



Issue 1

# NEWSLETTER

April 2017

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rugby is going strong in New Zealand, and this year is shaping up to be good one.

The Chiefs have started their campaign well, with five wins from five games.

We have the Lions tour coming mid year with already a lot of excitement building, and historically they have been great tours to follow.

The army of travelling supporters are all so passionate about the game, and they themselves bring another element to the Lions Tour and are keen to meet and mix with the rugby community here in New Zealand. We are planning some events to make their time here welcoming and enjoyable.

Harlequins representative teams are looking forward to another successful year. The Under 17s and Under 13s will start again this year with a camp at St Paul's, run in conjunction with Waikato Rugby Union and their Rugby Development Coaches. We certainly appreciate their input and expertise.

It is really great to see these young men develop and grow, and we would like to thank St Paul's Collegiate for their continued support in allowing their facilities to be used year after year. We are very grateful for the relationship we have built up over the years.

After our recent AGM, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee for all their hard work and support they have given me in my two years as president. I wish the incoming President and Committee all the best. It was great to see many of our members at the AGM and I look forward to seeing you in the club rooms throughout the year.

Cheers to another great season!

Tony Tissingh  
President NZ Harlequins Rugby Club



## COMING EVENTS FOR 2017

1. **Chiefs Breakfast and Golf day: Tuesday 20 of June.**  
\$45 for the breakfast only & \$100 for both per ticket  
Full details on the back page.
2. **Annual Dinner at CASINO : Thursday 3rd August.**  
\$150.00 per ticket
3. **Annual Breakfast Auction : Friday 29th September.**  
\$45.00 per ticket

Please contact: [haydonross@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:haydonross@hotmail.co.nz)  
or any questions phone Haydon Ross: 0274471590

## NZ HARLEQUINS AGM UPDATE

Tony Tissingh stands down, Graham Jefferis is elected in as new President. Kevin Hart stands down from Vice President and Dean Kaio is elected in as new Vice President. Dave Collins has stood down from the Committee.

## NZ HARLEQUINS COMMITTEE 2017

**President:** Graham Jefferis

**Past President:** Tony Tissingh

**Vice President:** Dean Kaio **Club Captain:** Haydon Ross

**Secretary:** Paul Street **Treasurer:** Murray Pratt

**Committee:** Brian Clarke, Paul Martin, Kevin Hart, Reiner Van Der Nest, Dave Hall, Bernard Murphy, Lance Fletcher, Dean Kaio, Bryce O'Hearn and Ian Stewart.



# RUGBY MOVES WITH THE TIMES...

In this modern age of social media, New Zealand's national game has well and truly jumped on board for the ride, and the NZ Harlequins Rugby Club is now a part of that with our own Facebook page created earlier this year.

Social media platforms provide a whole new way of communicating and receiving information about rugby - whether it is Super Rugby franchises naming their team each week with a flashy video, highlights packages delivered almost instantly after matches, or fans debating at all hours about who should be selected in the All Blacks.

It has become a way of breaking news - no longer do you have to wait for the newspaper the following day to find out what is going on. You get news as it happens at the tip of your fingers (literally, on your smartphone!). For example, Aaron Cruden used the Chiefs Facebook page recently to make his announcement via video that he had signed for French club Montpellier, cutting out traditional media altogether. It seems just a matter of time before this sort of thing becomes the norm.

Looking more locally, this social media phenomenon is slowly making its way onto the grassroots scene.

Last season, Waikato Rugby Union published a weekly highlights video of club rugby tries which some weeks went 'viral', reaching millions of people worldwide.

Clubs and provinces throughout the country are now getting on board with similar initiatives. The Waikato club rugby final was even live streamed through social media in 2016, with hundreds of people tuning in from around the world to watch Melville claim the Waikato Breweries Shield.

With this new communications channel comes a huge opportunity for the NZ Harlequins Rugby Club. There is the potential to live stream games from our age group sides later in the year, or provide real time photos and score updates, rather than waiting for your newsletter to arrive to find out how the club is going.

Off the field activities or functions could also benefit to help the club reach a wider audience - imagine tuning in to see a live feed of Kevin Hart in full flight at the annual Harlequins auction breakfast. You could even make your bids via the Facebook page comments section if you can't be there in person. The club will be looking at ways to help move the organisation forward and embrace this digital era, so please let us know if you have any ideas.



The NZ Harlequins website has all of our clubs history, photo galleries and coming events got to: [www.nzharlequins.co.nz](http://www.nzharlequins.co.nz)



There is all this to look forward to, and who knows where it will go next, so get on the bandwagon now and follow the NZ Harlequins Rugby Club Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/nzharlequins](https://www.facebook.com/nzharlequins)

## NZ HARLEQUINS MEMBERSHIP SUBS NOW DUE

Memberships subs for this season (1/4/17-31/3/18) of \$40 are now due. We also have a **NZ Harlequins history book for sale \$20**, this book was compiled by our Club historian Peter Thomas.

For members who would like to pay online, enter your name as reference. NZ Harlequins Club bank No. 03 0306 0179170 00. If you require a tax invoice please contact: [murrayp@unitedcleaning.co.nz](mailto:murrayp@unitedcleaning.co.nz)

If paying by cheque please send to:

NZ Harlequins Rugby Club, PO Box 9195 Waikato Mail Centre, Hamilton

**Members, please sign up at [www.nzharlequins.co.nz](http://www.nzharlequins.co.nz) to keep in contact via email if you have changed addresses please contact us by post, or email via the website.**



## CHIEFS AND WAIKATO DRAWS FOR 2017

### Remaining Chiefs Home Games

#### Saturday 1 April –

Gallagher Chiefs vs Bulls,  
FMG Stadium Waikato, 7:35pm

**Saturday 29 April** – Gallagher Chiefs vs Sunwolves,  
FMG Stadium Waikato, 7:35pm

**Saturday 6 May** – Gallagher Chiefs vs Reds, Yarrow  
Stadium, New Plymouth, 7:35pm

**Friday 19 May** – Gallagher Chiefs vs Crusaders, ANZ  
Stadium, Suva, 7:35pm

**Saturday 3 June** – Gallagher Chiefs vs Waratahs, FMG  
Stadium Waikato, 5:05pm

**Tuesday 20 June** – Gallagher Chiefs v British & Irish  
Lions, FMG Stadium Waikato, 7:30pm

**Saturday 15 July** – Gallagher Chiefs vs Brumbies,  
FMG Stadium Waikato, 5:15pm



### 2017 Waikato Mitre 10 Cup Home Games

**Round 2** v Counties Manukau,  
FMG Stadium Waikato, Fri 25 Aug, 7.45pm

**Round 4** v Tasman, FMG Stadium Waikato, Sun 3 Sep,  
2.35pm

**Round 6** v Manawatu, FMG Stadium Waikato, Sat 16  
Sep, 2.35pm

**Round 7** v Wellington, FMG Stadium Waikato, Sat 23  
Sep, 5.35pm

**Round 9** v North Harbour, FMG Stadium Waikato,  
Sun 8 Oct, 4.35pm

**Round 10** v Bay of Plenty, TBC, Sat 14 Oct, 2.35pm

**Semi Final** Mitre 10 Cup Fri 20 Oct, 7.35pm

**Final** Mitre 10 Cup, Sat 28 Oct, 7.35pm



## Under 17s and 13s programmes for 2017

### Under 17 programme

The NZ Harlequins Under 17s programme starts off with the annual selection of 45-47 players that are selected for a camp at St Paul's in June.

A final team is selected to play in the Northern Regions Under 18s B division competition.

We all look forward to seeing these young players develop in the Harlequins environment and continue this great programme, which has been running for 25 years.



### Under 13 programme

The NZ Harlequins Under 13s programme has been building over the past five years with one or two games each season. We finally have an annual fixture with BOP U13s and for the first time we played Nothland in 2016.

This year, for the first time, the Under 13s will have a one day coaching day in July. Later in the season a team will be selected to play three games in a central Under 13s tournament. The final two games will be in Hamilton with the NZ Harlequins hosting the event.



## NZ HARLEQUINS MATCH DAY BREAKFAST & 9 HOLE AMBROSE GOLF TOURNAMENT

**When:** Tuesday 20th June 2017

**Where:** Breakfast, Hamilton Workingmen's Club.

**Where:** Golf, Horsham Downs Golf Club, Hamilton

**Times:** Breakfast 7.30am and 9 holes golf will tee off at 10.30am.

**Transport:** To and from the golf course will be part of your ticket and in mini vans leaving from the Hamilton Workingmen's Club at 9.30am sharp.

**Workingmen's Club:** You will get a free membership pass for the day as part of your breakfast/golf ticket.

**Auction:** There will be 8-10 auction items during breakfast

**Golf Clubs for the day:** Will be supplied unless you want to bring your own.

**Teams:** There will be three players per team.  
(Rules will be supplied on the day)

**Cost:** Breakfast only at the workingmen's club \$45.00

**Cost:** Golf 9 holes of Golf plus refreshments and BBQ on course \$55.00

**Cost:** Breakfast and 9 holes of Golf plus refreshments and BBQ on course \$100

Please tick a box below.

- ☐ Breakfast Only  
☐ Golf Only  
☐ Breakfast & 9 holes Golf

Dinner is also available back at the workingmen's club for \$21.00. You will just need to show your membership pass for the day and sort yourselves.

**Please return email forms to:** haydonross@hotmail.co.nz  
**Or any questions phone Haydon Ross:** 0274471590



***The NZ Harlequins Club look forward to seeing you in the 2017 rugby season.  
Under17s and Under13s action, plus our annual events!***

### NZ HARLEQUIN SPONSORS

**PLATINUM:** Adam Marsh & Carol McColl of Professional Property Services (pps fencing) 0274575569  
PlaceMakers Clarence street, Steve Kinsey

**GOLD:**

**SILVER:** Colin Ashton of McLeod Sheetmetal Products Ltd 0274753023  
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If you would like to enquire about becoming a sponsor of the NZ Harlequins Club, please contact Graham Jefferis on Mobile 027 292 9748 or grclean@paradise.net.nz

