

2013 Boomerangs Grand Final



One final step for 'Rangs

GRAND final day - it's something you build towards either as a player or as part of the committee from the first moment the ball is kicked in pre-season.

As the club president I know I'm excited for Sunday to roll around and I'm not sure whether I'm more nervous or the players.

This season has been a thoroughly successful season for the boys and it's been the best one we've had since we were admitted back into the competition four years ago.

We've already claimed the three minor premierships in A-grade, reserve grade and under 18s, and the ladies didn't embarrass themselves with a fourth-place finish.

All those successes on the field enabled us to win the club championship for the first time since 1994 - it's been a long time coming.

On the field there's little doubt

the players have taken this year with a lot more of a professional attitude than perhaps in previous seasons and that can be seen with their results.

In A-grade, we brought Chris Binge into the fold this year and he's done a tremendous job with the boys.

He added another dimension to the team by making them a more professional outfit and the hard pre-season they had some nine or so months ago, now provided the platform for our best-performed A-grade side in years.

In reserve grade, Warren Sampson has also done a tremendous job to get the boys to the grand final, even if it did require them to travel to Glen Innes last weekend to get the job done.

Like first grade and under 18s this year, they deserve all their success.

Brian Saunders hasn't had it all his own way with the 18s after they started the season a bit slow, but once they got going this season they were going to be hard to stop.

We've taken additional steps as a committee this year to make players and fans accountable for their actions by providing a level of expectation that is considered acceptable whether you're on that 100-metre rectangle or its surroundings.

A few times this year we've pulled people into line at our ground and have disciplined players outside of the judicial system, outside of Group 19 and dealt with them in-house. Some of those decisions haven't been easy ones to make.

We wanted to create a family atmosphere at our games. We've got a lot of kids who come to the ground and we know the players

are role models, and we're happy with that.

There's a proud history amongst the club and since we came back into the competition the structures we've put in place have seen a significant improvement.

Looking ahead to this Sunday, it's a great feat to have all three grades participating on the last day of the season and I'd love nothing more than for the guys to get their reward this week.

I know they've got the community support and if the major semi-final was any indication we're in for another bumper crowd.

Group 19 said it was one of their biggest gates for a finals match in quite some time so I know they would be expecting another half to a third larger again.

One thing about the Boomerangs is that they're one of the most supported Aboriginal



Mitchell Johnson

clubs in New South Wales and I think we'll prove it again this weekend.

The Boomerangs aren't just a football club, they're the glue that holds this community together.

Enjoy your grand final football.

It's game on for A-grade, Reserves and 18s

Boomerangs A-grade

Subject to Change
1 Brandon Johnston
2 Bruce Smith
3 Jamie Smith
4 Craig McKenzie
5 Jerome Hammond
6 Rick Roberts
7 Jamie Sampson
8 Warren Cain (C)
9 Allan Widders
10 Anthony Robinson
11 Jarrod See
12 Luke Raveneau
13 Matt Marshall
14 Dion Dahlstrom
15 Leslie Fuller
16 Edward Saunders
17 Evan Coombes
18 Jayden French
INJURED
Alex Barker, Brian Saunders Jnr, Chris Swan
Coach Chris Binge

Gwydir A-grade

1 Mitch Porter
2 Harold Duncan
3 Ashley Churchland
4 Sam Armstrong
5 Nathan McGrady
6 Dave McGrady
7 Mat Cleal (C)
8 Brendan Critchlow
9 Mick Hodges
10 Ben Kennedy
11 Tyler Dennison
12 Casey Bowman
13 Adam Rodilossi
14 Sam Cooper
15 Steve Garrett
16 Brent Sampson
17 Ted Cleal
18 Todd Simpson
19 Rhys Aleckson
Coach: Peter Stevens

Boomerangs Reserve grade

Subject to Change
1 Donovan Munro
2 Jayden Cook
3 Shannon Swan
4 Paul Tighe
5 Trevor Tighe
6 Wayne Swan
7 Alf Newman Snr
8 Jeremy Smith (C)
9 Zackery Sampson
10 Greg Roberts
11 Graham Smith
12 Stephen Connors
13 Justin Smith
14 Jeremy Sampson
15 Shaquille Pitt
16 Lance Tighe
17 Chris Copeland
ABSENT
Steve Bartholomew
Coach: Warren Sampson

Rams Reserve grade

1. Hayden Strong
2. Kua Swan
3. Fred Campbell
4. Ryan Kelly
5. Anthony Simon
6. Brian Dennison
7. Travis Naylor
8. Martin Smith
9. Darren Quinlan
10. Dwayne Daley
11. Graham Smith
12. Wes Kelly
13. Steven Widders
14. Chris Naylor
15. Orran Suarawski
16. Charlie Ahoy
17. Jarrod Wood
Coach: Graham Smith

Boomerangs U18s

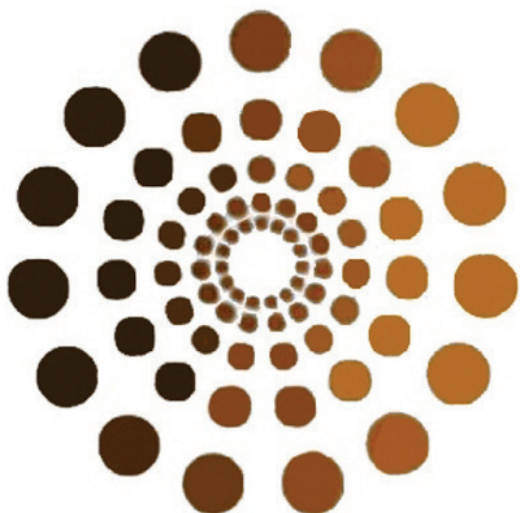
Subject to Change
1 Tyrell Smith
2 Fred Pegus
3 Jeffrey Swan
4 Jason Saunders
5 William Nicholls
6 Brandon McGrady
7 Jarom Haines
8 Michael Jerrard
9 Anthony Smith
10 Cody Duncan
11 Brody Johnston
12 Kyle Munro
13 Alfred Newman Jnr (c)
14 Brett Wright
15 Joshua Wells
16 Fred Swan
17 Alex Barker Jnr
Coach Brian Saunders Snr

Glen Innes U18s

1 Robbie Guest
2 James Wiggins
3 Wade Campbell
4 Chris Pedlow
5 Jai Campbell
6 Jay Gallagher
7 Jayden Eshmond
8 INJURED: Brayden Gallagher
9 Jessie Mosman
10 Toby Shannon
11 Scott Hodder
12 Max Crosley
13 Nathan Marzullie
14 James Winter
15 Brock Simpkins
16 Ben Shiffman
17 Perry Stapleton
Coaches: Mark Gallagher and Howard Whan

Game times on Sunday start early with under 18s at 11.30am, followed by reserve grade at 1pm and wrapping it up at 2.30pm will be A-grade.

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Proud Sponsor of
2013 Moree Boomerangs A Grade

Mitchell, Kylie and Family would like to congratulate
The Rangs A Grade, Reserve Grade, Under 18's and
Ladies League Tag on a successful 2013

Good Luck in the Grand Finals.

GO YOU MIGHTY RANGS

2013 Boomerangs Grand Final



At back: Mitchell Johnson (president), Mitchell Cosgrove (League Safe), Dion Dahlstrom, Brandon Johnston, Jamie Sampson, Ed Saunders and Greg Sampson (manager) with in middle; Evan Coombes, Bruce Smith, Leslie Fuller, Luke Raveneau, Jerrod See, Jason Saunders, Mundarra Weldon and in front; Rick Roberts, Matt Marshall, Chris Binge (coach), Warren Cain (captain), James Haines (assistant coach), James Smith, Anthony Robinson and Brian Saunders with ball boys Kaleb Johnson and Jacob Briggs. Absent: Alex Barker, Chris Swan, Brian Saunders Jr.

Leading from the front

WARREN Cain and Chris Binge have been the two of masterminds behind the Moree Boomerangs first grade success in Group 19 this season.

Cain was awarded the NBN Player of the

Year award at the Group 19 presentation night a few weeks ago, while Binge was brought to the club this year, which has coincided with a more professional edge, both on and off the park.

And it's paid dividends.

Binge has been coaching for 15 years and when he was appointed coach to take over from Warren Sampson this year he felt the on-field focus needed to shift.

"Looking back at our pre-season it was probably the toughest these guys have had in their careers so we went in with a structured plan and thankfully I've got a fair bit of coaching experience behind me.

"I wanted our pre-season to be tough because I knew the season was going to be tough," he said.

The 'Rangs suffered a first-up loss to Glen Innes, but Binge believed it proved the catalyst for the success which was to follow.

"Our first up performance was disappointing, but it gave us an ability to cop it on the chin, know where we went wrong and bounce back after that.

"We got another kick in the pants a few weeks ago, but those two games have been the only games we've lost all year."

Being such a community-based club has its advantages and disadvantages and captain Warren Cain says a game of football can pale in comparison to some of the things experienced in their community this year.

"We're trying to give back to the community. We have a minute silence every week - we're losing three and four people from our mob every week - we're trying to win one for the community every week.

"It's been a bad run this year with all the losses and you're going to funerals.

"At the end of the day we're trying to give back to the community by winning on the field. If it gives them a bit of happiness and makes their days a bit happier after the loss of someone, we're doing our job."

On the field, the 'Rangs have a grand final to win this weekend against Gwydir and both sides have exchanged wins throughout the season, with a 40-32 victory to Moree in their most recent encounter.



Chris Binge

Binge said it was important for his side to get their game in order and not worry about factors out of their control.

"If we focus too much on the opposition we've lost the focus on ourselves and that's been the key for us this year. We've always focussed on us and we know the opposition will always step up and make sure we tick all the boxes we need to tick."

The expectation placed on the Boomerangs isn't something which is foreign to most associated with the club and both Binge and Cain said it was something they've learnt to embrace.

"We're grateful we've got the support we do and without them we wouldn't be in the position we're in.

"If we can get the supporter base back here and get them to give us the extra kick we need this weekend, it's always welcome. We'll get up near 5000 this weekend!"

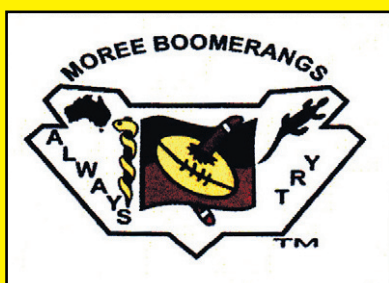
"We're confident, we're not overconfident; we respect the opposition, but we're here to get the result this weekend and that's what it's about."

Congratulations to the

Moree Boomerangs

on making the

GRAND FINAL



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2013 Boomerangs Grand Final



Second chance for reserves

EVERYONE loves a second chance and that could never be more pertinent than for the Moree Boomerangs reserve grade team this weekend.

After succumbing 30-26 to Armidale in slightly controversial fashion in the major semi-final a fortnight ago the 'Rangs were involved in a hard-fought 28-18 win over Glen Innes to progress to this week's grand final.

There's a history in the Boomerangs club of doing things the hard way in semi-finals and captain Jeremy Smith said despite having to play last week, he saw it as a positive.

"By keeping on playing you keep the momentum going.

"By having a rest it stops that momentum. If you had have asked me if I'd rather have last week off or played, I'd have wanted to play."

In the major semi-final loss to Armidale, the Rangs' defensive structure was a little bit off which allowed the Rams to get a roll on, something which Smith said the side have been working on.

"If we can slow their play the balls down so our defensive line is set we know we can beat them; we've done it already this year."

The success of the team has been built on the back of being one

of the least penalised teams in the competition.

"Our discipline all year has been unreal," coach Warren Sampson said. "First half of the season we hardly gave a penalty away but we've gone away from that a bit in recent times."

It wasn't an overly pretty win to put them into the grand final, but it was ultimately effective.

"We need to hold the ball a bit better and go through our own patterns. We can certainly be better," he said.

"It's really important for the Moree Boomerangs club to get all three grades in. Over the last three

years we've only had the reserve grade in the grand final and they've won two of the last three."

As has been the case in all three grades this year, the emphasis in pre-season training was on fitness and it's proved to be the catalyst for the on-field success.

"We started training in November and the boys' attitude has showed on the field - from the last couple of years, it's been a significant change. Their fitness over this year has showed on the field and that can be seen in some of our results where we've beaten teams by 20-30 points all year."

Alf Newman Senior has provid-

ed the guile in the halves with the tries evenly shared around the team all year.

"It's good to have Alf goal kicking and scoring tries. We haven't had just the one player scoring all the tries; they've been split around.

"We just need to complete our sets and stop dropping the ball and inviting teams back into the contest."

The grand final mind games have started already with Armidale rumoured to have wanted to give Moree a 40-point head start.

"If they want to do that, we'll be ready. We know what we need to do," Smith said.



Back row, left to right: Evan Coombes, Jahyden Cook, Zac Sampson, Justin Smith, Wayne Craigie and Chris Copeland with in the middle: Shannan Swan, Alf Newman Snr, Warren Sampson (coach), Graham Smith, Jayden French and Paul Tighe and in front: Donovan Munro, Jeremy Smith (captain), Lance Tighe, Steve Connors Absent: Greg Roberts, Wayne Swan, Trevor Tighe Ball Boys: Kaleb Johnson, Jacob Briggs

MOREE CHAMPION

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Good luck to the Boomerangs on Sunday

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**Kevin
Humphries MP**



Wishing the Moree Boomerangs all the best in the Grand Final! *Kevin*

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2013 Boomerangs Grand Final



Fred Pegus, Jaram Haines, Cody Duncan, Mike Jerrard, Alf Newman Snr (assistant coach), Kyle Munro with Brian Saunders (coach), Willie Beale (sponsor), Anthony Smith, Fred Swan, Alf Newman Jnr, Tyrell Smith, Kyle Saunders, Brett Wright, Shaun Swan (trainer) and in front; Jeffrey Swan, Joshua Wells, William Nicholls, Jason Saunders, Brody Johnston and Brandon McGrady-Peckham.

No fear for under 18s

MOREE Boomerangs don't fear anyone.

That's the message coming from 'Rangs under 18 coach Brian Saunders Senior following his side's already successful 2013.

Way back in round one, this week's grand final opponents, Glen Innes, inflicted a first-up loss with a hard-fought 36-32 win, but it would prove to be one of just two losses for Moree throughout the season.

Both sides have exchanged wins over the course of the season.

"Glen is a strong side; it'll be a good game. They beat us at the start of the year and we beat them too, so we've had two pretty tight games against them this year," captain Alf Newman Junior said.

Despite featuring on grand final day, it hasn't all been smooth sailing for the under 18 side this year.

"We had about three byes in a

row which was difficult but we trained with a similar intensity to a game which helped us out a bit," he said.

Moree also couldn't settle on a side which would remain the same from week to week with players moving to the town before moving back home after a few weeks.

"It was a matter of getting them all together at the same time which proved difficult," Saunders said.

Outside factors not related to rugby league provided the biggest hurdle.

"A couple of the boys go to school in Sydney and only came back every now and then when they had a free weekend.

"We also had a few boys who moved to town and played a few games but then they moved back to where they came from.

"We started off the season slow but once we got all the boys

together they won pretty much all the time.

"They lost the first game and then the second or the third," he said.

Last week the 'Rangs had the week off which Newman Junior said could only be seen as a positive because they didn't run the risk of injuries leading into the grand final.

"I think it's a positive that we had last week off - it gave the boys an extra week to put the feet up," he said.

But once Saunders and his side emerged from the stop-start nature to the season and played regular footy, they gained momentum and secured the minor premiership by seasons end.

"It's been a difficult season at times. At the start of the year we'd play two or three games and then have two or three weeks off

because other teams didn't have an under 18 side.

"It made it difficult, but most of the (under 18) team played the other two grades anyway so they didn't miss any footy."

This weekend sees a repeat of the major semi-final from a few weeks ago, won 36-32 by the 'Rangs and Saunders believes his side are prepared for a tough encounter.

"The boys led Glen all the way through (the major semi-final) and were two or three tries in front, but then Glen scored two tries in the last four minutes to make the score a bit close.

"We were always in control, but we know we can play a lot better than we did in the majors. A few of the boys had a quiet game but this week they'll step up."

Newman Junior said he hadn't been surprised at the success of the

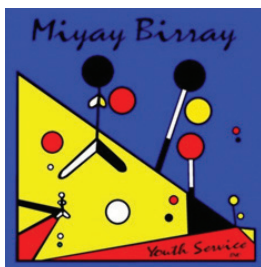


Brian Saunders

team this year.

"I've played with most of the boys for a few years so I knew what they were capable of. It's been a good team effort this year.

"We've been training well and playing well all year so there's no reason why we shouldn't take it out."



Congratulations and good luck to The Boomerang Juniors!

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Gordon Legg South Moree BUTCHERY

Congratulations to the Moree Boomerangs for making the Grand Final

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