

DIEHARDS CLUB NOTES

The Diehards had a great start to the season last Saturday night with all grades having a win. The town turned up in good numbers to watch the football and their mood was happy and parochial. One of the highlights of the evening was the recognition of Brenton McMillan playing his 200th game for the club. Macca was presented with a framed action shot of himself with a plaque detailing his feat with the Diehards. This will add to his already impressive trophy cabinet.

Our A Grade won their match 28-14 against a very committed and confident Tiger's outfit. The Diehards earned their 2 points on the back of good scrambling defence, with some last ditch defence saving certain tries. They certainly didn't make it easy for themselves by coughing up possession in the first half however coach James Gilligan was pleased with their defence that saw them in front at halftime 4-0. The game was extremely fast and entertaining and James thinks we will be better for the run. He liked the performances of Chris Still and Tim Logan and thought Steve Brazier was impressive in his debut as hooker. He also liked the effort of Chris Arthur from the bench.

Reserve Grade coach Scott Hall was always confident his side was capable of winning the game however admits this confidence was tested when the scores were locked at 36-36. In a high scoring match that ended in the Diehards winning 56-36 defence was not a priority for either side. The crowd loved it however and they were in the game from start to finish. Scott liked Bruce Johnston at fullback and thought Lex Turner showed encouraging signs that he has returned from knee reconstruction with confidence. Allan Dodd scored a bag of tries and seemed to put the ball over the line when it was needed.

Under 18 coach Scott Hart was happy with the numbers that turned up for the first fixture and their win 40-10. The Diehards played within themselves and controlled the match from the kick-off. Scott believes this side will become competitive however this won't happen if they don't commit to the training paddock. Troy Love was Scott's best with his barnstorming runs a feature. He also liked Ben Marshall, Michael Krause and John Winter. The Diehards have a bye this weekend.