

Weekly News

25 April 2019



The Battle of the Bridge was this year won decisively by Norths. Both divisions succumbed to very good sides determined to win and the Norths Premiers not letting the Sam Sai'ili Trophy stay on the Tawa side of the bridge.

The Premier Reserve took the stage first and had a great game. The game was probably there for the taking and could so easily have been won by us. Having said that though, the Reserve side did us proud with a Team that deserves to be only a couple off the top of the table. Also, a bunch of the Reserves went on to bench for the Premiers.



The Premier game was a battle and a half with a narrow loss for our Boys. Between injuries and people away for Easter there was more than a Rugby team (with Reserves) out for the day. The young Guys that stepped up did the Club proud. I was in the Green Room when Steve & Dion were talking to the Boys who were elevated to the number 1 level. The only expectation was to front up, go through the set pieces as trained for, back each other up whether a mistake or good play and enjoy the occasion. It was plain to see they all stepped up. Norths came with a reputation and a better place on the ladder. All I can say is they are in for a surprise in the second round – Tawa will win. In fact, both Tawa Premier Teams will win.

As an aside, on Wednesday afternoon I became involved in a young Guy wishing to change Clubs. I must say I was not impressed with the other Club's attitude. And quite frankly the Rugby Union person I dealt with was not very helpful either. He suggested the Player should stay where he is due to the Club struggling. Both the Club involved and the Union should "sharpen up" and realise (and remember) that we are losing numbers and this issue of putting "blockers" in the way of young Guys

wanting to play the great game is not a great lead or stance to take. Now, easy to say you might think, but let me back this up. When I was Club Captain we had a few of these issues along the way. The first question was "does the Player owe anything?" NO, then transfer quickly. Yes, then sort with the Club. I clearly recall a Player who owed some subs, we spoke to the Club, got the money, I paid the subs with a handshake and with the Club's blessing he played that weekend. We have also done the reverse, although not a lot leave Tawa once they are on board.

The Hurricanes had us on the edge of our seat for the best part of the game. I really thought TJ stepped up as he continues to do and Fletcher Smith has gained some confidence. Seems strange that the Sunwolves are to be closed out at the time they are hitting their straps. Prior is doing his usual blustering play and his leadership was very good.

The Blues vs Highlanders was also a brilliant game. Only two words to say "Tom Robinson". The next All Black Bolter. You heard it first here on the Tawa Weekly News.

No doubt people noticed as they came onto our grounds that we had one of our major sponsors vehicles on display. This will be a feature for home games this season.. Thanks to One Agency..

For all you Readers watching Dancing with the Stars (we know you are there Boys) don't forget to vote for Glen Osborne – Wanganui Boy and All Black.



Allan G. Davidson
Club President

Upcoming Games | 27 April

	Opponent	Location	Time
Premier	Wainuiomata	Lyndhurst Park	2.45pm
Premier Reserve	Wainuiomata	Lyndhurst Park	1.00pm
Colts	OBU	Redwood Park	1.00pm
First Grade	Poneke Ruffnutts	Redwood Park	2.45pm
Presidents	BYE	BYE	BYE

Swindale Shield

	P	W	L	D	F	A	B	Pts
HOBM	5	5	0	0	187	99	4	24
Norths	5	4	0	1	193	103	4	22
Ories	5	4	1	0	190	69	5	21
Poneke	5	4	1	0	144	108	4	20
Wainui	5	3	2	0	128	98	3	15
Petone	5	2	1	2	120	95	2	14
Tawa	5	2	3	0	167	120	3	11
OBU	5	2	3	0	143	118	3	11
Avalon	5	2	3	0	106	153	3	11
Marist St Pats	5	1	3	1	151	93	4	10
Upper Hutt Rams	5	2	3	0	118	140	2	10
Wellington	5	1	4	0	76	170	1	5
Pare-Plim	5	1	4	0	74	191	0	4
J'ville	5	0	5	0	50	290	1	1

Harper Lock Shield

	P	W	L	D	F	A	B	Pts
Marist St Pats	5	5	0	0	275	53	4	24
Norths	5	4	0	1	194	67	4	22
Tawa	5	4	1	0	217	112	6	22
Upper Hutt Rams	5	4	1	0	146	84	3	19
Ories	5	3	2	0	182	125	5	17
Poneke	5	3	2	0	185	119	4	16
OBU	5	2	2	1	140	74	4	14
Wainui	5	3	2	0	114	131	1	13
Avalon	5	2	3	0	119	126	4	12
Petone	5	2	3	0	135	168	4	12
HOBM	5	1	4	0	101	228	1	5
J'ville	5	1	4	0	51	247	1	5
Wellington	5	0	5	0	58	269	1	1
Pare-Plim	5	0	5	0	60	174	0	0

Upcoming Events

TAWA RFC

OLD TIMERS DAY

27 APRIL 2019 | LYNDHURST PARK

CLUBROOMS OPEN 12.30
LUNCH 12.45
PREMIER RESERVES VS WAINUI 13.00
PREMIER VS WAINUI 14.45
SPEECHES 16.45
CELEBRATIONS 18.30

DJ
FREE ENTRY

Premier

Opponent:	Norths	Location:	Lyndhurst Park
Date of Game:	20 April 2019	Final Score:	Tawa 25 – Norths 32
Point Scorers:	Folau Finau-Vea, Thomas Temu, Desmond Matofai (Tries) Sam Clarke(2) (Con)(2) (Pen)		
Player of Day:	Hemi Fermanis		
Coach:	Doug Fletcher, & Damien Rapira-Davies		
Manager:	Colleen Stanbridge		

Match Report:

Week 5 of the Swindale Shield and the big local derby as North's come to Lyndhurst Park.

Always a passionate and fiesty match with the Sammy Sali Memorial Trophy at stake. Sammy a respected player with 200 games played for both clubs and sadly passed away in 2009.

Tawa started with a physical onslaught and after 3 minutes Sam Clarke nailed a penalty Tawa 3-0.

11 minutes from a Tawa scrum in the North 22 and Folau Finau-Vea powered over for the try. Sam converts Tawa 10-0.

North's finally awaken and after 20hHalfback Campbell Woodmass stroked over the penalty. Tawa 10-3.

24 minutes Norths centre Te Kahui Bishop scored Conversion added 10-10.

33 minutes Tawa storm on to attack and the Tongan Rocket (aka Tolu) a deft passage and winger Thomas Temu finished off sweetly. Unconverted and Tawa 15-10.



What a bruising passionate local derby and North's deserved winners. A heartening performance from a depleted Tawa team and the bonus point may prove crucial as we strive for a Jubilee Cup spot 5 matches to play and next up it's Old Timers Day and welcome Wainui to Lyndhurst Park.

Catch you all next week.



No further scoring to the break North's started on fire in the 2nd half and at 45 minutes fullback Esi Komaisavai streaked away to score. Converted and Norths17-15.

47 minutes Sam nails a penalty from 45 metres Tawa 18-17.

55 metres and burly no 8 Luca Rees bumps off a few Tawa defenders to score. The conversion nailed from wide out North's 24-18.

North's dominance continues and a penalty extends the lead North's now 27-18

65 minutes Rees barges over for a double the kick flagged away North's 32-18. Tawa struggling to contain a rampant North's. Tawa managed to score once more and at 78 minutes and replacement hooker Des Matofai drove over from an attacking lineout and Sam converts Full time North's 32-25.



Tavita Gaunt
Proud and Passionate Tawa Supporter

Premier Reserve

Opponent: Norths
Date of Game: 20 April 2019
Coach: Thomas George, Nigel Paranihi
Manager: Mark Cooper

Location: Lyndhurst Park
Final Score: Tawa 26 – Norths 31

Match Report:

Well should've, could've, would've pretty much sums up the game on the weekend. The battle of the bridge lived up to its hype but it didn't go the way we had planned.

We started the game like Usain Bolt out of the starting blocks, with our slick backs getting the ball and slicing through Norths defence line. We were playing into a strong northerly wind so we had to keep ball in hand as Norths were trying to pin us in our 22 and try and play their rugby there.

We defended our line for multiple phases until they could breach our line to score. We went into the 2nd half with the lead, but also half asleep as they managed to score 2 tries and we were back to playing catch up rugby. With minutes to go we were 3 meters out from Norths try line with a Tawa scrum, we get the penalty and a they get a yellow card. They were now down to 14 men so we opted for another scrum and again we get another penalty which leads to another yellow card and they are now down to 13 men. So we take another scrum and we put that much pressure on that their scrum is back peddling and their front row is now standing.

Now we don't know what happened at that point but we thought we SHOULD'VE got the penalty advantage which COULD'VE lead to a penalty try which meant we WOULD'VE won the game but that's how scripted movie's work and we were playing the game in real time and in real life, unfortunately we were 30 secs away from winning.

We congratulate Norths on the win but we have to move on and build for our next games that we are still to play.

It's a hard choice when there is a chance to spend a long weekend away with family or to play against Norths. We had a few boys missing (I'm guessing so did all the other clubs) but we thank everyone in our playing 22 for Saturday and to those guys who backed up and help out our Premier team.

Hope everyone had a good Easter break and we will see you next weekend as we take on Wainui for what will be our Old Timers Day.

Cheers
Masi



Thomas George
Coach



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