



Melbourne

Rugby

Union

Football

Club

Club Address Charles Lux Pavillion, Toorak Park,
580 Orrong Rd, Armadale, Melbourne Victoria

Postal Address Melbourne Rugby Union Football Club Inc.
P.O. Box 192, South Yarra, VIC, 3141

Phone Telephone: (61) 420 962 181
Fax Facsimile: (61) 2 9024 4186

Pre-season is almost upon us and we are looking to Club Members to stand up and help get this season off to an explosive start for all our teams. We need volunteers to help make this the most exciting and successful season in the Clubs long history. Some of your time is what we are asking for while extra involvement and enjoyment is what we are offering!!!

For your Committee and Coaches there never was an off season!! The preparation required to keep us at the top of the pile is full on. We are hungry for more success for the Club and this means that new playing innovations are looked for to improve our style and effectiveness through all the Grades, player recruitment and retention have to be coordinated, training grounds need to be found before we get our pitches back in April, Coaches and Managers need to be appointed for all grades and new kit needs to be sourced and ordered. This is all in hand or has now been actioned.

To this end the pre-season has been going well. Nic Fitisemanu has taken on the role of heading up our first U23 Player Academy. This has now been successfully running since November and the players are already seeing the benefits of the physical training and mentoring. Our 7's Squad is taking shape and will be ready for the Victorian Club 7's at AAMI Park on the 18th February, a date to put in your diary, so be there and cheer on the mighty Unicorns in their quest to bring home some early silver wear. This will be followed by the 10's at Cerberus where we will try to win some of the missing trophies from our cabinet!! The new Coaches have been appointed and have already been taken through the new Club Play Book. So now we are almost ready for the off at the Club pre-season training starting on 16th February at Gardiner Park.

What do we need to be even better prepared? The answer is we now need volunteers!!! We need help in the smooth running of player registration from the first training session for about 8 sessions. We need help to take the details of new and returning players alike and it needs to be done without keeping them away from their training too long so numbers of helpers is what we need. On the plus side for the volunteers it gives them the chance to see what goes on at training and to get involved with the players and coaches then to hang about and have a drink or two afterwards. We need about 6 Club Members willing to do this for about 3 to 4 weeks.

Whilst we have a number of Managers appointed we still need a couple more for one or two of the Grade sides. If we get enough volunteers then this can be a shared job so as not to take up too much of any ones time. The managers' role is vital and helps the teams run smoothly and helps take match day stress away from the Captain and Coach. It also gives an opportunity for members and supporters to get involved and up close to the teams and share in their successes. There is an

extensive job description and training available so don't worry if you are not sure whether you can deal with what may be needed, just make sure you are one of our new Managers!

The next batches of volunteers required revolve around match day. We need a crew of volunteers to help make sure the match day runs well, and that they are the most professional in Victorian Club rugby. The help required is from getting the pitches prepared, keeping the scoreboard up to date, maybe selling programmes, being the match day official (VRU requirement we have one!!!), bringing in the pitch side kit and equipment etc. The more volunteers we get the easier the job and the more fun it becomes. Enough volunteers for a roster are what would be ideal. If you can help on just a few home games that would be a brilliant, so put your hands up and let us know that you want to join in assisting the winning team.

The last area of help we need is with jobs and accommodation. We have players arriving from overseas who see playing their rugby at MURFC is the best way to show case their skills in Victorian Rugby. Our recruitment has been low key this year but we have a number of quality players that have contacted us wanting to come over but need jobs from labouring to office rolls. Some, like our Fijian contingent last year, will need a bed as well for a few days to a few months. What we would like to do is get a list of jobs that members might be able to help with and offers of beds as well. This is critical to keeping us at the top of Victorian rugby so please contact if you think you can assist.

Season 2012 is going to be another great year of the Unicorn so get on board and be a part of it by becoming a Unicorn Volunteer!! if you are on board to help then give me a call or message me on neil.hay@haycapital.com.au or 0405 983633

Yours in rugby

Neil Hay

Head of Playing Operations