

News from the Scrum



St. Joseph's Prep Rugby Football Club
1733 W. Girard Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19130

Prep Rugby Mission Statement:

The Mission of St. Joseph's Prep Rugby is to provide a consistently positive and winning program to the young men of St. Joseph's Prep which fosters teamwork, discipline and sportsmanship on and off the rugby pitch.

Kick Starting the 2009 Season

Volume 4, Issue 2

16 December 2008

And away we go...!

Black Friday 2009 saw the Prep Rugby Alumni game at Memorial Hall Field in Fairmount Park. It was a beautiful day and with over 80 people in attendance, everyone had a blast.

On December 2, we had our Parents' Night Welcome Back Meeting. This meeting is for all returning parents, as well as parents of interested players.

At that meeting we discussed

various items for the upcoming season.

The outline agenda for that meeting is being e-mailed to parents. If you would like a copy, please Coach Farren know.



Beef — n — Beer Fundraiser

One of the more enjoyable aspects of being a member of Prep Rugby are the Beef-n-Beers.

B-n-B's have so many benefits. We are able to raise funds for the team, which we use to help offset the costs to

the team of playing fields and field equipment, as well as to help our players have the best experience possible. On top of that, we have been fortunate to be able to have our B-n-B's at Tír na Nóg Irish Restaurant in Center City Philadelphia.

The original plan was to try to have one about now, but we decided to put it off until after the New Year as we prepare to kick-off the season.

We will announce the date shortly, and we hope to see all of you there.

Special points of interest:

- *Welcome Back Parent Night was December 2. Agenda available through e-mail if interested.*
- *Canterbury of New Zealand will be providing our new 2009 team kit.*

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Welcome Back Parent Night

Hard to believe, but we are getting ready to kick off the 2009 season in just a few short months. Our Welcome Back Night on December 2 at 5:30 went well. If you missed the meeting, the PowerPoint slide show is also being mailed out. If you have any questions, please contact Coach Farren or Coach McCloskey.

Doug Mazzocco, our Canterbury NZ representative, was on hand to discuss some of the new clothing items. While much of the information is available in the slide show and/or on

the parent permission form, we want to highlight a few key items.

1. The team is moving to a tighter Canterbury jersey, which will be team property;
2. While dues are going up slightly from \$110 to \$125, an **additional inclusion** in this fee will be a practice jersey, rugby shorts and socks for each player;
 - i. A reminder: *we do not turn away any player who is unable to afford this fee*. If this is an issue, please contact Coach Farren.

1. There is additional Canterbury “off field” gear available, but we also have access to the gear the team has been wearing, some of which is not available through Canterbury, such as knit caps and skull caps. Both order forms are included in this newsletter.



Prep Rugby Game DVD's Available for Christmas!

Prep Rugby has available the game tapes of the 2008 Season. Brendan Murphy filmed the games and has them formatted to DVD's. He can have them in time for Christmas.

Here is the info:

A Side Games: \$25

B Side Games : \$25

A&B Sides: \$35

If orders are in by Dec. 17, 2008, DVD's will be available for pick-up in school on Dec. 19, 2008.

If you would like the DVD's mailed, add \$4.95 S&H and if orders are in by Dec. 17, they should still arrive before Christmas.

Make Checks payable to Prep Rugby.

Also, DVD's may still be available from the 2007 season:

A Side Games: \$20

B Side Games : \$20

A&B Sides: \$35

For additional questions about the DVD's, please contact Brendan Murphy: bmurphy@sjprep.org

Prep Rugby Tours

As Prep Rugby Parents know, the team tries to take the players on tour. Our first tour in 2007 was to Florida, and our 2008 tour was to Ireland. While we do not yet have concrete plans for this year, we are already discussing an international tour for 2010. There has been a good deal of interest in this tour from students who are not current members of the team, and with that in mind, it is good to take the time to note a couple key items.

- 1) The team will alternate the tours from small/national (i.e. Florida) to large/international (i.e. Ireland).
 - A. For 2009, we are looking into either a Southern Tour (the Carolinas, Georgia, etc) or up to West Point.
- 2) For tours, we work to ensure that returning players have preference; for the international tours, specifically, we expect players to be “returning” play-

ers, which means they have been an active member of the team the year previous to the trip.

Players—returning and interested players are encouraged to talk to one of the coaches if they have questions. We'll keep updates coming as they happen, but word is spreading about the rugby tours and we wanted to make this aspect of touring as clear as we can.

Prep Rugby Scarves, Ties, Commemorative Jerseys for Sale

The Prep Rugby Commemorative Jerseys **ARE AVAILABLE** in the Prep Bookstore, as are the scarves and ties.

The scarves and ties are \$20 each, and the jerseys are \$60. Jerseys are avail-

able in crimson (see the picture) or grey (the inverse of the picture color scheme).

Contact Coach Farren for more information.



Alumni Updates and Notes

We love to hear what's been going on with our alumni, recent grads and older alumni. So, all you Prep Rugby alumni, send us updates.

Of course, we can all stay connected with:

- Facebook: St. Joseph's Prep Rugby group
- LinkedIn: St. Joseph's Prep Rugby group

Join us!

[Current updates \(as of 11.28.08\):](#)

Here are some '08 grads playing and making an immediate impact on their college A and B Side teams (in alpha order):

- Tyler Dewechter, US Coast Guard Academy

If we are missing someone, please let

Coach Farren know and the update will be here.

We know not all are here, but if you would like to be included here, let us know and we'll find a way to mention your college rugby highlights.

... to the whistle in any weather, fellas!

The Prep Rugby 2008 Black Friday Alumni Game was a huge success, with over 80 people in attendance.

In the next issue, we'll have a summary and some pictures of the day (some of which are already up on the [Facebook Prep Rugby page](#)).

Thanks to all who were there, and we hope everyone had a great time!

Service / Fundraising Opportunity

Prep Rugby has a double opportunity this Fall. In the past, players have volunteered to rake leaves at someone's house for several hours on a Saturday. That person then donates money to the team (they generally also feed the hard workers!).

Lou Farren, Sr—the father of Coach Farren—LOVED this idea and wants to have at it again. He needs about 4-6 players to rake leaves for about 4-5 hours. If players are interested in helping out they can help raise money for the team and Coach Farren will talk to Mr. Deitch about Service Hours. It's a win-win. [Interested players should contact Coach Farren a.s.a.p.](#) as Mr. Lou Farren would like players this coming weekend.

If this idea strikes you as a good idea for your yard, contact Coach Farren and some players will be rounded up to help you clean the yard and help the team raise some funds. Thanks!

Prep Rugby Gear **Order Form**—Triple Play Gear

This is the gear style we had in the 2008 season with sweatshirts, hats, etc.

Please make checks payable to:

Triple Play Sports

Submit checks and forms to coaches.

Attn.: Dewey

827 S. 9th Street

Philadelphia, PA 19147

Skull Caps (\$15)

\$ _____

Black Knit Caps (\$15)

\$ _____

Baseball Bar Caps (\$15)

\$ _____

Front Style: (Bar Style) RUGBY / St. Joe's Prep

Hat Color: Crimson, Letter Color: Grey

Mesh Shorts (\$22)

Name to be Stitched: _____ \$ _____

Size (XS – S – M – L – XL – XXL): _____

Additional Item: (\$ _____)

Size (XS – S – M – L – XL – XXL): _____

Name and Number: _____ \$ _____

Additional Item: (\$ _____)

Size (XS – S – M – L – XL – XXL): _____

Name and Number: _____ \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Prep Rugby Gear **Order Form**—Canterbury NZ Gear

This is the official lineup apparel for players, coaches and fans of St. Joseph’s Prep Rugby! Canterbury of New Zealand has been the world’s premier provider of quality rugby gear for over 100 years. Order time is 6—8 weeks from the time the final order is placed.

Please make checks payable to “Prep Rugby” and submit to coaches.

All Canterbury gear is backed by a lifetime warranty!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

“Kirra” Polo—\$43.00

- Poly-Cotton classic polo. Prep logo embroidered on chest. Available in Grey with maroon sides and white piping (Choice A) or Black with grey sides, white piping (Choice B).

- Quantity: _____
- Size: (S—3XL): _____
- Color Choice: _____

“Ellis” Training Tee—\$37.00 (One will be included in dues; this would be in addition to that.)

- Durable Poly-mesh tee. Great for training! Prep logo embroidered on left chest. Available in grey with black sides (Choice A) or grey with maroon sides (Choice B).

- Quantity: _____
- Size: (S—3XL): _____
- Color Choice: _____

“Premier” Track Jacket and Pant Warm-Up—\$80.00

- Water repellant nylon shell is ideal for staying warm in poor weather. Embroidered logo. Available in black (Choice A) or grey (Choice B).

- Quantity: _____
- Size: (S—3XL): _____
- Color Choice: _____

“Kirra” Hoody—\$55.00

- Soft fleece lining with front pocket. “PREP RUGBY” screen printed on center of chest in maroon on both color options. Available in black with white piping (Choice A) or grey with maroon piping (Choice B).

- Quantity: _____
- Size: (S—3XL): _____
- Color Choice: _____

Coming soon: Fleece Jacket, Kit Bag

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Doug Mazzocco, Canterbury’s Northeastern On-Field Representative, at (610) 331—8401 or via e-mail at: doug@canterburynzusa.com

Rugby Team Meeting: Agenda Outline from 12.9.08

**** Senior Meeting—Thurs. 12/18.08, 2:45 p.m. in Room 205**

- A. Welcome back Review
- B. PSU Camp
 - a. February 6 – 8, 2009
 - b. *The PSU Camp is a great way to ramp up for the season and get the guys “working the kinks out”, so to speak, as we begin the season. More info will be forthcoming about this.*
- C. Leaf Raking Volunteers
 - a. E-mail and Contact Information Sign Up
- D. Set Dates for Dues and Parent Permission Forms
 - Wednesday, January 21, 2009
 - Information and Forms Distribution
 - Tuesday, January 6, 2009
- E. Canterbury NZ Gear Update
- F. Meeting next week
 - Seniors: Opinions, Feedback
- H. Kairos
 - a. Be aware of the schedule and sign up early.
 - b. Try not to attend during season.
 - If go during season, will lose their next start. This is not a punishment; it simply reflects the conditioning and efforts of other players.
- I. Community Service
 - a. Part of being a member of the team in a Jesuit School.
 - b. Participation is expected.
 - c. Information will be available in the coming weeks.
- J. 2008 Season DVD
 - a. Order Form included in this *News from the Scrum*
 - b. Highlight Reel Order Form
- K. College / University Rugby
 - a. Coach contact forms for Juniors and Seniors are available.

II. Overview of Season

- A. Practice
 - a. Location
 - b. Behavior
 - c. Times are firm!
 - d. Necessities for Practice
 - e. Parent Permission
 - f. Health/Medical Form Clearance
 - g. Mouthguard
 - h. Spikes
 - i. Rugby Shorts
 - j. Old Rugby jersey (preferred)
 - k. Playing Time and A Side
 - l. Based on a combination of skill, ability, dedication, attitude, and attendance.
 - m. Failure to attend the last practice before a game – regardless of the reason – may exclude a player from starting and/or playing in that game.

B. Trips

In Process: Army—Carolinas—PSU

III. Dues and Sign-ups (re-State)

Dues/Fees:

Policy: Students will not practice or play without both their dues AND their Medical Physical Form completed.

There will be no exceptions to this.

Due dates for Player Fees:

Returning Players: Mandatory – 21 January 2009

New Players: One week trial without dues required – afterwards, dues required

Sign-up:

Policy: Rolling – new players always welcome

Discuss probation... especially as it relates to captains

Answer any questions

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Please make all correspondence either:
Attention: Mr. Thomas Farren, Sr.
or
Attention: Mr. Brian McCloskey
Phone: 215-978-1950
Fax: 215-765-1710
E-mail: preprfc@yahoo.com; preprfc@comcast.net

Prep Rugby Slogan

2007: Any Game, Any Weather, Any Time

2008: ... to the whistle!

2009: ... ?

— What will 2009's be?

*We're on the web
(currently working to update):*

www.thepreprfc.com

Also, check us out on Facebook and LinkedIn

Prep Rugby Philosophy Statement:

The Philosophy of Prep RFC is that rugby is a sport intended to be enjoyed by its players, their families and their supporters.

The basics of the sport, including the rules, the traditions, the history and the culture, will be taught to any player who shows a genuine interest in learning the game and becoming part of the team.

The coaches will conduct practice in the positive, disciplined manner of a Jesuit high school athletic program. The team concept is encouraged and fostered through practice, team attitude and activities. At the same time, in the off-season, other sports are encouraged for the players as a means of diversifying their talents, their agility and athleticism, and to prevent "burn-out".

The rugby philosophy encourages each player to achieve a level of success that equals his individual and team potential.



Prep Rugby looking for 2009 Sponsors

Prep Rugby has been blessed to have great support throughout our existence, and a key to the team's success has been our sponsors.

Our players have always felt part of a team and not simply a "club". This helped them to build confidence, and to know they were working towards an achievable goal, one in which others had faith in their ability to achieve. It sounds simple enough, but it is one of the intangibles that help create a team and great team community.

For the 2009 Season, we are again looking for sponsors. A more formalized structure will be set out shortly, but if you are willing to help the team and the players in their quest to continue to establish Prep Rugby as a premier team both at the Prep and in the East Penn Rugby Union, please contact either Coach Tom Farren, Sr. or Coach Brian McCloskey.

On a similar note, we are beginning to organize for the season and our home games. As of now, we do not have a current schedule for 2009. Once we

have that schedule, we will be able to prepare more accurately the various aspects of the season. We will post the information as soon as it is furnished to us from the EPRU administration.

We can't wait for the season to start, and we look forward to catching up and enjoying another great Prep Rugby season!

Contact Frank DeGiulio for more information on Sponsors.