

New Coach

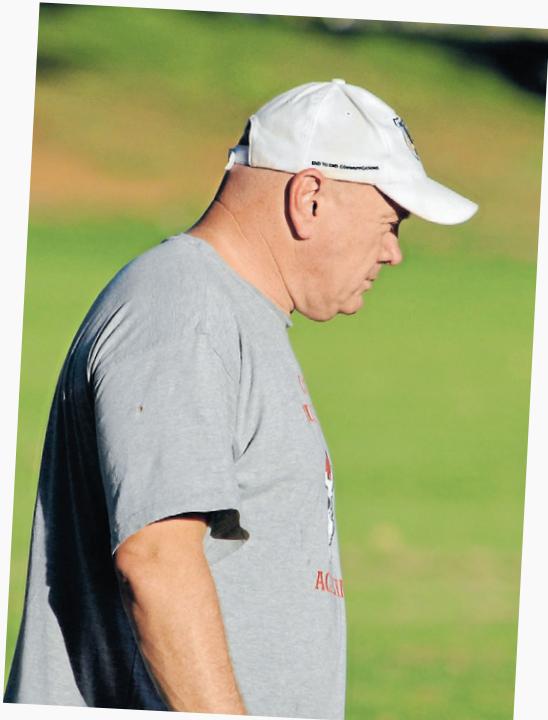
Premiership winning premier league coach Steve Sutton is confident of an improved showing from his troops in 2014.

The decorated coach oversaw the Western Rams 18s side and guided the Magpies under 18s outfit to the Group 10 title last year, but will debut in the senior role this season.

"This is the first time I've done first grade," he said.

"I'm looking forward to it - it will be a bit different. Under 18s is obviously a different kettle of fish - you are more of a father figure and a mentor as well as a mate, whereas these guys, a lot of them have got families and responsibilities."

"It is something that I'm pretty confident that I can handle."



Premier league coach Steve Sutton oversees pre-season training.

Home Games

Sid Kallas Oval fixtures

- Round 1 - 6/4/14
Cowra v Lithgow Workies
- Round 3 - 27/4/14
Cowra v Oberon
- Round 5 - TBA
- Mudgee v Cowra
- Round 6 - 17/5/14
Cowra v St Pats
- Round 11 - 28/6/14
Cowra v Panthers
- Round 14 - TBA
- Cowra v Mudgee
- Round 16 - 3/8/14
Cowra v Cyms
- Round 18 - 17/8/14
Cowra v Blayney

Please note - there will only be 7 home games - one of the Mudgee games will be removed (Rd 5 or Rd 14)



The new Magpies playing style will suit KJ Wood.

Brand of Footy

Sutton doesn't shy away from the importance he places on defence, but has given insight into a new style he's hoping will drag numbers through the turnstiles in 2014.

"We'll try and play a bit more expansive footy and try and be a bit more adventurous," he said.

"One thing I think we do have and we didn't utilize enough last year is that we have a lot of skill in our forward pack.

"I want our

"If we can play a bit of good footy, people will come back through the gate and they'll want to watch us."

guys to be prepared to use the footy. So to do that, we've actually got to do a bit of work in the pre-season and through the season on our passing, catching, technique and support play.

"The structures we're working on and the style of play we want to implement will suit guys like KJ Wood and Will Ingram.

"I don't want to see too much of this one out head down, bum up sort of stuff.

"We've done a lot of defensive work, a lot of marker work."



Western Division player Ron Lawrence will be looking for another strong season.

Season Prospects

Sutton's view of the top grade's performance in 2013 mimicked other's opinion in that the potential was there to do a lot better than they did.

"We fell down in a few key areas, probably defence being one of them and discipline another," he said.

"So, I want to get those two in order and, with the addition of [St Pats signings] Tim Holman and Jeremy Gordon and bearing in mind that most of the other clubs have probably lost a little rather than gained, I think there is a real opportunity to push for a top three position."

"If we can make top three, we get two bites of the cherry - we get a home semi-final which is a massive advantage for us and we just go from there. So that's definitely the aim - we want to make the five but top three is something I'll definitely be aiming for given the quality of player that we look like having."

Players to Watch

Although reliant on the talented local players, it's the two high-profile signings, Holman and Gordon, Sutton believes can be the difference.

"I'm looking at Jeremy as fullback and Tim will probably slot into the six although he can play half," Sutton said.

"Jeremy has played predominantly at centre for St Pats, but if he is playing in the centres, he is stuck to one side of the field.

"At the back, he can move around - he's played a lot of five-eighth so he can ball play a little bit and he's got a kicking game and I think I can get more out of him in that role and he's a dangerous runner of the football. It makes sense to get him as much ball as possible."

"Tim is a freak - you only have to see what he's done to Cowra the last two times he played Cowra - he's scored four or five tries."

"He's a strong runner, fit and fast - he's the complete package and having those two in the side not only gives us that strike power, but it is also going to lift the performance of the other guys around them."

"They will drag them up that extra level because they will get the confidence knowing that they have those two blokes around them."

"I'm really excited to have them on board and the local players are excited to be playing alongside them as well."

"Warren Williams is probably lighter than he has been for a number of years, so I'm hoping he goes really well."

Planned Events

- Sponsors' Day - Sid Kallas Oval 6/4/14
- Golf Day - Cowra Golf Club 18/5/14
- Reverse Draw - Railway Hotel 31/5/14
- Ladies Day/Mother's Day (if we can swap with Mudgee) - Sid Kallas Oval 11/5/14
- Funny Money Night - Railway Hotel 9/9/14
- Trivia Night - TBC
- Black & White Ball - Civic Centre 5/7/14
- Presentation Night - Cowra Services Club 14/10/14



Warren Williams is shaping up for a good year with the Magpies.



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