

2018 Zachary Bouzounis 2018 Bradley Faddy 2018 Dean Hodges 2018 William Keppel 2021 Nick McCarthy 2022 Andrew Faddy 2022 Chaz Jarvis 2022 Jarvis Lane 2022 Lewis Slatter 2023 Osca Catton 2023 Ty Curran 2023 Cameron Goodger 2023 Jack McHenry 2023 Max McHenry 2023 Finn Ross 2023 Harley Sammut 2024 Nathan Eletcher

2024 Blake Gentle





<u>Under 8</u> <u>Year</u> <u>Grade</u> 1969 C Grade 1970 B Grade 1979 B Grade 1985 A Grade 1988 A Grade 2002 A Grade 2003 A Grade 2010 A Grade 2011 B Grade 2014 A Grade 2015 A Grade

<u>Under 9</u>
<u>Year</u> <u>Grade</u>
1965 A Grade
1969 C Grade
1973 A Grade
1976 A Grade
1986 A Grade
1988 B Grade
1988 C Grade
1990 B Grade
1992 B Grade
1996 A Grade
1996 B Grade
2001 A Grade
2003 A Grade
2004 A Grade
2006 A Grade
2011 A Grade
2011 C Grade
2015 C Grade
2016 A Grade
2016 B Grade
2016 C Grade
2017 A Grade
2017 B Grade
2019 A Grade
2020 Gold Div 1
2023 Gold

### <u>Under 10</u>

Year Grade 1963 A Grade 1964 A Grade 1965 B Grade 1966 A Grade 1966 B Grade 1967 B Grade 1968 B Grade 1972 A Grade 1973 A Grade 1978 B Grade 1988 B Grade 1991 B Grade 1997 A Grade 2002 A Grade 2005 A Grade 2006 A Grade 2007 A Grade 2011 B Grade 2012 A Grade 2014 C Grade 2018 A Grade 2020 Gold Div 1

#### <u>Under 11</u>

Year Grade 1963 A Grade 1964 A Grade 1965 A Grade 1967 A Grade 1970 C Grade 1972 C Grade 1973 A Grade 1978 B Grade 1979 A Grade 1994 A Grade 1994 B Grade 1995 B Grade 1998 A Grade 2001 B Grade 2006 A Grade 2007 A Grade 2008 A Grade 2011 B Grade 2011 C Grade 2013 A Grade 2014 A Grade 2018 A Grade 2019 A Grade 2022 Gold



Under 12 Year Grade 1964 A Grade 1965 A Grade 1965 B Grade 1966 A Grade 1968 A Grade 1974 A Grade 1974 B Grade 1976 A Grade 1979 A Grade 1984 A Grade 1988 A Grade 1989 A Grade 1990 A Grade 1995 A Grade 1999 A Grade 2004 A Grade 2007 A Grade 2008 A Grade 2008 B Grade 2010 C Grade 2014 A Grade 2015 B Grade 2017 B Grade 2022 Gold 2023 Gold

Under 13 Year Grade 1963 A Grade 1971 A Grade 1973 B Grade 1975 A Grade 1980 A Grade 1982 B Grade 1985 A Grade 1987 A Grade 1989 A Grade 1990 A Grade 2000 A Grade 2003 B Grade 2005 A Grade 2006 B Grade 2018 Gold 2018 Silver 2023 Gold 2024 Gold

Under 14

Year Grade 1965 A Grade 1966 A Grade 1967 B Grade 1968 A Grade 1971 B Grade 1972 A Grade 1975 A Grade 1975 B Grade 1976 A Grade 1976 B Grade 1989 A Grade 1990 A Grade 1991 A Grade 1992 A Grade 1994 A Grade 1997 A Grade 2006 A Grade 2007 A Grade 2010 B Grade 2014 A Grade 2017 Gold 2018 Bronze

<u>Under 15</u>

Year Grade 1971 A Grade 1989 A Grade 1991 A Grade 1992 A Grade 1993 A Grade 2008 B Grade 2011 A Grade 2013 B Grade 2014 Div 1 2015 Div 1 2015 Div 2 2018 Gold 2019 Silver 2020 Gold 2020 Silver 2023 Gold 2024 Gold

2024 Gold



Under 16 Year Grade 1970 A Grade 1972 A Grade 1984 A Grade 1986 B Grade 1988 A Grade 1990 A Grade 1991 A Grade 1993 A Grade 1996 A Grade 2003 A Grade 2010 B Grade 2011 B Grade 2012 A Grade 2014 B Grade Div 1 2014 B Grade Div 2 2015 A Grade Div 1 2015 B Grade Div 2 2016 A Grade Div 1 2016 A Grade Div 2 2017 Bronze 2020 Gold 2024 Gold 2024 Silver

<u>Under 17</u> <u>Year</u> <u>Grade</u> 1973 A Grade 1975 A Grade 1985 A Grade 1989 A Grade 1991 A Grade 2009 A Grade 2014 B Grade 2015 B Grade 2018 Silver 2022 Gold <u>Under 20</u>

Year

2012

Year

1975

1978

1999

2002

2005

2008

Under 21

<u>Under 18</u> <u>Year</u> <u>Grade</u> 1995 A Grade 1996 A Grade 1997 A Grade 2000 A Grade 2001 A Grade 2011 B Grade 2013 B Grade 2022 Gold

#### <u>Under 19</u>

- Year Grade 1964 A Grade 1987 A Grade 1988 A Grade
- 1990 A Grade
- 1993 A Grade
- 1994 A Grade

20 Under 23

#### <u>Year</u>

1982 1989

1991

<u>Under 16 Girls</u> <u>Year</u> <u>Grade</u> 2023 Gold





<u> Open Gold /</u>
<u>1st Grade</u>
<u>Year</u>
1984
1985
1986
1987
1988
1995
1998
2006
2009
2013
2018

<u>Open Silver /</u> <u>2nd Grade</u> <u>Year</u> 2002 2004 2015 2020 2024

<u>Emerging</u> <u>Cup</u> <u>Year</u> 2018

Tommy Bishop Shield (U/8s) <u>Year</u> 2019 2022

2020







<u>Over 35 Mens Tag</u> <u>Year Grade</u> 2018 Gold

Under 9 Girls Tag <u>Year Grade</u> 2020 Gold

Under 10 Girls Tag <u>Year Grade</u> 2022 Gold

Under 11 Girls Tag Year Grade 2018 Gold 2022 Silver

Under 12 Girls Tag Year Grade 2020 Gold 2020 Silver 2022 Gold 2023 Silver

### <u>Under 13 Girls Tag</u>

Year Grade 2023 Gold Under 14 Girls Tag <u>Year Grade</u> 2022 Gold 2023 Gold

Under 15 Girls Tag <u>Year Grade</u> 2020 Gold 2022 Gold 2023 Silver

<u>Under 16 Girls Tag</u> <u>Year Grade</u> 2023 Gold

#### <u>Under 17 Girls Tag</u>

<u>Year Grade</u> 2020 Gold 2022 Gold

#### Under 18 Girls Tag

<u>Year Grade</u> 2023 Gold



## De La Salle JRLFC Annual Awards



Kevin Moffitt Memorial Award <sup>Clubman Of The Year</sup> Matt Sweeney & Jarrod Dykes

5 5 5 N 4 1 1 1 N 4 1 1 N 4 1

Marie Lewis Memorial Award Outstanding Contribution To The Club Mary Zdjelar

Les Cooke Memorial Award Most Improved B Team U/15 Silver - Justin Turner

Marc Leabeater Memorial Award Greatest Contribution To The Clubs Most Senior Team Mark Cruickshank

Corrie Cavanagh Memorial Award Under 17 Player Awarded By The Committee Liam Bova

Andy McDonald Memorial Award Most Outstanding Coach

**Trevor Schodel** 

Life Member Senior Teams Award Outstanding Efforts From A Senior Player

Cooper Lee



Lyn Sant Award Best & Fairest Tag U/14-U/18 Ella Metselaar

Jenny Dykes Award Best & Fairest Tag U/9-U/13 Chloe Galloway

Best & Fairest Player U/12-U/16 Age Group Spencer Swann



## De La Salle JRLFC President Report

Another year of great success on and off the field, but a year that did see stop start due to the amount of rain we received. This created a lot of conversations around the conditions of our field and other clubs grounds, a problem that we all can do something about by getting onto our local members and Councillors about having money spent on these assets.

The club continues to strive ahead and this season the club had over 1000 registered players, this is a testament to all the hard working executive, age coordinators, coaches, trainers and managers that each week prepare and get teams ready to play.

We had plenty of teams play semi final football and 14 teams make it all the way to the grand final

Congratulations to premiership winners Open Silver 16 Gold 16 Silver 15 Gold 14 Gold

13 Gold

A big congratulations go to all our players who have gone on to represent the Sharks in Representative teams, development squads. We have many young men and women playing not only for the sharks but other NRL cubs.

A special congratulations goes to Alex Challenor who made the Australian school boys side.

I would like to thank our senior Coaches - Trent, Dom, Dean and Alex who all did a fantastic job in getting all 4 sides to Semi Finals or Grand finals. Senior football is a hard product to get teams out week to week and keeping young men interested, and you all did an amazing job of not only keeping 4 sides together but had great success in doing so. The patience and passion you all showed to the DLS club was amazing and I thank you all for the great effort.

I would like to thank all our sponsors and make a special note of our major partners: Highlands Tradies Flow Physio Kerry Logistics PalmerBet Feros Grou Gilders Transport

To all our community of sponsors who put money and time into our great club we thank you, if we didn't have the support of these great organisations the experience of what our club members receive would be greatly different. So please follow and support those who help and support our great club and your children.

Congratulations must go to all our award winners but a special note to Mary Zedlar, Matt Sweeney and Jarrod Dykes who received the club-persons of year awards. Well Done

To my hard working executive - THANK YOU its a big club run by a very small wheel, Katrina, Sammy, Troy, Looch, Luke M, Johnny Little and all our other volunteers THANK YOU

I'm not sure how many more end of year reports I will be writing as my time as President but I would like to thank every club member for letting me run this great club, its a honor and I feel privileged to do, but please if you want to help and get involved please, please jump on board.

Look forward to seeing you all in 2025

Regards

Dave Nicholson



## De La Salle JRLFC Secretary Report



This was definitely another challenging year with so much interruption from the weather, a new experience considering we've had covid challenges in recent history, and it wasn't until the month of July that we started to experience consistent footy week in and week out. With continual changes to training regimes, it was awesome to see all our teams put in so much effort to get on the park, from munchkin league all the way through to the over 35s.

Registrations again grew year over year, and we're now catering for nearly a thousand participants. The growth in league tag continues to surprise ahead of expectations, as we fielded teams in the open women's and over 30 women's competitions for the first time. The girls tackle grew from one team in 2023 to four teams this year, and a special mention to our under 10s girls tackle team that had some incredible performances playing against the boys. While the under 12s girls tackle were dominate from start to finish with an undefeated record.

I want to thank all the coaches, managers, trainers, sponsors, ground setup crew, canteen girls, barbecue boys for their efforts in running the club and teams this year. And to my fellow committee members many thanks for your amazing efforts, everyone chipped in whenever and wherever needed every week. It was the first season the Cronulla Junior Rugby League implemented the NRL rules changes, with additional non-compete competitions and full tag year for the under 6s, and while the rules have their challenges it was great to see the coaches embrace the new rules and flip traditional training techniques on their head to think outside the box.

With having over 200 volunteers registered to the club, it take massive coordination to have all working with children's checks in by round four. Our coaches really stepped up this year in following through on their accreditation s, you can really see the development of the players improve when coaches follow through on their respective courses. And the trainers, specially the blue shirt trainers, it's a huge sacrifice to get accredited but these skills learned are incredibly valuable to your teams.

Congratulations to our grand finalists and grand final winners, it's great to see teams get rewarded for all the hard work over the season, in total we had 9 teams make grand finals and 6 winners bring home the trophy. A lot of these teams at times relied on the De La spirit to get them through. All teams had challenges with holidays and sickness, players needing to back up and play multiple games each week so teams didn't have to pay short. In aggregate our league tag teams were competitive across all age groups and once again we won tag league club of the year, a truly great achievement.

There is always a list of projects that the club would love to achieve, and it was good to tick a couple of this year. Some volunteers were able to spend a few Saturdays building the new bar area, special thanks to Matt and Jarrod there, and getting some additional back end systems up and running this year has been a god send in managing the ever growing admin of the club.

I have to thank the other clubs for their efforts in providing great competition for the kids, and sometimes fielding my desperate phone calls to make late changes for games. The referees were once again outstanding in their efforts to get each and every game played. And lastly, a big thank you to the Cronulla Junior Rugby League, whom volunteer so much of their time to keep this game we love going in the Sutherland Shire. While it can be exhausting running a club of our size, the moment the season is over I definitely miss it, and am already looking forward to next year.

Thanks for a wonderful season everyone.

**Troy Augustus** 





## De La Salle JRLFC Treasurers Report



It was a challenging year with the weather being a major disruptive force on our numbers. Trading for the bar, canteen and merchandise was all down significantly compared to 2023 numbers. Profitability for the canteen was made worse due to the amount of wastage, with several games called off late, which ultimately made it difficult to cancel perishable food orders. The bar operations ticked along nicely with many volunteers jumping in and helping things run smoothly there, it was great to see and a massive kicker to the club with volunteers donating their time.

Luke Manahan did a fantastic job with the sponsorship this year and was able to secure additional sponsors for the senior squad and signage for our grandstands, which saw our numbers increase by about 15% compared to 2023 numbers. Our two major functions this year were incredible, with Katrina Fisher & Sam Dorahy leading the way with the women's lunch at Highfields raising over \$5000 for the club. Also, Mark Cruickshank with the help of Next Door Cronulla hosted a great evening for State of Origin 2, with the place packed and everyone enjoyed a great night. The event raised over \$8000 for the club.

With a few big one-off expenses posted through the accounts this year, namely the new bar fit out with additional refrigeration units, new jerseys, signage, post & corner pads, these items rolling off should help us shift back into the black next year. Ultimately with costs going up across many items this year, equipment, playing gear, fireworks show, junior presentation rides, insurance, medical & physio, it had a major impact on the accounts and tipped us into a loss for the year.

The club is well setup to launch into 2025, and with all the support we get from volunteers, I'm hoping we can get the accounts back into the black.

Cheers Troy Augustus







#### <u> Under 6 - Green 1</u>

The under 6 Green De La footy team had a fantastic first season! The young players showed great enthusiasm and dedication throughout the season, constantly improving their skills and teamwork on the field.

The team participated in several friendly matches (when it wasn't raining), where they demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and determination. They worked hard in training sessions and always had fun and gave their best effort in every game.

The coaches were impressed with the players' development over the course of the season, as they learned the basics of football and grew more confident in their abilities. The team also showed great camaraderie and support for each other, creating a positive and encouraging atmosphere.

Overall, it was a successful season for the team. The players had a lot of fun, made new friends, and gained valuable experience that will benefit them in future seasons. We look forward to seeing their continued growth and success in the years to come. Well done, boys!







#### <u>Under 6 - Green 2</u>



What an incredible first season of footy for the mighty Under-6s Green 2! Despite a few washouts, the boys took to rugby league like naturals. More importantly, they gave it their all, had fun, and made new friends. The progress from every single player was amazing. It's hard to believe the same team that kicked off the season – where I lost half of them when they decided to pay hide and seek mid game – ended it by running in tries and tagging left, right, and centre!

A massive thank you to all the parents who helped out at training and on game days, especially Scott, Paul, Brad, and Liam. Your support made sure the boys never missed a beat.

#### Now, onto the stars of the team:

Kyzah-Kruez Flavell – The Weapon. This kid knows how to score a try and grab a tag! A fierce competitor who doesn't like to lose, Kyzah was unstoppable at times. It's hard to believe he's still got three years left in Under-6s – he wouldn't be out of place lining up next to his dad in the first grade, and would probably still cost Jazz half his weekly wage in try scoring payments.

Teddi Jeffree – The Entertainer. Whether he was battling corner posts or passing from dummy half, Teddi always had a smile on his face. A true team player who always looked out for his mates, he brought plenty of laughs and energy to every game.

Nathanial Abraham – The Zig-Zagger. He was a master at weaving through the opposition, always spotting gaps and charging through them. Tough as nails, he took a few hard hits but always bounced back and got stuck right back into the action.

Luke Bailey – The Golden Boot. Luke absolutely loves his footy. With a natural footy IQ, he's always thinking a few plays ahead. And let's not forget those celebrations – it's hard to recall a try he didn't follow up with a post (or pre) try celebtration!

Kaelen Walker – The Defender. Not only could Kaelen score tries, but he was also the team's safety net, always tracking down attackers and making crucial tags. He's got a never give up attitude and never hesitated to put his hand up for the hard work.

Jett Davis – Mr. Dependable. Jett wasn't afraid to take on the opposition and run through the defensive line, leaving plenty of players in his wake. With a strong will to win and a natural competitive streak, Jett's got a bright future ahead.

Finley Molloy – The Stepping Speedster. About three games in, Finley found his groove, scoring five tries while filling in for the Under-6s Orange team – and he's been on fire ever since! With a step sharp enough to slice oranges and a haircut built for speed, Finley was a standout.

Koah Jamison – Most Improved. Week by week, Koah's confidence and skills soared. A true footy lover and die-hard Sharks fan, Koah is one of the quickest kids on the field. He left plenty of defenders in his dust with his long-range tries.

Tallis Ryan – Twinkle Toes Tallis. Mid-season, Tallis discovered his sidestep, and from that moment on, he was practically untouchable. He danced through defenders with his light feet, making it look easy as he put the ball down under the black dot time and time again.

Congratulations again to all the boys for an outstanding season! The improvement, teamwork, and fun shared both on and off the field have been a joy to coach. Bring on next year!







#### <u> Under 6 - Orange</u>

What a season! A group of boys who met on the eve of the first round, who weren't sure which way to run, how to play the ball or yank off a tag, became a strong unit of try scoring machines. After a slow start with the persistent rain interruptions, the team was able to develop their skills and by the end of the season it was amazing to see how far they had come. It was wonderful to see their friendships grow and how happy they were for each other with each try celebration.

Baylen became the ultimate tagger, Makai with the zip and zag, Harry and his goose step, Arthur with the spin around, Billy chasing down and getting that final tag, Hunter and his determination to run right through the opposition, Zane with speed through the middle and Harquin with the bursts down the sideline.

Most memorable game was during the treacherous downpour with the game having to be abandoned after about 10 minutes, which was welcomed by players, coaches and parents!

A big thankyou to our Under 6 friends, Luke, Finley, Nathaniel & Kyzah who helped us out during the season when we were short of players. So great to be part of a club that's so supportive of each other.

Coach Brent and his assistants Gav and Eden, we are so thankful for your patience. After such a wonderful season the boys are all looking forward to doing it all again next year, hopefully with less rain!





#### <u> Under 6 - Red 1</u>

The Second year for our Team , unfortunately the boys had to play league Tag this season and not tackle , but all the boys improved out of sight and can't wait to move up to the under 7 next year and start tackling.

Our boys started the season off to a slow start and brought it home on the Gala day winning all three Games!!

We had allot of stand out players in our team this year every one of them wanting to run the ball every chance we had the opportunity to score some try's.

Henry , Jude , Kade , Kyson , Zade , Riegn , Kayden , Murphy , Ari And Noah all improved through the season getting more tags and scoring more try's .

We as Coaches and parents of all the players are extremely proud of our team and we can't wait to go out next year and have a great season together.

Thank you to all the awesome parents and players making it an enjoyable season.

Coach Daniel Bryant







#### <u> Under 6 - Red 2</u>

The 2024 season was a fantastic year for the De La Salle U6 team, a season of meeting new friends, plenty of fun, and learning/ development. From the first practice where even the coaches were learning, to the final whistle at the Como gala, the boys showed incredible improvement in their tagging, teamwork, and understanding of the game.

We are immensely proud of their efforts and the strides they made both individually and as a group.

Some highlights in the year for the kids would be playing in the rain / mud, tagging the opposition (sometimes each other), post match lollies, and scoring plenty of tries.

Big thank you to all involved, Phoenix, Brody, Tyler, Beau, Braxton, Jed, Cooper, James and Rory.







#### <u> Under 7 - Green 1</u>

Another year down and another year of great improvement from all the boys in the U7 Green team

Whilst the year was stop start with the weather, and the introduction of tackle ready at the start of the year. The boys took it in there stride and turned up every week and gave it there all

Some highlights throughout the year for the team:

- We managed to adopt a new home ground up at Yarrawarrah which the boys became very familiar with the oval and park

- Managed not to freeze to death at 8am at Blaxland oval in the wind and rain, on the only weekend they didn't call the games off because of weather

- Everyone managed to get across the white stripe, make there tackles and most of all improve on last year

So well done boys!







<u>Under 7 - Green 2</u> The boys had an exceptional year, finishing in three impressive performances at the end-of-year gala day.

Throughout the season, their growing friendships at training translated into improved on-field performance, with their skills and teamwork steadily improving.

Their defensive play, especially their team tackling, was a standout strength. When they executed their tackles effectively, they played exceptionally well and proved difficult to beat.

This year set the foundations for a strong footy team. I look forward to seeing all the boys return next year so we can build on this year's achievements.







#### <u>Under 7 - Orange 1</u>







<u>Under 7 - Orange 2</u> From the start of the season to the end was a massive difference for these young boys. They all improved so much. Can't wait to get them all together again for next season.









<u>Under 7 - Red 1</u> Looking back at the season it was definitely very disruptive due to all the wash outs and JRL draw which did seem to affect the boys consistency. In saying that the boys were stoked to be done with the tagging and focus on the tackling.

On our day the boys could match any team in the U7s with all boys scoring trys and getting involved.

Defence was the main focus at most trainings and it was great to see how far the boys had come over the course of the year.

Looking forward to next year and keeping this great little bunch of boys together







#### Under 7 - Red 2

The De La 7 Red 2 team had an incredible season, showcasing exceptional skill and determination on the field. Their impressive performances throughout the year have been a testament to their hard work and team spirit.

#### Defensive Strength

Mason and Johnny were outstanding in defense, consistently blocking the opposition's attacks and keeping the team in a strong position. Their coordination and resilience were key factors in the team's defensive success.

#### Notable Improvements

James and Hayze showed remarkable improvement over the course of the season. Their dedication to training and commitment to enhancing their skills were evident in their performances. Both players became integral parts of the team, contributing significantly in both defense and attack.

#### Attacking Prowess

Oli N and Will were relentless in their attacking play, consistently applying pressure on the opposition. Their ability to play the game and create scoring opportunities made them standout players in the attack.

#### Season Awards

The team's success this season would not have been possible without the outstanding efforts of several key players:

Most Improved: Rocky

Rocky's development throughout the season was remarkable. His determination and willingness to learn made him a standout for the Most Improved award.

#### Coaches Award: Oli S

Oli S received the Coaches Award for his unwavering commitment and exceptional attitude. His hard work in training and matches did not go unnoticed.

#### Players' Player: Ace

Ace earned the Players' Player award, voted by his teammates as the player who consistently went above and beyond. His leadership and teamwork set a high standard for the rest of the squad.

#### Best and Fairest: Thomas

Thomas was recognized as the Best and Fairest for his outstanding sportsmanship and consistent performance throughout the season. His ability to play with integrity and fairness made him a role model for the team.

Looking Ahead

As we reflect on this remarkable season, it is clear that the De La 7 Red 2 team has set a high bar for success.

Bring on 2025!

Well done to all the players, coaches, and supporters for an unforgettable season



<u>Under 7 (1) Girls League Tag</u> This was the first year for all of the girls playing tag league. From not knowing anything and for some not wanting to go on the field. They finished the year with some great football and lots of smiles

Most improved Charlotte Packham Coaches award Imogene Pitt

Thank you to all of the parents for helping out along the way See you all next year







Under 7 (2) Girls League Tag A great first season for our girls in League Tag that like for all of us was not exactly week in, week out games and made it a little difficult for consistency but the girls had a great season with only one loss against a very good Engadine Dragons team that we turned around when we next met them.

I loved seeing the girls learn new skills and start their journey in the game of league. We wanted to have fun in every game and I believe that we achieved that. The levels that the girls team are competing at this age is so impressive and I believe we will see some future rep players come out of this league and also this team.

We look forward to putting on the DeLa colours again next year and continuing to improve and learn more about this great game.

Cheers John

Had a terrific season. The u7 girls won nearly all of their games and grew with skill and confidence over the season. Ben and John, our super coaches brought out the best in each player and they had so much fun along the way. Killer team.

Thanks Sarah







### <u> Under 8 - Green</u>

The 2024 season of De La under 8 Greens saw the return of Luca,Levi,Callen,Zach,Jude,Liam and Jagger and new additions Dexter and Louie. While the season started disjointed due to the weather, the boys worked really hard on developing the fundamentals.The first half of the season culminated with a 50 point victory which saw them elevated into the black competition. This created significant challenges for the boys but they worked well as a team and continued to grow and develop their skills.The boys showed a lot of heart in the second half of the season which was on display at the gala day where loads of good footy was played and the kids ended the season with big smiles on their faces.

Callen-Always moving forward loves a tackle

Jagger-When he lifts, the team lifts. Number one try scorer

Jude-Loves a hit up, rock solid in defence

Levi-Perfecting the scoot from dummy half,fast and elusive

Luca- Loves a tackle, hard to stop

Zach-Good organisation, loads of chat and heads up footy

Liam-Strong willed, strong determination, strong tackles

Dexter-AKA The Claw, you wouldn't guess it's his first year of footy. Outstanding in defence and powerful hit ups.

Louie-Another maiden season, if his hit ups continue on the same trajectory, he will be unstoppable in 2025.

Big Thanks to the boys for a great season. Shout out to Allan and Joel for all their help training and on game day. Thanks to all the parents for getting them to the games and training.Bring on 2025!







#### <u>Under 8 - Orange</u>

As the season wraps up, it's time to celebrate the progress and efforts of our young players on the Dela Salle Orange team. This year has been filled with growth, teamwork, and a lot of fun, both on and off the field.

#### Team Spirit and Effort

From the very first training session, our team showed enthusiasm and determination. The boys have worked hard to develop their skills, and their commitment to each other has been a highlight. They've built strong friendships and demonstrated what it means to be part of a team, supporting each other through every game, win or lose.

#### Season Highlights

This year, we've had many memorable moments. Our defense has been solid, with several games where the team held their line and made critical tackles. On offense, the boys put together some exciting tries, showcasing their speed, agility, and teamwork. Whether it was a thrilling breakaway run or a well-executed team play, there were plenty of highlights to cheer for.

#### Sportsmanship and Attitude

One of the key focuses this year was sportsmanship, and our players have consistently demonstrated respect towards their opponents, referees, and each other. The positive attitude of the team has been a standout feature, even in challenging situations. Their resilience and good spirit have been commendable.

To our players – well done on a fantastic season. You've shown what it means to play as a team and have fun along the way. Keep working on your skills, stay active, and we look forward to seeing everyone back on the field next year, ready for another great season of rugby league!

Go De La Salle Orange!







#### <u>Under 8 - Red</u>

As we wrap up the 2024 U/8's Red season, it's time to reflect on the journey we've had, the progress we've made, and the achievements we've celebrated as a team.

It was a very stop/start season due to weather not being on our side but in spite of this, our team demonstrated incredible determination and teamwork. Each player brought their own unique strengths to the field, and together, we created a powerful and cohesive unit. This season was not just about the games, but also about development. Many of the boys have shown remarkable improvement in their skills, fitness, and understanding of the game. From mastering passing techniques to improving game strategy, it's been fantastic to see how much each player has grown. Other team coaches and managers were in awe of the set plays (sushi wrap/fiji footy etc) that Coach Dom had taught the boys and what they could do together as a team.

Throughout the season, we faced tough opponents, but we never backed down. The spirit and resilience of this team were evident in every match, whether we were defending our line or pushing forward to score. What a fabulous three years these boys have had together under the great guidance of Dom, not only have they played awesome footy but have also built some wonderful foundations for some great friendships- what sport is all about! Having FUN with your mates! Well Done U/8 Reds!!







### Under 8 Girls League Tag

There was so much growth in the girls this year, moving from the mini to the mod field was a challenge, but they thrived as the season went on. Passing is the most undervalued skill in the game, and seeing all the girls taking on the bib positions made me so proud to see their skills improve.

Special mentions: Odette - Miss reliable that is a born leader of the team Matilda - Saved so many tries every game it was hard to keep count Vivian - Born to sprint, just needs half a gap Emesyn - Full of grit and determination Mila - Runs straight up the middle Zahlee - A fantastic step that is hard for defenders to handle Charlotte - So good at attack and defence Mili - Does everything with an infectious smile on her face Lily - Her defensive line speed scares the opposition Olivia - No one can catch her once in open space Maeve - Creates tries from nothing, and will beat the whole team twice, if she has too

It's been a real pleasure coaching the girls and I hope they all enjoyed the season as much as I did. Cheers Troy







### <u> Under 9 - Orange</u>

It had been a challenging seasons with washed out games and players moving between teams, but we got there in the end. The boys really started to develop both individually and as a team. Their growth with ball skills allowed their passing to add multiple phases of play and really use the width of the field to their advantage. Being one of the smaller teams in the Silver comp, we needed to change out tactics throughout the year and play to our strengths. This led to multiple tries out wide, courtesy of the fast legs of Mateo Pitt and the continual well read positioning of Brooklyn Lang.

Our forwards pushed hard all year, driving up the middle of the paddock with some great off loads from Lenny Cavanagh leading to line breaks and the persistent work rate of Coen Collins always drove us forward giving us great position for our 4th and 5th tackles. This allowed our star dummy halves, Harley Craig and Levi Dailly to take advantage of position and fast play the balls to pick up quite a few good tries. Frank Cerchi also really opened up in this position and showed his improvement in reading the game.

Our kicking game really improved, with the kick chase combination of twins Jack Joseph at first receiver and Aston Joseph ready on the outside. Even with their small stature the twins always made great yards whenever they touched the ball, leading to a couple of great tries. 2 of which where after the final buzzer. All in all, the team grew a lot together and will be better prepared moving to the bigger field next year. Special mentions needs to be made to the Players Player-Harley Craig who not only led the try count this year, but his passion and defence kept the team going and playing hard right till the buzzer of every game. Looking forward to watching the boys play together again next season.







### <u>Under 9 - Red</u>

I'm sure most of this year's reports will start in a similar fashion, a very disrupted season due to the weather and numerous washouts and it was no different for our U9 Gold Boys. It felt like we had to start the season three or four times over however the more footy we played together, the better we got and really started to build some momentum at the back end of the year where we finished playing some awesome football.

There were so many individual highlights during the year to mention, but we managed to save the best team performance for the last day of the season. I clearly remember telling the boys, if we can find a way to all play our best games on the same day we will not be beaten and that's exactly what happened at the U9 Gala Day Vs the undefeated Gymea Gorillas.

After some tough losses to them during the year, the teamwork and in particular the defence we worked so hard on all year came together for this game finishing in a 0-0 draw for which I couldn't have been more proud.

The potential for our team is huge boys and I can't wait for next season to see what we can do. Go De La!!!

A special mention to Chase Francis who played his 100th game for De La this year! Not only is this a great feat to achieve in the Under 9's, but Chase's 100 games were consecutive without missing a single game! Congratulations Chase!







### <u>Under 9 - Green</u>



Fletcher Smith best & fairest Hudson Haig most valuable player Ryder Lualua coaches award

To our wonderful footy family, thanks to the club we were lucky enough to keep our old team with the fortunate addition of Ryder Lualua, after originally being told be would have to loose one or 2 players.

Lucky we stayed strong as this year was definitely our best.

On the field our boys went the entire year undefeated and was a combined display of their hard work at trading, an extra year playing together & most of all the boys playing as a team & wanting to play for their mates.

I was going through the boys individual reviews & put a nickname next to the boys name that I think suits...don't worry boys if you don't like it, it won't stick!





Kolbyn " BAMM" Sharmen Another strong year from this young man...his game was full of big impact moments in defence and attack with his big strong runs plowing down field, leaving the other team scattered...as strong as his attack was I'd say this year his showcase trait was his strong defence where most games his huge tackles would really rattle the other team and stop any chance they had on making ground & really putting the breaks on the other team moving forward. I was unfortunate enough to be on the receiving end of a few of his hits & it wasn't fun! It wouldn't be a footy report without listing some of Kolbyns funny moments & this year it was 2 on the same day when we played the joeys team. They were short on numbers and I was asking our boys if anyone would join the other team for a quarter to help balance the numbers...when Kolbyn was asked he instantly said "no no no I cant betray" in a deadly serious tone...leaving us all laughing our heads off. From there Boyd put his hand up and went to take the tap off and as he was walking up to the mark Kolbyn was standing on the line with a big smile giving him the come here gesture....after Boyd tapped off Kolbyn rushed him & gave him one hell off a tackle to remember...to Boyd's credit he got up & played the ball & went on to return serve in Kolbyns next run. Kolbyn you really made coaching a joyous part of the year, thanks again for being such a big part of our team and look forward to seeing you progress in the future!

Cooper "The Flash" White This was Coppers third year of footy & he just keeps getting better each year. He continued with his dynamic speedy runs & was our go to player when we needed that game breaking play to get us out of trouble which he consistently was able to do. In defence was where I really noticed Cooper excelling, he had a real grit in his defence and was getting up in the oppositions face really dominating his side of the field. Copper really had his timing dialled in was always making important tackles on any players looking to run around us on the outside & was a big reason why we were able to beat the other teams convincingly. Coop's every year you're getting better, the nickname flash needs no explanation...I cant wait to see what you have install for us next year buddy?

Hudson "Ice Man" Haig Another strong year from Hudson, directing the team around in the first receiver position. He would run onto the ball from first receiver which then got our boys moving forward onto the ball as well, this simple but effective movement from Hudson was a big difference between us making great yards up the field compared to our opponents. Once again Hudson's game smarts adapted to the new rules with one talent being able to kick, one game in particular he put together the most beautifully waited kick which his halves partner Blake Y was able to scoop up and score one of the best tires of the year, it was an absolute beauty! As clever as Hudson played I really admired his grit in defence this year where some set of six he could be seen doing 4+ tackles in a row and giving it everything he had. Hudson you're always cool calm & collected & I think "Ice Man" suits you perfectly. Once again Huddy another great year mate & a well deserved recipient of most valuable player !

Ryder "Dynamo" Lualua This being Ryders first year you could have expected him to be playing some catch but that couldn't be further from the truth. His very first game of footy he made so many cover tackles he was single handedly responsible for us winning. The beautiful things was he was to only getting better as the year went on. His runs were fast & zippy, he'd get around the players then wrong foot them with one or two of this zippy side steps. He scored plenty of tries & saved twice as much. You could see the determination on his face as he followed through with a try or a try saving tackle...on most guys twice his size. A year that can best be described as dynamic certainly earns you the nickname "Dynamo" what a cracking first year Ryder & what a privilege it was being a part of it. Your determination & efforts have not gone unnoticed, you have definitely earn't the coaches award, awesome year Ryder!



Zayn "Chungy" Wooldridge This was Zayn's best year by far, absolutely made for the game and showed us that his another up and coming Wooldridge to look out for! Continuing on with his very strong running of the ball combining skill, strength & balance to carve through defence which he looked to do with easy. Defensively was where we could see he was ready to rumble, making the most of the new rule of having a marker he was able to pressure any runner and take them out before they had time to get a roll on, at times doing 3-4 tackles in a row. Zayn really showed us what his capable of this year and most impressively was consistent right through out! To us the name "Chungy" is someone who has great skill & power & I think that suits you to a tee Zayno but if your not keen on that one I think "Tank" fits just as well, great year mate!

Blake "Brute" Brustolin My little man ripped in and had another trade mark year with his determined runs & intensity when tackling, taking it upon himself to lead the team up in defence. Blake commits fully to every play, you can see the intension on his face. Never shying away from contact, he consistently shows intensity and determination with every play which has earn him the nikname "The Brute". Blake has to put in the extra effort to get the rewards on the field, I know this will lead to the required discipline needed for the years to come. Great year of footy Blake, keep up the hard work my little man.

Jackson "The Fox" Houghton This was Jackson's 2nd year of rugby league and was really showing us some of his talents, being one of our go to dummy half's he really found his place and was a great contributor to our attack with his crafty service to our first receiver's. As the year went on you could see him really putting it all together, in attack he would pick his moments and step and weave his way through many of the opponents earning himself some great tries along the way. When moved to first receiver he offered great service to his team mates. Being our second year doing the umbrella defence structure Jackson and his defensive partner really come of age knowing his precise job of cutting of their attack on the edges, this was the big difference from the year before and was a big contributor to our undefeated season. Being such a crafty & nimble player I think him the nickname name "The Fox" suits best mate. Well played Jackson, each year we are seeing more of what you have to offer, looking forward to seeing what you have installed for next year!

Boyd "Rocket" Nash We had seen plenty of glimpses of his talents last year but this year he was really pulling the trigger. Being our other go to dummy half he offered great service but his main play was taking off from dummy half and blitzing through the other team scoring tries on command. His solid defence coupled with his speed allowed Boyd to defend in the middle or on the edge proving Boyd to be the a great utility player for us. Boyd has plenty of natural ability showcases his talents when needed. On the last game of the year at half time I asked him to have a real crack from dummy half, if he seen an opportunity I wanted him to go for it...well he went for it all right, going on to score 3 tries in one half & help win us the game. The nick name "Rocket" best suits you when you turn on the turbo speed button & fly through the other team! You're definitely made for footy Boyd, you have all the skills & ability & definitely the personality, I know there will only be great things to come from you & I look forward to seeing it!





Blake "Ace" Young Once again Blake was one of our first receivers & was a huge part of our team's success. A very well rounded player that is a complete package with all the skills to prove it. His distribution of the ball was well balanced, knowing when to run in those key moments but also not too much. Blake's attack was a fluent, crafty run that would have the opposition running into each other trying to get him. Blake still has the silkiest try put down in the game but the one that was most impressive was one of the last plays in the last game of the year. Boyd had set the platform with his 3 tries but we still needed points, Blake's done one if his weaving runs & has found himself flying down the sideline with 2 tacklers sure to take him into touch until Blake's made a super human launch that superman would be proud of & dived over the corner post with the ball in one hand to just get the ball down before being tackled by the other team. This try summed Blake up perfectly, the talented run with the determination to get it done when needed. Like I said, Blake is a very well rounded player & always has something up his sleeve which is earned him the nickname Ace. Blake will be a great credit to any team he'll play in, great year Blake "Ace" Young.

Fletcher "Big Dog" Smith My Blake came home once & started referring to someone called the big dog & I didn't know who he was talking about but when he told me it was Fletcher I thought who else could own that better then Fletch! This year Fletcher really took himself to a new level & I don't just mean from his big plays in the game but in every aspect, he trained his absolute heart out. I'd notice on our tackle bag drill which is a lot harder for the big boys, he'd pushing himself to exhaustion, giving his best to do extras when given the option. On the footy field the big forwards are needed to be front & centre & lead the team first & foremost & that's exactly what he done. You really channeled your aggression & got yourself pumped for those big runs we needed to get the whole team rolling forward. And talking about big runs...well you were going into full steam bulldozer mode, even going the length of the field at times leaving a trail of destruction in your wake. When I see the passion & intensity you play with I know you won't let absolutely nothing stopping you in the future. I've said this before Fletcher, you're an absolute dream to coach & anyone lucky enough to coach you in the future I bet will say the same. Congratulations on best and fairest Big Dog you deserve it.

Overall, this year I really enjoyed coaching the boys, they really developed as players & that showed on the field. They all display a great bond amongst themselves, watching their mateship grow over the year is more then you could ask for in such a great little team. I'm sure these boys will be buddies for a long time to come. Thanks to Marks for again being the trainer & helping right throughout the year, things just go when smoother when you're involved mate, and I'm a little saner at the end! As always we got the boys through & had some laughs on the way! A special thanks to Sarah with the management, absolute best in the business, we have been very lucky to have you help for the last few years & I'm not sure how'd I'd go without you! Thanks again to all the parents for your help and support this year, special mention to the mums helping on the tackle bags! It's been great having you all jumping when possible & a great way to be part of it all Thanks to all the parents for raising such great kids, I am always appreciative of how great our little team is. I know we'll all be part of each other's lives in the future. All in all great year boys it's been a pleasure...





<u> Under 10 - Red 1</u>



Firstly I would like to thank all the players and the parents playing group for another wonderful season.

The under 10s gold 1 , these boys worked and trained hard this season, in our 1st year of Non Competitive Rugby League.

A team that was made up of boys who had won a premiership , going back to non competitive made it hard for these boys, but this team just wanted to play footy.

This season was extremely challenging for a number of reasons.

The weather, was definitely not on our side.

The actual draw, we were consistently playing Gymea 1 or 2 a number of times. Also playing sides not up to this teams grade which was very hard to watch.





Overall,

Our boys trained hard, played hard, in return had a lot of fun doing so.

This team has a lot to offer moving forward.

I will say by the end of the year, I knew I had boys who were willing to play for each other, when we where challenged bye Cronulla Caringbah on a wet Saturday morning, we had number of boys sick, though there effort and determination to go down by two points was a credit to all the boys who participated. Boys you made us all so proud.

The award this year, where choosen on a number of targets that Matt and I where looking for. It was extremely close when we had to make a decision on only 3 awards. Though the 3 boys who received these awards, provided to the coaching staff they are willing to work and take direction from the coaching staff and playing group, willing to play for there team, willing to put in effort at training and game day.

<u>Under 10 - Red 1 Girls League Tag</u> This season, our focus was not solely on winning but on cultivating discipline and becoming better individuals. By concentrating on personal growth and teamwork, we naturally evolved into a stronger unit. The results speak for themselves, with the team winning all but one game, which we narrowly lost at the bell.

More importantly, the friendships these girls have formed will last a lifetime, and these bonds will continue to contribute to building a strong, competitive team in the years ahead.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the parents for their unwavering support, entrusting me with the opportunity to coach and guide your children in a direction that aligns with what we all strive for as parents. It's been an honour to coach these amazing young athletes.

Special thanks go to Ryan and Rhys for their exceptional coaching help and to Karlee for managing the team so efficiently. Their contributions made us the highest-performing unit, and I'm truly grateful for their support.







<u> Under 10 - Red 2</u>



Another great year of football for these kids! With a disrupted season the amount of improvement the team showed was unbelievable and a real credit to them.

Bodie Loughlin - our most improved player this year. His defence really improved this season, his ability with the ball was outstanding. He led the team around the field each week as first receiver. It was a momentous year for Bodhi.

Flynn Batty - Big, strong and fast. Flynn leads by example each week and was always willing to do the hard work when the team needed it. It was an excellent year of football for Flynn and has a big future in front of him if he wants it.

Knox Jarvis – Knox was always in the thick of if, super competitive player and never backs down, what ever the team needed he would be first to put his hand up and have a go. Toughest kid in the age group.

Adyson Greig –Ady's a talented and competitive footballer, leads by example each week with his attack and defence. He is a great player for the team, who covered nearly every position on the field.

Morgan Sidey – Morg's has all the ability in the world, he played really well from the start, his speed and agility blew the opposition away, he finished the season exceptionally strong and fair. Jayden Power – Jaydo played well from the get go and improved each week as the year went on, always in the thick of it with his strong tackling and ability to blow the game open in attack. Hugo Ettridge - excellent year by Hugo, leads by example each week with his defence and his attack, he is an extremely talented player with a big future and a big heart. Runs hard, tackles hard and plays hard.

Jack Vickers - another very good year of football from Jack, he was always in the thick of it, his game and confidence improved as the year went on, he is very good with the ball in his hand and was rewarded with a few tries throughout the year.

Jack Buddle – a strong a determine player, hits hard in defence and makes the opposition take note. Jack covered a lot of positions for us this year and excelled at them all.

Jude Cooper – loves the intercept! Jude has a real desire to achieve the most he can out of each game, he has a truck load of ability and a great team member. Very elusive in attack and a great defender.

Mac Darlington- Mac is a super reliable footballer, we knew what we were getting each week, although hampered by some injury this year he always gave his all for his team

Amarin Patten-Edwards – Amarin joined us late in the year in his first year of football and became a valued member of this team. He has a heap of sporting ability and will make an outstanding footballer if he wants it.

Overall a good season of football for this team. They are by far the most improved team in the age group and if they can stay on this course, the sky is the limit! Thanks guys

### <u>Under 10 - Red 2 Girls League Tag</u>

Our Under 10 Girls League Tag team began the season as a relatively new team with several players brand new to the game. Despite the weather not going our way many sundays, the girls enjoyed the opportunity to play a few 'practice games' in addition to their regular games and improved incredibly throughout the season! They all enjoyed the opportunity to play different roles each game and strengthening their kicking and passing skills at training and on game day. Their confidence and skills grew with each game and all players displayed fantastic team sportsmanship throughout the season. The girls were all an exceptional part of a wonderful team and all parents were very proud of their efforts throughout the season and look forward to seeing them all back on the field again in 2025!







### <u>Under 10 - Orange</u>







<u>Under 11 - Gold</u>



To say the year was full of interruptions would be an understatement, with the number of washed-out games and holidays, meant the boys had every second weekend off.

We were fortunate we retained a lot of the boys from the previous year and picked up a few new talents that added to our arsenal.

But the boys started really well. We told them early in the season we would be doing a pretty intensive pre-season with plenty of fitness and tackling drills and they all showed up pretty eager till they had to run their first bronco. Once we completed our pre-season, we were straight into trials, and you can see all the prep work paid off with the team only conceding 1 try against St Christophers, West Wollongong, and Gymea.

I'll start with our forwards. We had Brock Lester, Harvey Agius, Alex Whitaker, Ashton Mcveigh, Jake Thurkuttle, Malcolm Gbenplay, Hayden Maguire, Jude Mcgregor and Jamie Vergos. All season the forwards worked hard and even though we had the smallest forward pack in the shire, boys played with the biggest hearts and intensity and got us the hard metres we needed to get out of our half or set up for our backline plays. We saw them make line breaks, run block plays, little chip threw but most impressively defend the middle with tough De La defense and the occasional high shot and late flop.

Then we had our backs and halves. We had Bodhi Holbrook, Deejay Holbrook, Harley Sedhom, Nash Cavanagh, Kobe Rock, Aidan Hawes and Samuel Youssef. These boys performed some magic on the field with plays going edge to edge, adding in the occasional chip over the top and grubber for some individual brilliance. There were a number of occasions I had parents and coaches from the opposition comment on how well the ball was distributed, and the teamwork displayed to support each other to finish off tries was second to none.





To summarize the year, I am really proud of how well the boy's performed week in and week out. Each week they outshined themselves, but it was unfortunate when it got to the Grand Final, nerves got the better of them and they saved their worse game for last.

They all turned up for each other, and they represented themselves, the team and the club with pride. To finish Runners Up for the Under 11 Golds the boys should hold their heads up high. We are progressing each year, and we are 1 step away from being the champions which I am confident will happen with these boys.

Importantly, I want to thank Sean Rock, Andrew McVeigh, Brooke Cavanagh, and Jack Agius for their continued help and support during the year as it is a combined effort to see these boys grow and develop on and off the field.

Lastly, thanks to the all the parents for bringing the boys to training every week, rain, hail or shine, and your continued support.

See you all in 2025 and let's bring that trophy home where it belongs – Go De La.

<u>Under 11 - Gold 1 Girls League Tag</u> This season was a fantastic one for our girls - very tough competition and some new players to league tag, however they improved greatly throughout the season and worked extremely well as a team. Very proud to have been able to coach these girls.







### <u>Under 11 - Gold 2 Girls League Tag</u>

The girls had a sensational season! After being demolished by Gymea in last years grand final we suffered a heartbreaking loss to the same team in the last few minutes in this years grand final. The girls played their hearts out in this game and we couldn't ask any more from them!

A highlight of our season included an amazing win over Gymea which was the first time that team had been beaten by anyone since they started three seasons ago. During the season the girls really showed they are learning how "to play footy", which they will continue to build on. Also a pleasure to see that what they worked on at training come out in the games. Special note about their goalkicking - by the end of the season, after working on it at training, all 11 girls were kicking all their goals which is outstanding.

These girls scored some breathtaking tries this year but also developed their skills and played for each other. Off the field it was beautiful to see the friendships develop among this group of girls which is really what it's all about.

A huge thankyou to the parents ... most of them were at every game supporting us - and a big thankyou to co-coach Spencer and manager Eloisa for the time and effort they put in. Player comments:

Zeldi Cilliers - just an athlete and a sight to behold when in full flight ... scored some amazing tries! An absolute pleasure to coach.

Jemima Pun - scored some brilliant tries but also regularly did 5 tags in a row from marker. Top player and team mate

Niamh McCarthy - one of our famous middles - very determined runner and tagger, always did her job. Very improved goal kicker also!

Sia Owsnett - our last line of defence she made a heap of try saving tags and just so safe under the high ball ! Also scored 9 tries, great all round season

Olivia Whitehorn - runs so hard with the ball and absolutely tireless in defence in the middle, top season

Piper Crimmins - one of our best goalkickers and really listened to instructions - learned how to dummy so was trusted with the DH jersey

Luara McKinlay - pleasure to coach .. wonderful defender, attacker, kicker and the best skills in the comp, a seriously good player who had a superb season and topped the point scoring

Charlotte Slattery - plays with so much determination, her runs continually got us out of trouble and tagged everything that moved. Scored 10 tries !

Chloe Pun - a beautiful runner of the ball and a beautiful kid like her sister ... Chloe scored an amazing 14 tries and some of them had to be seen to be believed!

Ruby Somerville - another one of our attacking weapons, one of the quickest in the comp, scored an amazing try on the siren in our second game to save a draw.

Bec Woodside - such a gifted runner of the ball and ball player. Very excited to see Bec grow into her skills. Easily the best goalkicker in the whole comp.



### <u>Under 11 - Silver</u>



2024 was always going to be a challenge, we stepped up a division, and brought in four boys who were new to the game of Rugby League. Whilst we did finish at the bottom of the table, this year was anything but a disappointment. Our boys showcased resilience, heart, and a commitment to growth that was truly commendable. From the outset, we knew we were up against some bigger and more experienced teams, and the draw was never kind, with all the wash-outs, we seemed to keep coming up against the top teams every week. This season was also a great opportunity for our newer players to develop their skills and find their footing in the game. Each week, we witnessed significant improvements, not just in individual performances, but in the cohesion of the team. The camaraderie that blossomed within the squad was a testament to the character of our boys. They supported each other through thick and thin, building a strong team spirit that became the backbone of the final part of our season. Our boys delivered a few fantastic performances, particularly over those last few weeks, culminating in a well-deserved come-from-behind victory against Menai Roosters, a win that showcased their tenacity and skill. Following that victory, we finished the season with a hard-fought draw against one of the league's finalists, the Titans. This match exemplified our development as a team, as we fought back from 12-0 down, with only 10 men, to be in front 30-18 with under 5 mins to go. Whilst we had to settle for a draw, the boys knew they had achieved something special and they celebrated like it was a GF win. The joy on their faces and singing of the team song was priceless, and it was a reminder of what kids sport is all about.



Earlier in the season, I think the boys did get intimidated out of a few games, and we were notorious slow starters. But the ability was there, both individually, and as a team. Outside of those last couple of games, I think the one match that showed the boys potential was against the eventual premiers, Engadine Dragons. This team never lost a game after coming down from the gold division. We were well behind at half time, and let in an early second-half try, but then the match turned. The boys got fired up by a few dirty plays from the opposition, and they just lifted right across the park. We held them scoreless for the final 15mins of that game, a feat that I don't think any other team managed to do all season, and the boys gave as good as they got. I think we would have had some real momentum from that game, but the rain gods got us again, as we didn't get to play or train for the next fortnight.

As I look forward to the next season, I remain optimistic and excited. The lessons learned this year will serve us well as we continue to grow. Our smaller size may have posed challenges, but it also fostered creativity, agility, and a fighting spirit. The new boys integrated beautifully into the team, and with continued dedication to training and developing, I'm confident that next season will bring even greater achievements.

I also want to take this moment to say thankyou to all the parents, for their support during the year and encouragement of the boys in what was a challenging season. Each week there was always someone willing to give a hand as trainer and scorer. Thankyou Sarah White, for taking on the manager duties, and always communicating information, it took a big load off my chest. A big shout out to the Under 10's who helped us at times during the year when we were short. All the boys played fantastically and exemplified what club spirit and what kids sport is all about. And lastly, but not least, I'd like to say a big thankyou to Andrew Sams, who's assistance and consistency at training was an incredible help, each and every week.

### <u>Under 12 Girls League Tag</u>

Although it was a very disjointed season due to the abnormal amount of washouts, our U12's League Tag team made it all the way through to finals and showed each other what you can achieve when we train well and work as a team. We made our way up the ladder to finish 4th with some close and exciting games against Gymea, Aquinas and Joeys. In the finals we came up against Como, who were just too good on the day.

Keely and Tara, our superstar coaches, developed new skills over the course of the season whilst ensuring there was a focus on fun along the way too. Team shoutouts: our most improved players Poppy, Eden and Emily; our amazing attackers April, Mayah, Anneliese, Bella and Alba; and our terrific taggers Avani, Tilly, Emmi, Addi and Ava. As a team this year we learnt new moves, how to support and off load, how to run straight hard lines and move up together. Our conversion kicks improved massively too!

It was a very enjoyable season and we would like to thank the parents for getting the girls to training, the games and helping out on the ground when needed. We hope to see everyone return next year for another great season of League Tag.





### <u>Under 12 Gold</u>

I came into the year not knowing any of the boys and starting with I training run before our first game. Our biggest problem was having enough players to play each week which will change next year. The real definition of a team was when we played Engadine with 10 players and got beat by a try. Now that was what a TEAM effort working for each other. We grew in confidence from that game and came close to making the GF but what I seen is that we grew from a team of individual s to a team as I said boys there's no 'I' in TEAM. Many thanks to Amy who kept myself, Dave and the parents informed of week to week club news and game day information Sam stepping in when needed. Well Dave if it wasn't for Dave I probably wouldn't of coached. Your enthusiasm and passion wanting to learn to help the boys get better was beyond the call of duty. Just one thing Dave calm on the sideline. ©

Chase - Our 'Will Kennedy' confidence in every game he s attack was outstanding with his combination with Taio through the middle Knox on the edge and when Sunny played running to holes. Defence just back yourself.

Ashton - Our Cameron Smith (The accountant)

Ashton you were outstanding wherever you played your defence on the bigger boys was technically perfect you are a team player and whatever position you want to play I think you will be able to play. Just work hard on fitness and strength 6 Keep up the good work

Kaden - Was able to play anywhere for us in back line very strong ball runner and big defending tackles when needed 'Bradman Best ' like. Had some very nice moments throughout the year catch pass Rory scoring in the corner 👌

Tyler - Ty another one who was like the (The accountant) Just wants to learn and train hard became more vocal towards end of the year. Tackling technique was good and your line running was outstanding we just need to get the ball to you when you hit those lines like Jesse Raymond

Rory - Our speed machine. I saw Rory grow from being a bit timid to a real confident ball runner. If anyone seen the try you scored the try against Kurnell would of thought they were watching' Tommy Turbo' not many people can score those try s Rory keep believing in yourself. Defence got better each week  $\diamond$ 

Knox - Our Mr Versatile every week we know we are getting 110% .You stood tall and became a real leader you started to understand that we play as a team and play to our strengths we are very competitive. Your skill level was good defensively outstanding one on one.The 'Axe' ' would be proud of the hits you put on during the year

Taio - Alfie Langer would be proud of what you have done for us this year. Lead us around the park kicked well tackles like you are 6ft tall and pass really well keep working hard bud and you will achieve your goals.

Ryder - The Tom Hazelton of our team you showed me in patches this year you do have it to play in the front row , Defence was great and ball skills are getting better keep working hard.





Alex - Our Mr Realiable 'Damien Cook' like player .I'm very surprised and impressed at the same time Dave only told me at the end of year you really didn't play hooker before wow mate you have had a great year

Mac - The Royce Hunt of our team very proud of where started to where you finished which was the best prop in the comp well done 👏

Steve - Our tuff tackling hard running Briton Nikora. Got better and better every week played how I ask you to well done 👏

Flynn - Our Teig Wilton Flynn you can do anything in the game just need to practice catch pass great year

Wade - Our G Train don't worry about the G Train they will be getting on the Wade train in years to come. Outstanding

Jett - Our Jack Williams willing to work hard and play anywhere for the team well Jett

The under 11s and 12 silver thankyou for your help Jett, Coby, Alby, Joshua Special mention to Sunny and Harrison we are waiting for you 2 next year

Thanks to all the parents.







### Under 12 Silver

I would like to thank all our fantastic parents and boys for a fun year. A special thank you to Luke and Katie for all their help throughout the season, I really appreciate it. This year certainly presented us with challenges due to consistent bad weather and many of the boys suffering injuries. This made training and personal growth very difficult as we rarely had the entire group available to train and subsequently play.

Cooper was our Captain this year and he lead by example every game. He is a great listener, trainer and all-round good kid. A pleasure to coach. Congratulations on your season mate.

Charlie was our number 9 this year and led our tackling every week. His running out of dummy half improved with each game and he always gave his best. Well done.

Koby - This was Koby's first year of league. He was happy to step up and play any position on the field, finally settling in at lock. He was our work horse. Congratulations on a great first year Koby.

Tommy was one of our most improved this year. Always willing to get in and help his team mates. Tommy turned up ready to train each week and it was nice to see his confidence grow as the season progressed.

Will is a great kid to coach. Full of personality and confidence. He lifted the team with his great spirit. Well done on a great season Will.

Alby was one of our best backs this year. No matter what positioned he played he was always willing to do more than his fair share of tackling and was one of our best runners.

Finn was always willing to put his hand up and take the hard runs for his team. He has a fantastic personality and is a very popular member of our team.

Aidan played wing, centre and back row this year. He is a great runner and this showed as the year progressed, finally settling into the centres.

Sam played in the halves for us this year and was a great organiser. He tried his best each game. Sam has a big heart and was a pleasure to coach.

Ashton played in the back row and was always willing to dig in and run the ball up. He was one of our best tacklers all season.

Saxon played in the back row and centres. He settled into the back row and improved with each game.

Baxter played on the wing, hooker and lock for us this year. His versatility was exceptional. He could fill in anywhere and he tackled well.





Brooklyn tried hard this year. He played front row and back row. He is well mannered, and I enjoyed coaching him.

Jett played a variety of positions this year eventually settling into the centre position where he found his best form. Beau and Jude had a rough year with injuries. Unfortunately, they did not get a lot of

Beau and Jude had a rough year with injuries. Unfortunately, they did not get a lot of game time but I'm sure they will both return eager to play in the 2025 season.







<u>Under 13 - Gold</u> Great year from the 13 boys. Undefeated minor premiers and premiers.

We were tested a few times but the boy's relentless defense always shone through and got them the victory.

Their attitude at training was always good. They worked really hard on their defence at training which paid dividends. Their ability to attack and pass the ball was beyond their years. They deserve all the credit they get.

Great year boys.







### <u>Under 13 - Silver</u>









#### <u> Under 13 (1) - Gold 1 Girls League Tag</u>

What a year. Liam, Mick and myself said to the girls after the GF that they should be extremely proud of their efforts for this season. We have been coaching this team now for 4 years and to watch them grow from little girls into young women has been very rewarding. Off the back of a couple of Grand Final wins in the Silver comp over the past few years the girls moved up into the Gold comp. We knew this would be a challenge but we were looking forward to it. As a team we had lost a few players and gained a few players which made for an exciting year to come and see what they could achieve. We fell one game short but there was so much to take out of the season. They all get on so well and love to have a laugh but when it's time to switch on and knuckle down it's one in all in. With the addition of the new players, there was a new dimension within the team which proved to be a successful combination. As a group we know we can go one better next year and we all can't wait to do it again!!

A big thanks to Liam and Mick for all your help with training and game days. Also a big thanks to Lee for organising this team year in and year out. Thanks to all the parents to for the commitment and getting the girls to training and the games week in and week out.

Bring on Season 2025, Cheers Sween.







<u>Under 13 (2) - Gold 1 Girls League Tag</u>









#### <u> Under 13 (3) - Gold 3 Girls League Tag</u>

Congratulations to every team member for a great year of league-tag. The girls had an impressive season continuing to play up in an older age division. Whilst it came with its challenges, each and every girl lifted their individual performance which resulted in us qualifying for the semi-finals. We played our best half of the year in this game which was a pleasing way to finish the season.

The comradery, mateship and team work was evident with the girls supporting each other throughout the season. They learned to play new positions, structures, plays and patterns which challenged them throughout and led to a great half in the semi-final.

We had some incredibly consistent individuals who played to a very high standard week in week out led by Chloe G, Milla and Giselle and supported by Chloe Mac, Tilly, Audrey and Victoria. Sass, Allegra, Chloe Knowles, Zara, Eva and Alana all had incredible seasons and were the key to us performing strongly throughout the year. Every girl improved week after week as the season wore on.

Thank you to Nathan for again stepping up and helping to train and educate the girls.

A huge thank you to the parents for their continued support and assistance. I look forward to seeing all of the girls continue to grow as sportspeople and remain the tight friendship unit that they are.

#### Under 13 (4) - Silver Girls League Tag

This season has been an incredible journey for our team. Since the beginning of the season, the girls have shown significant growth and success, which we are so proud of. After watching the girls' first game, we immediately set goals in order to improve their game, but our main goal was for the team to have fun on the field and at training.

Through consistent training and refining our strategies, the girls were able to improve their skills, as well as create a strong team bond, working together to succeed. After our first game of the season, losing 48-10, the results from our last game before the semis, winning 26 - 6, to the team coming second on the ladder, shows significant improvement. We are so proud of the team's progress, as well as the individual growth of each player. Although we had a tough season with the weather issues, the girls managed to turn up when they could and give their best efforts. However, next season we are looking forward to developing the structure within our game.





### <u> Under 14 - Girls Tackle</u>

What a remarkable year for the Under 14 Girls Tackle Football team!

Despite the majority of the players being new to Tackle Football, they embraced the challenge of tackling and body contact with determination and resilience. This new experience presented a steep learning curve, but the team adapted quickly by mastering essential skills such as correct tackling techniques and controlling the ruck. Their growth was evident as they applied these lessons on the field, showing both physical and mental strength.

The versatility of the team was one of its greatest strengths. Many players stepped up to play in multiple positions, demonstrating their willingness to take on new challenges in both attack and defence. This adaptability was crucial to the team's success and development throughout the season.

Every player should be proud of their achievements in this inaugural year of Tackle Football. The team has built a solid foundation for future seasons, laying the groundwork for continued growth in 2025. They have learned that success on the field isn't determined by size, but by determination, courage, and most importantly, teamwork.

A special thanks goes to Mia, Taylor, and Zara from Engadine Dragons, who joined the De La Salle team to help with player numbers. They quickly became core members of the team, and their contributions were invaluable. We hope to see them back next year!

Gary Bacon & Justin Bailey







<u>Under 14 - Gold</u>



The 2024 season for the U14 Gold team was undeniably challenging. The squad faced an array of obstacles including frequent washouts and a series of injuries that tested their resilience. Despite these hurdles, the team demonstrated remarkable determination, commitment, perseverance and teamwork throughout the season.

One of the standout features of this season was the team's versatility. With a number of key players sidelined due to injuries, several boys were required to step into unfamiliar positions. Their willingness to adapt and excel in new roles for their team highlighted their flexibility and depth. This ability to adjust and perform under pressure was evident throughout the season and played a crucial role in our success.

We'd like to acknowledge and thank the 14 Silvers and 13 Gold players. Their willingness to step in and support our squad during times of need ensured that we were able to field a competitive.

Finals time came around quick and for the first time all season, we finally fielded a full-strength side in the Semi Finals. This came at just the right moment providing the edge we needed and was a decisive factor in our convincing win.

In the Grand Final, the team encountered a slow start but displayed exceptional resilience and composure. Their ability to remain calm and focused under pressure highlighted their mental toughness and teamwork. In the end, they rallied together to secure the victory, achieving their 6th consecutive Grand Final win which is truly a remarkable accomplishment and we are incredibly proud of the boys!



Coaching staff would like to express our gratitude to the parents and families of the U14 Gold team. Your support and encouragement have been appreciated and has contributed to our success over the years.

The 2024 season for the U14 Gold team was a testament to the players' remarkable resilience, adaptability and unity. Despite the numerous challenges, the team's perseverance, dedication and teamwork shone through, leading to yet another Grand Final victory.

#### <u>Under 14 - Silver</u>

The 2024 Under 14 Silvers were a great group of young men that worked hard at training and never gave up in our matches. A win against eventual Premiers Engadine and a loss in the final seconds to Runners Up, Aquinas Colts were the on field highlights.

Despite some unfortunate long term injuries to some key players throughout the season, the boys all displayed a team first attitude in showing a willingness to play in multiple positions. What the boys lacked in size they certainly matched with heart, and they all showed improvement in their performances.

Special thanks to Assistant Coach, Scott Thurkettle and Manager Katie Fisher for their help during the season. To the other parents who assisted coaching the boys including Craig Stein, Ben Francis and Mick Eisenhuth, your support was much appreciated.







### <u> Under 14 - Bronze</u>

Firstly, I would just like to say thank you to all the boys & parents for all the hard work and commitment you all showed both on and off the field. This was a merged team between Gymea & De La which was a huge challenge for Coach Dave to get the boys to come together as a team & play for each other. Without a boy in either side it was a massive thankyou to Coach Dave for his time and commitment to training & gameday every week. Bloke is a legend.

On the footy side of things, it was a tough year with the boys failing to register a W for the season. Along with the rain & holidays, we were hammered with injuries to some key players for most of the year (even playing short a few a weeks). On the positive though it was a huge improvement from week to week, and great to see some of the boys step up and have a crack. Hopefully we see you all back next year.

#### PLAYER PROFILES:

Lawson Alpen: Lawson was our Captain and played mainly in the halves this year. After 100 games for the Gorillas as a 9 it was a big challenge which he enjoyed. He stepped up, leading by example, and playing above his weight. Scored a couple of tries and a couple of highlights bringing down rampaging front rowers.

Jesse Bullock: Jesse was our 6 for the year and shouldered a lot of responsibility in attack & with the kicking duties. Came a long way with his creativity & ability to link with the forwards and outside backs. Scored a couple of strong tries and kicked a few goals.

Nicholas Yan: Nick was mainly our 1 for the year until he broke his arm later in the season. A livewire in attack, his speed an sidestep proved a real handful for the defence all year. The team really missed Nick at the back, but like a great team man he turned up and supported his team every week

Logan Strauss: Logan was our big improver for the year. Played on the wing for the first few games, and then realised it was fun playing in the middle and bashing blokes. Positive attitude & always had a crack.

Nicholas Buttaro Curtis: A tally rangy outside back, Nicky was a damaging runner out wide. He was fun to watch when he fired up & ripped in. Scored a nice try against Como.

Ashton Metcalfe: First year for Ashton who played mainly on the wing. Great kid who tried hard and really improved his defence throughout the season.

Mattao Carnuccio: Tao was our 9 for the year and an absolute machine in defence. One of the smallest guys in the team, but great tackle technique & a big heart. Good service & crafty with the ball.

Luke Hefren: Big Lukey played up front all year and really had a crack. Some great runs & big collisions in the middle. Solid year.

Kaiden Koliopoulos: Our other big man up front, Kaiden was a handful when he wound up and hit the line. Had some really strong games & led the "go forward". Decent boot on the big fella too.



Harvey Phillis: I've watched Harvey play for a few years and was really impressed. Played backrow and was one our hitmen for the season. Absolutely whacked a few boys this year. Brought great aggression & physicality to the defence which is what you need in 14s. A well deserved try against Kurnell too.

Kai Huang: The other half of the hitmen duo. Kai was a weapon all year. Would take on the opposition front rowers for fun. Never shirked the defence, and made yards with the ball all year. Crashed over against Como in the first game.

Rome Cameron: Plenty of potential in this lad. Tall & rangy backrower, has a really good carry and can be a real handful. Enjoyed the defence too. Also pretty new to league but could mould into a good edge or 13 I think.

Thomas Giles: A season of what could have been. Tom started (and finished) with a bang showing great speed and creativity with the ball. Ability to play 6, 1, or centre. His season was hampered by rain, injury, and overseas travel. Good player, one to watch.

Cooper Bradshaw: Good team man Cooper. Always positive & geeing up the boys. Played a mixture of outside backs. I thought he really improved & had some great games at the back end.

David Downes: Every team needs a Dave. Was so excited to get out there each week and rip in. Played a mix of 13 and centres. Very strong ball runner, had a smile on his face as he charged into the defence. Great kid & definitely one to watch next year.

Tiye Fernando: Came down from the country and joined the team along with Dave. There's definitely a good footballer in there. Has speed, some good size. I think he'll really progress in the next few years.

Adriano Kotis: Adriano had a strong season up front & in the middle. Had a HIA early in the year, but really got through the work when he got back on the park. Plenty of strong runs & good D.

Callum Hain: Callum was strong off our bench when we had him. Could fill in across a number of positions.

Alex Wikins: Alex played in the outside backs. Showed some good glimpses with the ball and in defence. A good asset when we had him.

Axel Mawer: Alex was also strong off bench and out wide when we needed him. His confidence really built throughout the year & hopefully kicks on next year.

Oliver Derek: Solid in the backrow, Oliver had to come up with a lot of defence this season. Also did a lot of our kicking off so he got plenty of practice!

Lachlan Edhouse: We only had Lachlan for a few games. Only a little fella but had some good glimpses in a stint at 9, and defending on the wing.





### <u> Under 15 - Gold</u>

An amazing year by the U15 Gold Team. Starting preseason in November with 25 plus lads each session two times a week until Christmas. Concentrating on core skills, skill refinement and game scenarios, each session building the boys knowledge technically and tactically. We started the season well beating the defending champs of the last 3 years whom the boys had never beat in 5 years. Then we ran into lots of injuries with key players which affected from round 2 until round 8 but it allowed us to use the entire 19 man squad we had, benefiting the boys with crucial game time. Once we got all hands on deck and put players into positions which was in the best interest of the team the boys put all the hard work together and went on a big winning streak playing great attacking football and defensively outstanding. We had some late injuries going into the final games and finals but the connection between the boys, the reps each of them had done knowing their roles, I was confident we had the team and coaching staff to take the competition out. We beat the defending premiers Cronulla Caringbah in the SF which some people said it was the best junior game they had seen for a long time (4-0 no tries scored), allowing us to play the minor premiers Engadine in the GF. Luckily the boys saved their best game until last... the first half we blew them off the park in both attack and defence leading at the break 16-0. The boys won the GF 22-12 and will remember celebrating on the field for a long time to come.

Thank you for the memories boys and being great coachable kids... Thank you to the coaching staff, Dave Hughes, Greg Woolley and Heath Taper for all the hard work and dedication to get the boys up each week...

A massive thank you Bec Hughes our beautiful hard working Manager, nothing was ever a problem and you always had our backs. CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE INVOLVED.... An amazing 2024!!

JD







<u>Under 15 - Gold 1 Girls League Tag</u> After taking out the title in 2023, the U15/1 LT girls were looking forward to another enjoyable and successful season. We kicked off in the pre-season with fitness sessions at the sand hills, which saw us hit the ground running with some strong wins early in the season. A number of washouts and byes resulted in only a handful of games being played in the first half of the season.

We continued to train where we could to ensure we were ready for the business end of the season. A few tight games late in the season had us ready for another chance at semi-final football. The girls always know how to step up in the big games and did not disappoint in the first semi-final. A strong win against Taren Point and we were through to another Grand Final match against Joeys. Back to back Grand Finals is a great achievement and something the girls should look back on with pride. Like the 2023 Grand Final, the game was a tight and could have gone either way. The girls competed hard and were in the game up until the final whistle.

The recipe for success in any sporting team comes down to having a playing group that are all great friends and enjoying playing together. Matched with their sporting talents, they will no doubt continue to be successful as a team. As long as the girls want to continue training and playing I will be sure to be there to help them achieve their goals.

Thanks again to Drew for stepping up as trainer again and Amber for manning the desk. See you all on the field next season.

Cheers, Todd







<u>Under 15 - Gold 2 Girls League Tag</u> Really disappointing season for the girls to be honest. They had a very tough year last year being graded in the Gold competition and were clearly out of their depth. This season we requested Silver from the moment we were registered and were told we would be a Silver team. When the draws were released we were grade in the Gold comp. We lost every game apart from one by very significant margins and despite this, a formal request to be moved down at the midseason regrade was denied. After 2 seasons in a row of poor grading, most of these girls have indicated they will not return to the club next year.

### Under 15 - Silver



The De La Salle Under-15's silver stand proud of advancing to the 2024 grand final, but hungrier than ever before to be standing with the trophy held high next season. Minor premiers and the best defensive team in the competition, this was a season built on mateship, belief from their coaches and a commitment to improve as footballers. Finishing first after the regular season, we advanced to a preliminary final with a hard-fought 14-12 win over Cronulla-Caringbah that displayed defensive courage that will be remembered as a highlight of the season. In a tight match, we went down to Como-Jannali 18-12 in the grand final, taking with us lessons that will drive us all into next season. After losing three games in the first eight rounds, we failed to drop another game until the decider.



We were a team that wouldn't have been able to achieve what we did without the go-forward of our fearless pack led by Tyson Knight, Zac Zuvela, Harrison McKell, Cruz Sant, Lachlan Barnes, Riley Maskiell, Oscar Murtas and Tristan Leo. What should be noted is the resilience of this team to make the grand final despite key injuries to our playmakers Byron Sharman and Zac Redman, who both displayed tremendous character to support their teammates and do everything possible to pull on the De La jersey. Making the transition into the halves for the first time, five-eighth Ryan Klaassen was a major factor all season with his kicking game and goalkicking (48-points) hugely influential in our success. Dummy-half Archie Riccio enjoyed another strong season where the stats guy gave up counting his weekly number of tackles. Under the direction of our halves, our strike weapons including Nathan Suttor (six tries), Lachlan Turner (six tries), Thomas George (three tries), Lachlan Barnes (three tries), Jude Burns (two tries) and Max Latta (two tries) were all outstanding in lifting us to the second-best attack in the competition Special mention to our Mr Fix-It Luca Rajkovic (five tries) who was superb in playing fullback, wing, five-eighth, halfback, second-row and hooker throughout the season.

Of course, our season wouldn't have been possible without the passion and dedication of our coaches Justin Turner and Mark Sant and our equally invested manager Dave Leo who developed the boys as a team and more importantly as young men. Shout-out to Sharks coach Craig Fitzgibbon for providing the boys with words of wisdom that hopefully stays with this team well beyond this season.

Thank you to all the boys and parents for making 2024 an enjoyable year. Be proud of what we achieved but hungry to make the 2025 premiership ours! David Riccio (Trainer)

### Under 15 - Silver Girls League Tag

First year playing together and every week they got better and better. Through hard work at training the girls were one win away from a grand final. They were narrowly defeated but as always did themselves proud and played the game in a great spirit. The girls were an absolute joy to coach and I look forward to an even better season next year.







### <u>Under 15 - Bronze</u>

A huge thank you to my coaching staff for volunteering their time in supporting both the team and I. Our amazing team manager Tamara Summers & our trainers Kyle Cavanagh and Troy Young.

It was my first year coaching these boys, and I am so proud of their development. Despite the ups and downs, wins and losses we faced this season the team continued to show determination and continued to improve throughout the year and I couldn't have asked for anything more. We saved our best game of the year for the semi final but unfortunately we could not hold off the much bigger team of boys in the second half. I look forward to the 2025 season and I am confident that it will be our year.









<u> Under 16 - Gold</u>



2024 What a year ! PREMIERSHIP WINNERs. A season that will be remembered for what games we didn't get to play with rain playing a major part to the year.

The boys in this team are a great example of what years and years of playing together brings, this season has seen injuries put pressure on us as a squad and seeing players play out of position and learn more and more about footy this has been a great thing to see.

A large number of the boys have made development teams and Daniel Green, Liam Challenor, Spencer Swann and Dhardyan Patten-Hill all represent Cronulla at Harold Matts level a year young, a great achievement boys and one the club is very proud of

I'm proud to have coached these boys over many years and watched them develop into great footballers but better young men.

We finished the year second and then played in a grandfinal that will go down as one of the best ! Down 20 nil and to get back to 26 all right on full time then have Liam kick a penalty goal to seal the win in extra time, this game was testament to

The team - selfless, committed and connected the whole team stood up and played in true de la style. These boys are developing and becoming great life long friends and great ambassadors to the DLS football club.



Congratulations to our award winners this season, well deserved boys

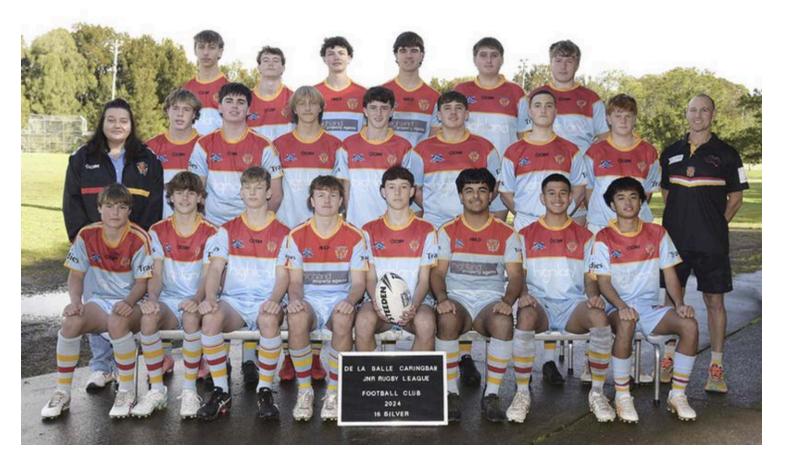
Players Player - Tighe Devane MVP - Spencer Swann Coaches Award - Liam Challenor

A big thank you to the best blue shirt in the business Al Wilson, Clayton for his great tee work and a massive thank you to Katie Corbin for being the team manager and last of all the parents of 16 Gold for trusting me to coach and look after your sons

2025 boys Bring it ON

NICHO

### <u> Under 16 - Silver</u>







What a difference 2 weeks can make. These boys were having a rough season. Like everyone who was interrupted by washouts and injuries, it was hard to gain momentum week to week. We played Kingsgrove the week before semis and were considering forfeiting due to lack of numbers. The boys turned up and really put in a good effort, and despite a close loss, really gained confidence.

Finishing the regular season in 4th place, we were drawn to play 1st place Gymea at Gymea. This was a tough task as we had lost twice this season at Gymea. The boys started strong, with a quick miracle try scored by Cooper after Bronx chased a kick and flicked it over his head to open the scoring. Gymea then scored 3 tries and we went into halftime down 16-6, but confident we could turn it around running downhill in the 2nd half. The game went back and forth and with 5 minutes remaining, Gymea were up 22-18 and attacking our line. Their best player was looking to score his 4th try when Jacob came out of nowhere to hit him in a beautiful 1-on-1 tackle and steal the ball. We went down field, got a repeat set and Ashton put on a lovely pass for Zayne to go over untouched. Riley took his time converting the try, so with 1 minute 30 remaining we were leading 24-22. Gymea tried a short kickoff, but Tyler was ready and after breaking a tackle, sprinted 50m to score under the posts. Riley lined up the conversion for the rest of the clock to secure a 30-22 win and a place in the grand-final. What a feeling. I am sure the boys and their parents will be talking about that finish for a long time to come.

The confidence was sky high for the game at Hurstville Oval against Penshurst RSL (who finished 2nd), although after beating Kingsgrove in the other semi, they were not to be taken lightly. Using all of the experience gained from last year's heart breaking grand-final loss, and welcoming back Brady Bacon from injury, the boys played a really controlled and dominating defensive game to get the win 18-4 with tries to Brady (1) and Riley (2), plus 2 goals to Riley. Riley Taylor was a deserved man of the match.

A big thank you must go to Gregg Taylor for stepping up this year when I was regularly away. He really brought the boys together and polished off the attacking sets. It was great knowing they were in good hands when I couldn't get there. Mel Moffat was our manager and did a great job, especially with the extra communication for the 16s trip this year. Thanks Mel. Gary and Luke also stepped in to help the boys at training and games. Tahu Vanzino was our trainer and was a great help to the boys. Turning up organised each week with the water, he was missed on the field, but I am so glad he was able to still be a part of the team in this capacity.

We have a core group of boys that have played over 100 games since the under 6s. These boys turn up to training every week and lead by example. Noah Moffatt (144 career games and our captain) played lock and front row. Was the fittest he has been and it showed on the field. Billy Taper (140 games) had his best season, playing 2nd row he ran the ball hard and made his tackles. Ashton Cotton (139 games) played mostly 5/8 and is skillful and brave. His defence on bigger players each week was outstanding. Brady Bacon (136 games) came back from a broken finger and played centre and fullback. Strong runner and defender, hr gave the boys confidence when he was on the field. Nicholas Selems (124 games) really had a great attitude this season and was willing to do his job of running and tacking hard. He was at training each week with a smile on his face and I was so impressed. Billy Rose (123 games) was able to play multiple positions at training and in games. He played wing, centre, 5/8 and hooker without fuss, always willing to do whatever was needed. Hamish Barlow (117 games) missed a few games and we were certainly better when he was there. Hamish controlled the team well from halfback with his communication as well as his work ethic in both attack and defence. Patrick Molloy (117 games) played wing and centre and grew in confidence once again.





He was strong carrying the ball and defended really well. Riley Taylor (108 games) was another versatile player who stood up every game. He is not big in stature but has a huge heart. He worked himself tostandstill for the team every game playing hooker, half, 5/8 and fullback. Another strong runner of the ball and makes so many tackles every week. Finished off the season with 2 amazing games. This group of experienced players really uphold and enforce the team values and created a great team culture.

We welcomed new players, King, Yamin, Tyler and Bronx to the team this year and they fitted in nicely. Yamin loved his back fence run and big hits. Tyler improved every week and is super fast. Bravely played the grand final with a black and swollen eye. Bronx was at every training and fit in well. King went really hard and played above his weight, but unfortunately suffered a back injury which ruled him out for the last few weeks of the season.

Backing up from last year were, Jeremy, Lucas, Josh, Cooper, Zayne, Austin and Carlton. Unfortunately Jeremy and Carlton sustained injuries and couldn't complete the season. Josh tries his best every time he gets an opportunity. He has a great attitude and is always positive for the team. Cooper gained confidence this year and was great in the centres. Zayne was very versatile and played in the halves, centres and fullback. His talk and skill really helped everyone around him. Austin played with renewed confidence this year and played hooker and 2nd row. He was strong and did everything asked of him. Lucas was awesome this season playing lock. Such a strong runner of the ball and he covered up in defence all game.

Teams aren't successful over a long period of time without a great team culture. This group of boys know each other so well, and are a really happy group who want to do well for each other. The coaching staff and parents are very proud of the way they play the game, as well as how they treat the opposition, officials, each other and our coaching staff and parents. We are very lucky to spend time with them each week.

Thank you De La Salle 16 Silver 2024

David Rose - coach







<u>Under 16 Girls League Tag</u> These young girls are an absolute pleasure to coach. From getting flogged in round 1, I feel the girls developed their passing and catching skills as the year progressed.

Summer: Summer is our secret weapon and wins our most improved award for 2024. She is quite unassuming but if given half a chance with the ball she can leave the defence in her wake. I am so proud of Summers improvement this year especially her passing and catching skills.

Cyan: A natural competitor. Excellent passing skills and understands how to go to the line, draw in defenders and pass the ball to a team mate who is in a better position than her. Cy is humble, full of energy and has a genuine turn of pace. Cyan reads the game very well.

Talea: Speed to burn! I love watching Talea go to the line with the ball in 2 hands, throw her famous dummy and shoot through the gap. She has excellent catching skills both in general play and under the high ball. Talea has a natural instinct for the game and always finds herself in open ground.

Sienna: Is the recipient of our coaches award this year. Her fitness, passing and tagging have come so far. When Sienna is defending in the middle, I am forever confident the opposition have no way through the line of defence. Sienna can also kick the ball really well. Another happy young woman, always smiling.

Gabby: Gabby has the most beautiful nature which makes her a pleasure to coach. Such a positive and upbeat attitude. A real team player - supportive, kind and encouraging. She leads the way in how to treat people. Speed to burn, easily finds herself in open space, such is her natural instinct for the game. Excellent passing and catching skills.

Jayla: Jayla's passing and running game really developed this year. Jayla was able to set up many tries this year though her drawing and passing. She also developed a very skilful step. Jayla loves the game and is a pleasure to coach her. Very deserved of our best and fairest.

Zara: Zara is a pocket rocket. Fit, fast and full of smiles! Can play any position from dummy half, in the middle, link or wing. Very versatile, is skilful with the ball and an asset to our team. Like all the girls, Zara is a pleasure to coach.

Isla: Isla will always do what is best for the team. She is forever putting her hand up to play different positions. If it is good for the team, Isla is all in. Isla is very fast, determined and a pleasure to be around. Isla can kick the football a mile and I hope Isla plays again in 2024. A selfless player.

Evy: Evy is our most competitive player. She wants to win. I know at this age it is all about development and having fun, but Evy's competitive nature is a breath of fresh air. She can kick a football a mile and will give any goal kick conversion a crack - even if it is from the sideline. Thanks for another great year you weapon!







Zahara. Another freakishly fast runner. Just give her the ball in open space and the rest is history. Hara is the person we can go to when we need something special to break the game open. An absolute pleasure to coach, very determined, loves to win and gives it all she has.

Matilda: Has so much energy it is actually scary! This young woman has something very special about her. Intelligent, filled with charisma and a care free fun attitude. I love that in Matilda. Till's you are a big part of our Team.

Emily. This was Emily's first season with the girls and it took me half the year to figure out how fast Emily is! An attacking weapon and can chase down anyone that breaks through our defensive line. Is an absolute pleasure to coach, always smiling and always giving her best for the Team.

Imogen: A

nother newcome to our team this year. Imogen has fantastic passing skills and can kick a ball really well – both in general play and also goal kicking. I'd love to see you back in this team next year Imogen.

Thank you to Shelby for managing this year and all the parents who helped out throughout the year especially Damo & Jye. Mark







<u>Under 17 Gold</u> Team Awards; Best & Fairest - Noah Morse, Best Back - Chase Grant, Best Forward - Casey Purcell

Congratulations to all the award winners, it was very difficult to pick and could have gone to a number of players. It was overall a successful season for the 17 Gold, the competition was genuine and very even, they finished the regular season 3rd out of 8 teams which was the highest this team has finished for a number of seasons.

There were a number of new faces this year and from early pre-season everyone came together and bonded really well. There were high expectations amongst the group that this team was going to give the competition a real shake this year. Unfortunately after a heartbreaking loss in the 1st round by one point, the weather set in and disrupted the next few months of football. With a new team and constant disruptions to training and games, the boys couldn't get any cohesion and only managed one win from the first four games.

Once the weather cleared, showing the resilience that has been built into this team over a number of years, the boys came together and were determined to finish off the year strong. With a forward pack dominating the opposition and a backline with speed and skill they fought hard to register 4 wins, 1 draw and a loss from the last 6 games. Unfortunately major injuries in the last few weeks caught up with them in the semi-final and the result didn't go their way, but they showed their character and fought to the last second.

A huge thank you also to the boys that travelled each week to training and always turned up with a great attitude, the dedication to constantly improve each week rubbed off on the other boys and was another factor in the strong finish to the season.

In the sheds after the semi-final, although they were hurting physically and mentally, they knew how close they came to doing something special and committed to each other to stick together and have a crack again at a premiership. Bring on 2025!







### Under 18 - Girls Tackle

What a crazy season this was!! Our girls were always going to have a difficult season as we struggled for numbers from day one due to many injuries in the off season and the team was always going to be a year young in this age group, nevertheless the girls gave it their best and we could not be prouder of them.

We were thrown in a competition where we travelled as far South as Milton and as far West as Camden, had several girls step up who should have remained in the U16's competition and to play in an U18's comp at that age is a huge deed, we had girls who came into the team who had never played tackle football before at the back end of the season so we could just finish the season, we had girls who drove 1 or 2 hours each way to get to training or games and we had our core group who worked tirelessly throughout the season many playing with niggly injuries or illness as we just needed them, so we thank each and every one of you for turning up!

In the end we pretty much lost our whole forward pack which is not what you need playing in this type of competition and we often had to remind the girls that this season was not going to be our best and after coming off such a great season last year it was difficult week in week out however the girls learnt a lot about backing each other, playing as a team, being flexible and how to come back after some big loses but it was wonderful to watch them support each other, adapt and play some good footy with each other.

Our awards could have gone to many of our girls, but we congratulate the 3 girls chosen Kahlea Fisher Best Forward, Keely Latta Best Back and Ella Metselaar Coaches Award you girls had a great season. We cannot stress enough we are hoping that the whole team comes back next year for a bigger, better season and finally a huge thank you to Sant Bricklaying who sponsored the girls this season with a "\$100 brick of the game" award each week, hopefully you will be back next season too!

<u>Under 18 Girls League Tag</u> The 2024 U/18 League Tag side enjoyed a very successful competition, putting together a magnificent season and rightly winning the minor premiership. All the players worked hard during the season to improve their skills, come together and play as team and work hard for each other. The girls showed real pride in the DeLa jersey fighting all the way till the death in the grand final but unfortunately falling just short. None-the-less, it was a very successful season and the team and everyone involved should be very proud of their efforts and commitment to the team.

Well done Team !!!







### Over 35s Mens League Tag

This year the Over 35 played in the Gold competition and we gave it a very good shake. As with many teams the wet weather did us no favours with the draw as we missed out on playing the lower ranked teams and did not get the bye. We played very well all year despite losing lots of players to injury. We welcomed some great new players and had a few superstars return. One of the great wins of the year was against Aquinas at Kurnell where we defeated a stacked team by two points with only one reserve. It all came down to the last two weeks to make the semi-finals after Menai came up from the second division, taking our spot. We fought hard to come from 18 points behind to beat Brighton and then had an outstanding performance against Kurnell in the last game of the year. The team dug deep however, we went down by one point in the dying minutes. Thanks everyone for another successful year. We are looking forward to a bigger and better year next year. For anyone interested in giving 35s a go next year we welcome you all to come down and trial in the pre season. We are also looking for coach, manager and trainer if anyone is keen to help out.

### Over 30s Womens League Tag

When we kicked off the year, we were a group of Mums, many of whom hadn't played a team sport in years, let alone run around a full-sized footy field. Most of us had never played league tag before, but we were eager to do something for ourselves, have some fun, and maybe learn a thing or two along the way.

The season threw us plenty of challenges—juggling kids' sports, partners away, babysitting crises, and, of course, the injuries. We racked up three broken fingers, a broken foot and two pregnancies during the season, not to mention the little niggles that popped up which meant getting a team together some weeks was nothing short of a miracle. We even played some games with no subs, and in one match, we were down two players, playing 9 against the other team's 11—and won!

Facing teams with far more experience, our start was tough, especially with our first two games against the competition's top teams. But once we found our rhythm, the wins started rolling in. Taylor Morris led us around the field, running trainings and teaching us the ropes each week. Melissa Redmayne & Leisa Sweeney found their groove weaved through defence, Courtney Rixon learned to charge at the defence with everything she had, zippy little Aimee Peros bought fire and determination (with a side of fun), Chloe Sexty played most of the season with a broken foot and if Elise McGregor got away she was unstoppable, finishing the season as our top try-scorer with a whopping 21 tries.

While we had standout performances each week, the grit and determination from everyone didn't go unnoticed. Every first try scored was a reason to celebrate, with Kate and Kaz Van Etten nabbing some absolute stunners. Regardless of who could make it, injuries, pregnancies, we always pulled together and it was a real team effort.

At mid-season, sitting in 7th place, we thought our finals hopes were slim. But a late-season surge, including back-to-back wins (some by over 50 points), set up a must-win game against Como to make the finals. With no reserves and a player short, we knew it was going to be tough. Special shout out to Bridge, who, despite being 28 weeks pregnant, suited up and got back out there to help us out! We dug deep, came out on top, and scraped into the finals.

We couldn't have done it without our amazing support crew—our little cheer squads cheering on their Mums, the partners and parents wrangling kids on the sidelines and Woody, our chief water boy and confidence booster.

Looking back on our first season, it's safe to say we've exceeded even our own expectations. What started as a bunch of Mums looking to have a bit of fun turned into a team that not only learned the game and had fun while doing it but also made it to the finals. Despite the challenges and injuries, we stuck together, got better each week, and celebrated every small victory along the way. We can proudly call this first season a success, not just because of the wins, but because of the camaraderie, fun and wine to celebrate the end of the season! Got a wife, mum or friend who wants to play next year? Tell her to come and join in!



<u>Emerging Cup</u> The 2024 season was one to remember. A large squad was brought together from various age groups, with many boys experiencing their first taste of senior football.

We started the season with a shaky record of 2 wins and 2 losses at the halfway point. However, the team banded together through bonding sessions, which helped turn the season around. We went on to win 8 games in a row.

Although we fell short, losing to Gymea in the grand final 10-8, it was a successful season overall, marked by significant improvement both on and off the field.

I'm sure I can speak for the boys when I say we are all hungry to come back next season and take the title.

Bring on 2025

Langers







<u>Open Silver</u> Well what a year, after being convinced to come back and coach I had hesistation as always with seniors you never truely know who will turn up and play for the year until round 1, I was pleasantly surprised with the group that showed up from the start of pre season and that hesistation slowly disappeared and turned into high expectations.

As we began the season I could tell the team I had was something special, from the comradery during games to the social bond at drinks and training I knew if we played to the ability we had we would be very hard to beat. And despite the rain doing its best to dampen our spirits the quality we had shown throughout and on grand final day my expectations became reality and we showed the competition why they should have been scared of us as we blew them away to come out champions.

This club is truly a family not only to me but to many of the players that pull on the jersey and that can only happen when people from the committee to the canteen to our trainers and managers sacrifice their own time and for that I say Thankyou and I can't wait for 2025 to come around and we defend our title!! Regards Hodgo







### <u>Open Gold</u>



Firstly want to congratulate the winning sides this year and for those that played Grand Finals, and Semis...and also those that had fun in 2025, after all having fun, learning something new is what its all about.

The Seniors trained hard together as a squad from early Feb and put in some great sessions and bonded as a group together, culminating in a trial against Andrew and David Fifita where the lads had a crack and stood up against much bigger opponents. Dom, Catto and I didn't quite know what to expect with A-Grade but we knew we would have a very young squad. We used 54 players this year in A-Grade which when you look back on it makes it pretty hard to win a comp, at the start of the year we had a pretty settled group and despite being young had a good mix of some older guys also and we managed to put a few wins together running up some big scores and sitting on top of the competition. Then we got washed out for like 6 weeks with the winter weather causing mayhem. From there the middle of the season to back end became a bit of a struggle with injuries, players away, players leaving the club, and players being called up to higher honours and also our mantra to try and not use too many of the same 2nd grade and Emerging Cup players where we could to give them stability and the best chance for the club to win 4 senior grades.



We asked for effort and we got that in spades, we tried to adapt the training for when we could as a unit which basically meant joining Harrigan early in week and a Captains run Friday night which again made it a little tricky to build team cohesion especially in attack with a high turnover of players. We would generally know who was in the side only on the morning of the game, and then call on 2nd grade and Emerging to help us field a team at times, and they backed up every time in true De La Spirit!

It was incredible watching some of the players from 2nd grade and emerging cup, some of whom were only 17 and 18 take on the bigger A-Grade sides who are getting paid good money to take the field yet our players absolutely ripped in, never took a back ward step and took it to them. We played the eventual premiers at Joeys with a very inexperienced side and I walked off that day with a huge sense of pride in the way in which the club is heading with young players that dead set love playing for De La and with their mates. They are good men, and that is also an important trait for us to continue to uphold and work on.

Some hard fought close losses late in the year when short on troops followed up by a good day at Hurstville Oval vs Renown and a bus trip plus succulent Chinese feed to build the bond late in the year saw us make the semis only to get caught a little "deer in headlights" vs Como and despite flying home late we were outpunched on the day well and truly,, and a good lesson for all involved, hungry to come back with that experience under the belt next year. Its an interesting dynamic with Harrigan, Flegg and Newtown, even the Sharks impacting the top two De La Sides greatly each week and was not the easiest to deal with. The club can make a decision on what's best moving forward if want to win comps and provide the best experience for all involved in Seniors.

The De La seniors have some amazing talent, and depth which is testament to the efforts of Trent, Capo, Corey and Mark's side and the players that kicked to higher rep honors and grand finals for Newtown and Sharks Flegg, we know how hard it was late in season and feel for you lads, and the efforts put in were outstanding. To Dean Hodges and his crew, well done mate, 2nd grade had a great unit and harmony and were so dominant in the GF, how good the three sets of brothers winning the comp! To Langers and Emerging Cup staff and squad, you guys are so young and will go one better next year of that I am sure

To Catto, Dom, Troy, Langers, Lachlan, Horto, JL, Nicho, Lee and Bronte thanks for your energy and efforts in 2025, all people that give their time and have a passion for the club. To the players good luck with rep footy over the summer, keep striving for your goals, and if you sign elsewhere make sure you get "can play for De La when resp finished or not picked in your contracts!" haha.

I will run out of space if have to write individual 54 players reports but rest assured if we can get the right set up and platform next year plus a few cornerstones in place A Grade WILL win the comp in 2025, and the VATICAN will be full at Shark Park on GF Sunday.







Our Player Awards:

Coaches Award: Ben Mabon - Started the year in second grade then excelled once called up to A Grade and never ever looked like going back, earnt a spot in Harrigan also. He hits like a freight train, runs great lines, scores tries on the edge, and is the player you want to play with...that's the ultimate honour you can get as a player.

Best Forward: Nathan Skinner - Made the backrow his own and was a very consistent performer for us, week in and week out, played tough and hard through injury and pain for much of the season.

Best Back: Marco Tetevano - Senior member of the squad and provided great energy to our backline, smart with the footy and defensively sound. Represented the shire in the Luke Lewis Cup scoring a great try also.

Special mention:

Ashton Simmonds basically got man of the match every game for the first 6 rounds and likely would have got one of the big awards before being called up to Harrigan, young Simmo is a great kid, a larrikin, and a loveable player with a stack of potential. Also to Alex Challenor who played A-Grade at 17 this year congrats on a well-earned Australian Schoolboy selection, we will get that senior comp next year before you go onto higher honours. Congrats to those that Played A-Grade who were part of he Newtown and Sharks Flegg squads also who had awesome seasons.

Finally a big thanks you to the club sponsors, supporters, helpers, and the people that continually go above and beyond and put work in for the club out of their goodness of their heart, its noticed by the seniors and we appreciate you.

Mark Cruickshank





### <u>Harrigans Cup</u>







































































































































































### DE LA SALLE JRLFC



# THANK YOU



