

Well,..... here goes nothin'.

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As most,..... many,.....some,..... probably one or two of you may have noticed the club's monthly rag degenerated from a regular monthly issue, to a bi-monthly issue to a quarterly issue then to an occasional manifestation and subsequently into oblivion.

It is said, confession is good for the soul; I confess I had become quite disillusioned by the lack of response which my missiles to the club engendered. I felt as though I was peeing against the wind where I only got my own back. It appeared as though there was no one 'out there'. Members by and large were lackadaisical about practices and/or showing up for games. Memberships were honoured under duress,.... and volunteerism???? what the hell does that word mean?.....The club was, as a bucket. A strong and powerful image, athletically, on the field. but void of any substance, internally. Players came to games played and went home...Ugh!

The club was held together in 2010 by the few hard core executive members.....

Brett Moxley performed herculean tasks, more than I can possibly relate here.

John Murphy was the most stringent registration director the club has ever had , running his portfolio with an iron fist inside a velvet glove. (Everyone paid their dues)((Thanks also to the occasional assist from Brett).

Rob (King Midas) Brouwer ran socials with the aplomb (and success) of a Broadway producer while.....

Ted Twohey's annual Rob Stokes Memorial Golf Tournament was the most successful (socially and financially) since we tragically lost our popular club captain Rob Stokes.

Heather McCrindle knocked herself out running numerous fund raisers all of which garnered needed club funds. (With little or no volunteer assistance)

Dennis Newman was the stoic 'keeper of the purse', ensuring we never over spent our meager resources while oft times negotiating 'better prices' for items bought.

John Carr, administrator extraordinary ran shuttle between just about everyone whilst managing junior Xvs.

Ali Westcrop, a pillar of resourcefulness always seemed to get things done just a few moments prior to the rest of us thinking about doing it.(and while managing the 20/Us).

Tammy Buckley jumped into the deep end of the pool as the club secretary keeping exacting minutes of every meeting.

Rich Knox and Alan Wild between them (plus Dennis & Brett) performed magical tricks with the field, resurrecting it from the quagmire it had become to what we expect, shall be a reasonable playing surface for 2011.

Amanda Pascoe, the new kid on the block, proved herself dedicated, structured and exceptionally willing to accept (& succeed) in any and all challenges presented to her.

Parents of 14s, 12s and Minis . We hit the 'Mother lode' with these gals and guys this year.

What an exceptionally enthusiastic and competent band of **VOLUNTEERS** . Would that we could keep them for ever. They were all remarkable in and with everything they did whilst removing a great burden from my weary shoulders.

Against all odds we finished the season in a so-so manner. The 20s received the short end of the stick in their competition. The 16s (Well coached by Ike Selby) lost in the Provincial finals to a very strong and undefeated Oakville crew. The 14s played a man short all season. The women and the 18 girls had a good season with bright(er) times hoped for '11. The 15s girls (A founding year) performed well, losing to Peterborough in the TRU finals. The 12s and minis enjoyed successes in the tournaments in which they participated.....The senior men forfeited 4 games during the season. The club was fined \$1200.00 for these games. When the men fielded a full XV they were head a shoulders over their opponent(s) regrettably the run was short lived..

So why am I bitching?..... It's the CLUB IMAGE.....It's CLUB LOYALTY

The general impression I receive from most of the players, (and quite a few parents) not all, but too many, is that this rugby club is here for me and my pleasure. I don't give a damn about how it started, how it works or who works it so long as I get what I want from it, then to hell with the rest it. I am simply going to use it then walk away from it and I couldn't care less what happens to it.

I'm not going to flog a dead horse, neither am I going to draw pictures on the board . If everyone doesn't have the picture by now,...well I don't know what else I can say. So,.....

We had a most successful and productive AGM (held at the Police Station on Victoria Ave). There's a new fire in the club. There was an atmosphere of enthusiasm. A board of officers was elected with their individual portfolios being decided the first meeting in February

BRETT Informed us a of an incoming tour of 18/Us from WALES arriving in July. (We shall require billets. Please offer you availability now PLEASE.

Our guest Dylan from last season may spend a short stay with us this year

At long last we are in the process of acquiring proper club shirts and socks for the MINI players WE shall emphasize volunteerism this and in the continuing seasons. We shall delegate (volunteer) one of the executive as i/c of volunteers duties that we may utilize this valuable resource to its fullest potential.

The senior men shall operate in the PREMIER TRU division in 2011.

WE shall operate a referee clinic and probably a coaching clinic in the March/April period. The ORU mandates we shall supply home refs for all of the junior games OR be fined (pay high price for imported refs). **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS GIVE US YOU NAMES NOW PLEASE**

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12/u CONTACT CO-ED RUGBY PRACTICES COMMENCE ON Saturday March 12 @ 10.00 -12.00 noon at LCVI,.....**REGISTRATION** for Minis, 12's and 14s shall be held at this time also..... **The 12/Us register & practice.** The 14/Us and Minis register only.

I'll try not to bitch at you so much in the next Grumbler

Cheers

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