

GREAT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OLD BOYS' RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT

To be presented at the ANNUAL MEETING to be held at

8 P.M. 9th February 1949.

at the ANZAC CLUB, WICKHAM TERRACE, CITY.

OFFICE BEARERS 1948.

PATRON:	Mr. J. A. McIntyre
PRESIDENT:	Mr. C. J. McCarthy
VICE PRESIDENTS:	Messrs.L.Bliss, H.McMaster, S. Lewis, S.L.Vanstane, L.Ruhno, H.Hope, A.Robinson, F.W.A. Ferguson, G.Pratt, F.Wardrobe, J.T.Robertson, R.H.Robinson, H.Bere, F.W.Ash, D.McLean, R.McLean, A.Fraser, C.Moss, K.Atkinson, Bruce Dureau, J.Woodhead, Hon.A.W.Fadden and Dr.Felix Dittmer.
HON. SECRETARY:	Mr.T.Simson
ASST.HON. SECRETARY:	Mr.J.McLelland
HON. TREASURER:	Mr.J.Hall.
REGISTRAR:	Mr.J.Radford.
Hon.AUDITOR:	Mr.C.Coates
Q.R.U.EXECUTIVE OFFICER:	Mr.J.Kirk
Q.R.U. DELEGATES:	Messrs.L.Bliss and T.Simson
PUBLICITY OFFICER:	Mr.J.McMaster
CLUB EXECUTIVE:	Executive Officers plus Messrs. J.Kirk and J.Williams
CLUB NOMINEE AS METROPOLITAN AND STATE SELECTOR:	Mr.W.McLean
HON.DOCTORS:	Doctors K.B.Fraser and T.Biggs
<u>OFFICER BEARERS:</u>	

During the season the resignations of Club Assistant Hon.Secretary Mr.J.McClelland due to ill health and Hon. Treasurer Mr.J.Hall owing to pressure of study were accepted with regret.

Mr.J.Radford was elected to the office of Hon. Treasurer but the office of Assistant Hon.Secretary was not filled though Mr.Radford has ably assisted with the duties in addition to those of Hon.Treasurer and Registrar and the smooth working of the club is due in no small measure to his effort.

Mr.W.McLean upon return from the Wallaby Tour was unable to devote the time necessary to the office of Selector and the nomination was later withdrawn.

GENTLEMEN,

In chronicling a report it is customary to refer to the events of the year, to anticipate events to occur during the coming season and to record those things which should ensue to make for smooth running of any club or society to which one belongs.

In this regard your Executive Committee has pleasure in submitting the Eighteenth Annual Report and Financial Statement.

COMPETITION TEAMS

A. Grade: The A. Grade Side had a patchy but successful season only being beaten for the Premiership by University by 3 points, the margin represented by a penalty goal.

Injuries and retirements rendered necessary the playing of no less than 31 players and upon one occasion the side took the field one short and incidentally lost the game. Several games were lost that should have been won, the best performances by the side being against the stronger clubs. Had the team made at times more determined effort, the right of challenge would have been held and we venture to suggest that University would have been hard pressed to beat the club a second time.

B. Grade: The B Grade as usual become the chopping block for the A Grade Side no fewer than ten members of the side having to play A Grade Football when needed, which was rather frequently, of players called upon. Four made their positions in the A side permanent.

Quite a deal of shuffling was necessary on occasions in order to field and side but the spirit of the B's was never in doubt and in the circumstances they did remarkably well in winning seven games during the season.

C2 Grade: This side suffered by the need of players too, many of the team in this grade playing just when they felt like it with the result that upon occasions C 2's took the field short of players. Several members of this side stuck to their guns and played really good football and demonstrated in no small measure that they are prospective A Graders before very many seasons have passed.

TRAINING

The loss of the Training facilities at New Farm Oval was a severe blow to the club particularly as it occurred early in the season. It speaks volumes for club spirit that the lack of outdoor training did not affect the loyalty of club members in the early weeks.

Advantage was taken of Gymnasium facilities at the Railway Institute and our thanks are accorded to that body for their co-operation. It is intended if possible, to make similar arrangements during the current season.

COACHING

The A Grade Coach, our old club and Wallaby Captain, Bill McLean, did a fine job in team coaching and particularly with the A Grade Side.

Queensland Captain and Wallaby footballer, E. Broad, gave his valuable experience always and Club Captain of 1948 Jack McMaster was a tower of strength in moving things along. B. Graders often lacked a coach but arrangements were always made to keep them moving. C. Graders were very ably coached and managed by Mr. Jack Fadden, who did indeed put no end of time and patience into the job.

Report of Club Coach Mr. W. McLean. From a coaching point of view the season 1948 was only partially successful. I say partially, because once again the "B" Grade suffered from not having a regular coach at any time, and consequently it was only the keenness of the grades "regulars" that kept the team in the field. Once again we saw the "B" grade being heavily drawn upon at a minutes notice, and it is to be hoped that this year, this practice is not permitted. So full marks to the "B"'s for sticking to it, and I know that this year we can guarantee them a fair go on coaching and selections.

The "C's" under the keen eye of Jack Fadden, I think definitely progressed during the season, and if they keep in mind that it is what one learned last season by mistakes and practice, fits one for the season ahead.

The big lesson to the whole club and to each individual member was brought out by the "A's" performance throughout the season, by reaching the final and playing so well only to be beaten by a better side, after, at one stage, wondering where our next Saturday's team was coming from, speaks for itself, and can be summed up by the following points, which I hope every member will make a rule for the coming season.

1. Attendance to training.
2. Making and keeping yourself fit for the job asked of you.
3. Remembering always that you are playing with a TEAM.

So with these few words, I would like to thank all members for their co-operation throughout our bad and good times and I think I can safely say if we take last season's

football as a standard to be improved upon this season, we again will worry a lot more teams than will worry us, and in doing so, enjoy a good clean, healthy Saturday afternoon's sport in all grades.

FINANCE

The Club had this year a heavy expense to meet in regard to the use of the No.2 Exhibition Oval for training purposes on Mondays and Wednesdays of each week. Two guineas a week takes toll of club finance and although training levies from players were collected from time to time, it was found impossible to collect every week when teams were widely scattered in playing. However, members will see from the attached balance sheet that the club was able to hold its own financially.

CLUB MEETINGS.

Club monthly meetings were not well attended and after the meeting of July it was decided by the club Executive to continue the club management by the Executive Committee only. The change proved quite satisfactory and your executive recommends a continuance of this system during the coming season with a possible enlargement of the Executive.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP.

During the season club membership reached the figure of 88 but it is significant that at times it needed mighty efforts by coaches, captains and officials to make sure that three teams took the field. A few club members also have neglected their responsibilities in regard to playing fees etc.

CHARITY GAMES.

The club fielded two teams against New Farm at the New Farm Oval during the season and some £36 odd was raised for the Centaur Appeal as a result.

TROPHIES.

Trophies donated by Messrs.J.A.Ferguson and L.Bliss were won by W.Horsley and Peter Skinner respectively.

THANKS.

The Club offers its sincerest thanks to Messrs.C. McCarthy, L.Bliss, D.Bliss, S.Lewis, L.Ruhno, H.Hope, G.Pratt, F.Wardrobe, D.McLean, R.McLean, F.W.A.Ferguson, C.Kaus, and L. Hudson for their generous donations to Club Funds and to all

those who have aided the club in many ways at various times.

Our thanks also are due to the Q.R.U. and the Referees Association for the able assistance to the club during the season. To the press generally and to Messrs. R. Horsley and N. Davidson in particular for their co-operation and kindly criticism. To the Q.A.T.B. for attending to our injured players on varied playing fields. To the Club Hon. Doctors, K.B. Fraser and T. Biggs, who attended a number of players entirely without cost to club funds. To Hon. Auditor Mr. Col. Coates who in addition to Audit Duties was a keen supporter and kindly critic at all times. To Miss. D. Cocks of Extons Ltd. who at all times has made herself available for typing correspondence and reports etc. To the Club Secretary Miss Cocks can well be classed as a good club supporter.

CONGRATULATIONS.

To the Q.R.U. on the successful conclusion to its long advocated policy which has resulted in the near formation of an Australian Rugby Union. It is indeed felt that this step will do much to foster the game.

To Q.R.U. Representative Teams. upon winning the Interstate Rubber against N.S.W.

To our own club Interstate Representative, Eddie Broad, with especial congratulations on his successful and inspiring captaincy of the state teams.

Peter Thompson upon gaining his Queensland Representation in his first year of Union Football.

Alan Ware mercurial as ever and a young veteran of the interstate sphere.

To Tony Cole upon topping the century of points scored. A grand club man who together with Johnnie Herbert did not miss a game all season, even when the Northern Rivers District was in flood.

To University Club upon winning of Premierships in all grades except one.

To Club Captain, Jack McMaster, who led the Club so ably during the season and who has decided, in the quotation from Lewis Carroll that "The time has come the walrus said."

Jack has decided to concentrate on coaching during the coming season. This news is splendid consolation for the Club's loss of a valued player and captain.

Upon Marriage to Joe Radford our Club Treasurer, Jack Fadden Coach, John Kirk Executive Member and Q.R.U. Executive Representative, Herb Mitchell Club Player, Ken Procter Club Player.

Regrets. Upon retirement of Jack McMaster, Blue Baldwin, Spencer Anderson, Johnnie Irwin, Ken Proctor, Ray Hope, H. Mitchell and Eddie Broad all for various reasons associated with either Ano Domini, Injury, Business or Family Ties. We wish them well and hope that Club Membership will continue.

CONSTITUTION.

During the season your Executive Committee formulated a Club Constitution which was later put to a meeting of the Club members and approved. This was a big step in the right direction and fills a long needed requirement.

SOCIAL.

The Club Smoko at the close of the season was well attended and proved a great success. Your Executive however, would like to see every club member at this function in future seasons. No social committee operated during the year and your Executive Committee would like to see such Committee re-established even if only to organise one event during the season.

RAFFLE.

Thanks to Messrs. L. Bliss, F. Luton and N. Baldwin a successful raffle was responsible for a substantial addition to Club Funds.

MEMBERSHIP FOR SEASON 1949.

It is the earnest wish of the club Executive that membership of the Club will increase during this coming season and that all old players and retiring players will continue their Club Membership and assist in club management, team building and coaching. A strong body of such ex-players can do much to place G.P.S. in the first flight of sporting bodies in Brisbane.

IN CONCLUSION.

Your Executive Committee has at all times endeavoured to act in what it considered the best interests of the club and what is more important the game. They extend to the club and incoming officers during the ensuing season their best wishes for the greatest possible success, may they gain the full measure of support that your retiring committee did in season 1948.

For and on behalf of the Executive.

C. McCARTHY (President)

T. SIMSON (Secretary)

J. RADFORD (Treasurer)