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Back Cover - U14 Girls & U16 Girls



# 2019 YEARBOOK





INAUGURAL CBDJRL CLUB'S CLUB OF THE YEAR WINNER





## **TEN YEAR PLAYERS (2019)**



**MALCOLM CHAMBERS (15)** 



**ALAA CHAHINE (16)** 



JIHAD HAMMOUD (16)



**JAYLEN TUITAMA (16)** 





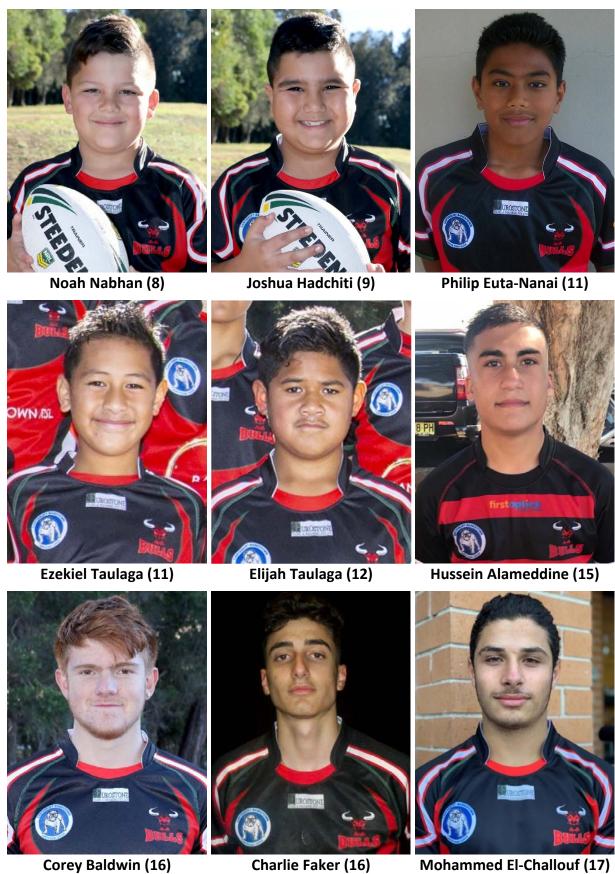




Congratulations Malcolm, Alaa, Jihad and Jaylen for 10 years of outstanding playing service www.bankstownbulls.com 5 www.facebook.com/BankstownBulls

### **FIVE YEAR PLAYERS (2019)**

Congratulations to the following players for achieving 5 years of playing service



www.bankstownbulls.com 6 www.facebook.com/BankstownBulls

### **CLUB DIRECTORY**

#### **2019 JOINT PATRONS**

George Coorey (Chairman Canterbury Leagues)
Tania Mihailuk MP (NSW Member for Bankstown)

#### **2019 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

President: Michael Rodrigues ^ (resigned 25/09/19)

Secretary: Lawrence Karam Treasurer: Matthew O'Neill

Senior Vice President: Stan Hetaraka ^ Assistant Secretary: Anthony Samuel ^

^ Bulls Life Member

### **2019 GENERAL COMMITTEE**

Junior Vice President: David Tarabay

Registrar: Sandra Chahine

Youth Liaison Officer: Ali Mehanna

Grounds: Brad Whigham

### **DELEGATES TO CBDJRL & BULLDOGS**

Lawrence Karam; Matthew O'Neill

### **BANKSTOWN BULLS JRLFC LIFE MEMBERS**

John Angove (Collegians) \*
Peter Wagstaff (Collegians) #
William Bellenger (Collegians)
Stan O'Dowd (Collegians) \*#
Warrick Shakespeare (Cougars) \*

John Edwards (Cougars)
Lynn Farah (Cougars)
Ray Farah (Cougars) \*
Lindsay Roach (2010)
Najib Nohra (2010)
Lloyd Williams (2011)

Anthony Samuel (2012) ~ Romiz Barakat (2013)

Scarf Maroun (2013)

Norma Hadchiti (2014) ~ Abdul Nabhan (2014) ~

Michael Rodrigues (2016)

George Farej (2018)

Stan Hetaraka (2018) ~ Amanda Nabhan (2018) ~

Rabab Raad (2019) ~

Chady Salamah (2019) ~

David Tarabay (2019) ~

\* Deceased, # CDBJRL Life Member, ~ Active Life Member

### SENIOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

1986 Bankstown Collegians 2002 Bankstown Cougars 2018 Bankstown Bulls

### MINI CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

2019 Bankstown Bulls

### **CBDJRL CLUB OF THE YEAR**

2007 Bankstown Bulls

### **CBDJRL CLUB'S CLUB OF THE YEAR**

2019 Bankstown Bulls (inaugural winner)

www.bankstownbulls.com



#### **MAJOR SPONSOR**

Bankstown RSL Club

#### SCOREBOARD SPONSOR

First Option Bank

### **POLO SHIRT SPONSOR**

Frango Charcoal Chicken Petersham

### **JERSEY SPONSORS**

Bankstown RSL Club Mortimer Apparel Ground King Civil

Piccolo Me

City Steel Pty Ltd Odyssey Plumbing Cedar Beverages

**Eurostone Tiling & Polishing** 

### **TEAM SPONSORS**

U7 - CR Plumbing Group

U9D2 - Advanced Body Sculpting

U10 – Strong Hold Fixing U12D1 – J&J Fruit Supply

U12D3 - Miltrix Projects; Trade Licences; & Hi-Tech

Bricklaying

U16/2 - Fit By Physio

U14 & U16 Girls - Main Flow Plumbing

### **CLUB PARTNERS & ASSOCIATES**

**Abel Trophies Roselands** 

Abu Ahmad Butcher Punchbowl

Bankstown Physiotherapy & Sports Injury Centre

**Fosters Amusements** 

Gozleme King Bankstown Central

**GS** Imaging

Mina 1 Bakery West Yagoona

Multi Printing & Publishing Campsie

SCD Apparel Storm Movers

Ya Ya Bakery Yagoona

### **PREMIERSHIPS (60)**

40 Bankstown Bulls/Cougars

10 Bankstown Collegians

5 Bankstown City

7

5 Bankstown Central

**WEBSITE:** www.bankstownbulls.com **EMAIL:** info@bankstownbulls.com

www.facebook.com/BankstownBulls

### **2019 HONOUR ROLL**

#### **INTERNATIONALS**

Peter Mata'utia (Samoa 2009, 2014, 2017)

\*Daniel Tupou (Tonga 2013, 2017-19 & Australia 2014)

Sione Mata'utia (Australia 2014 & Samoa 2017)

Pat Mata'utia (Samoa 2015)

\*Marcelo Montoya (Fiji 2016-19)

Andrew Kazzi (Lebanon 2017)

Michael Morgan (Ireland 2017)

Pio Sokobalavu (Fiji 2017-18)

\*Jayden El-Jalkh (Lebanon 2019)

\*D'Rhys Miller (Fiji 2019)

#### STATE OF ORIGIN

Daniel Tupou (NSW 2014-15)

### PRIME MINISTERS XIII

Sione Mata'utia (2014)

### CITY/COUNTRY ORIGIN

Daniel Tupou (City 2014-15)

Ryan Matterson (City 2016)

### **NATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE (NRL)**

2007 Heka Nanai (Canterbury)

2011 Peter Mata'utia (Newcastle)

\*2012 Daniel Tupou (Sydney Roosters)

2013 Harlan Alaalatoa (Canterbury)

2014 Chanel Mata'utia (Newcastle)

\*2014 Sione Mata'utia (Newcastle)

2016 Pat Mata'utia (Newcastle)

\*2016 Ryan Matterson (Sydney Roosters)

\*2017 Marcelo Montoya (Canterbury)

### NRL TOUCH FOOTBALL

\*2019 Jason Kazzi (Wests Tigers)

### AMERICAN NFL

2018 Jordan Mailata (Philadelphia Eagles)

### 2019 U13 CANTERBURY DEV SQUAD

Assaad Dib

**Dantae Moors** 

Jaiden Barakat

Ezekiel Saili

Tylah Slate

### 2019 U14 CANTERBURY DEV SQUAD

Charles Afeaki

Elipeteli Keresoma

Adam Noureddine

Jerome Rogers

Alias Saisoa'a

Luca Sebastian Zummo

### 2019 U15 CANTERBURY DEV SQUAD

Abdul-Karim Aichan

Liam Maui

Andrew Mikhael

Jawad Saleh

### 2019 U17 CANTERBURY DEV SQUAD

Mohamed El-Challouf

Bernard Lelei

Gerard Maui

#### **2019 HAROLD MATTHEWS REPS**

Bilal Danine (Canterbury)

Tyrese Fuatimau (Canterbury)

Natrell Tawa (Canterbury)

Jaylen Tuitama (Canterbury)

William Tuitupou (Canterbury)

### **2019 SG BALL REPS**

Diego Bravo-Graham (Canterbury)

Andrew Hadchiti (Canterbury)

### **2019 LISA FIAOLA REPS**

Pafusi Cox (Canterbury)

Shanikau Rogers (Canterbury)

Phoebe Te Paiho-Murray (Canterbury)

### 2019 GRAND FINAL PLAYER OF THE MATCH

Onfire for JC Florian (u9/3)

Youssef Soliman (u10/2)

### **2019 LEADING TRY SCORERS**

54 Marcus Tarabay (u5, u6/w)

42 Lemeki Ngalu (u9/3)

34 Daniel Spaseski (u7)

32 Lorenzo Stanley-Ligaiviu (u6/b, u6/w)

31 Jacob El-Najjar (u7)

MOD: 26 Youssef Soliman (u10)

INT: 22 Mohamed Saleh (u16/2)

#### **2019 LEADING GOAL KICKERS**

23 Andrew Mikhael (u15, u16/2)

20 Mohamed Saleh (u16/2)

17 Regan Gregorio (u17)

17 Jawad Saleh (u15, u16/2)

14 Karim Adhami (u11d2)

MINI: 10 Jarrah Dennis-Reid (u9d2)

MOD: 14 Karim Adhami (u11d2)

### 2019 LEADING POINT-SCORERS U8-U17

186 (42t, 9g) Lemeki Ngalu (u9/3)

128 (22t, 20g) Mohamed Saleh (u16/2)

126 (26t, 11g) Youssef Soliman (u10)

108 (23t, 8g) Onfire for JC Florian (u9/3)

92 (22t, 2g) Ali Zreika (u11d2, u12d3)

**MINI:** 216 (54t) Marcus Tarabay (u5, u6/w)

MOD: 126 (26t, 11g) Youssef Soliman (u10)

**INT:** 128 (22t, 20g) Mohamed Saleh (u16/2)

### **POINTS FOR THREE TEAMS IN 2019**

Joey Vaukatagane

u11d3 (18pts), u12d3 (4pts), u11d2 (4pts)

### **POINTS FOR TWO TEAMS IN 2019**

Marcus Tarabay u5 (204pts), u6/w (12pts)

Lorenzo Stanley-Ligaiviu u6/b (100pts), u6/w (28pts)

Omar Kabah u8/1 (8pts), u8/2 (4pts)

Ali Zreika u11/2 (88pts), u12/3 (4pts)

Andrew Mikhael u15 (52pts), u16/2 (6pts)

Jawad Saleh u15 (30pts), u16/2 (20pts)

Crystal Taulafo u15 (56pts), u16/2 (4pts)

Liam Maui u15 (24pts), u17 (8pts)

Gerard Maui u16/2 (12pts), u17 (18pts)

### SECRETARY'S REPORT



2019 was definitely the year of the Bulls.

Our club and members were recognised at many levels of our game, we were honoured with awards such as; Mini Club Championship, Club's Club of the year, Coach of the year, Volunteer of the year and Manager of the year just to know a few. These such awards highlight how far our club has come and when we all working together it's amazing what we can accomplish.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank every single volunteer, coach, team manager, first aid, team trainers and member of our club for all your hard work and help around the club on BBQ, cleaning up, setting up and support on & off the field, It hasn't gone unnoticed and has been greatly appreciated. I understand it's never easy giving up your time.

To all the young boys & girls that represented our club and wore the Black & Red jersey with pride and passion & played with spirit throughout the year, well

done and thank you as it was humbling to see you run out week in and week out in the Bankstown Bulls jersey.

Thanks to Canteen Team Sandra, Rabab, Jessica, Norma and all those who gave their time. Ground Manager Brad for his crazy early starts and support crew Elias & Yehya.

Another thank you must go to our clubs major sponsor **Bankstown RSL Club** for their commitment to our our game. Sponsors such as **First Option Bank** for fundings our new scoreboard, club sponsor **City Steel**, jerseys sponsors **Piccolo Me**, **Eurostone Tiling & Polishing** and **Ground King Civil**, shorts sponsor **Odyssey Plumbing** and **Cedar Beverages**, polo shirt sponsor **Frango Chicken Petersham** and **Main Flow Plumbing** for sponsoring both our Girls teams. Thank you all for your contributions to the clubs success. We had many new team sponsors that allowed the players in those sides to have their very own jumpers.

Our club this year achieved its 40th premiership win, led the way with the innovation of hosting Friday Night Football, had many players represent the club in junior rep sides and we accomplished two all girls sides!

Yes the Year Of The Bulls.

I'm indebted to the Bulls Executives for their ongoing support and leadership.

Michael for all is hard work behind the scenes and building strong Bulldogs club relationships, Stan for his mentoring of players and club maintenance/repairs, Anthony for his support in the canteen & voice of reason, David for his support and commitment to the club and Matt for his relentless pursuit of excellence, financial management and benchmark compliance standards. All these added up made us the success we were this year.

To my Wife, you're my rock and thank you for letting me do what I love.

As another year ends I can't wait to see my Bulls family and many new faces in 2020!!

Lawrence Karam 2019 Secretary, Bankstown Bulls JRLFC Inc

### **2019 BANKSTOWN BULLS SPONSORS & ASSOCIATES**

### Major Sponsor ... BANKSTOWN RSL CLUB

First Option Bank City Steel Pty Ltd Advanced Body Sculpting Piccolo Me **Odyssey Plumbing** Frango Charcoal Chicken Petersham **Eurostone Tiling & Polishing** Mortimer Apparel Main Flow Plumbing Abu Ahmad Butcher Punchbowl Cedar Beverages CR Plumbing Group Strong Hold Fixing Mina 1 Bakery West Yagoona J&J Fruit Supply Multi Printing & Publishing Campsie **Abel Trophies Roselands Storm Movers Fosters Amusements** Fit By Physio Gozleme King Bankstown Central

GS Imaging SCD Apparel Ya Ya Bakery Yagoona

Miltrix Projects Hi-Tech Bricklaying Trade Licences

Ground King Civil Bankstown Physiotherapy & Sports Injury Centre

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT



I was surprised and honoured when Matt, Anthony (Mullet) and Stan all approached me to make the move from General Committee to President when the position became available. I've been involved with the club for two years and it's become another family for me.

I've been very fortunate to come into the club at a time when Michael was President and Lawrence was Secretary. Both have been a great support and friend to me and always encouraging towards me.

Both Michael and Lawrence have stepped down from the Executive and they've left the club in fantastic shape. Michael is a Life Member who has made a great contribution to the club. Lawrence was a deserving winner of the Volunteer Award. Both will continue have a major role to play at the club in 2020. Lawrence has already agreed to coach one side and help another side. Michael will always be a part of our furniture.

To have 4 of the 5 Executive positions secured in an uncontested ballot for next season shows the club is in very good stable health. I'm excited to have the experience of Stan, Matt, Rabab and hopefully Anthony (Mullet) alongside me. Stan, Rabab and Mullet are all Life Members and Matt has been at the club for nearly a decade. The football experience Matt, Stan, Mullet and our Junior Vice-President David provide can't be under-estimated and they've all been a great help to me since I've been at the club. With Rabab taking over as Treasurer and managing the Canteen alongside Sandra, Jeseka & their wonderful team the finances of the club remains in excellent hands.

I'd like to single out Mullet who has been a great friend and mentor to me since I first joined the club. He's achieved 20 years of great Bulls service and our club needs good people like him who always encourages others.

The club needs to always be looking forward. We need to keep on supporting our coaches, expanding on our teams up to A/Grade, finding new ways to ensure our players enjoy the rewards of being involved with the club and remaining strong. The Bulls are a great club who have many wonderful people of all backgrounds involved.

Some of the goals we should be achieving:

- Strong and steady sponsorships that ensures club viability
- Grow the Girls game it's the future of the Bulls club
- Help and Volunteering at the ground supporting each other
- Recognising our History and Traditions
- Expand on the Ruse Park and Padstow Park arrangement
- Field 25 strong & competitive teams in the club
- Have a strong and financially viable A/Grade a complete pathway of teams from 5's to Open Age
- Build a strong relationship with council & achieve funding grants to upgrade Ruse Park
- Strengthening our partnership & sponsorship with Bankstown RSL Club



Congratulations to George, Stan and Amanda for Life Membership last year. I've seen the work first-hand of the great things Stan and Amanda have done for the club in the last two years and I've been made aware of George's contribution. This year we've bestowed Life Membership to Rabab, Chady and David. All three are people I've worked alongside; all three have made a sizeable contribution to the club and been very loyal servants.

I look forward to the challenges ahead and not daunted by them. My experience in dealing councils and even politicians including taking issue with the Prime Minister in his office gives me a good starting point. The football nous provided by Matt, Stan, Anthony and David and the canteen management of Rabab gives us a balanced team. With Councillor Rachelle Harika from City of Canterbury-Bankstown Council agreeing to become Joint Patron in 2020 it now gives us a stronger platform to build better council relationships.

Most of all, we want to support our coaches, our teams and want our members to feel a part of the club. Don't hesitate to contact me over the off season by phone, SMS/WhatsApp or Email. Contact number on the website.

Ali Mehanna 2020 President, Bankstown Bulls JRLFC Inc

### TREASURER & EDITOR'S REPORT



The 2019 season has been a challenging yet rewarding one where we have seen the club move forward in many directions especially with compliance, management structure, financial accounts, girls teams and future planning that will ensure the club's health and growth is strong for many years to come.

We discovered in 2018 that the constitution hadn't been legally updated for around 15 years and not useful for a modern club. Our members voted in unanimous favour of a new constitution that allowed our club to be compliant, adopt the Bankstown Bulls name and take off clauses that would have stopped us from fielding Female teams. A big thanks to **Hussein Dia** and Kings Law Group for ensuring the constitution was legally compliant with the requirements set by the Department of Fair Trading, NSWRL and Bulldogs.

Financially, the club is in a stable position where we've been able to set up a Future Fund Account with **First Option Bank** that is currently being used to generate interest and will be put aside for the eventual upgrades and ground improvement projects the club will invest into Ruse Park – at the right time.

Our financial report for the 2019 season will be finalised after presentation (which families & members can ask for a copy) and we expect the final balance to be over \$65,000 (up from \$46,000). This success has been achieved without a major Sports Function Dinner, two weekends lost due to wet weather, one weekend lost due to "holidays" and no financial grants which was cut from \$5,500 in 2017 to \$1,785 last year and \$0 this year.

Thanks to our outgoing Secretary **Lawrence Karam** who helped bring forward the management and financial restructure of our club including the future fund. Lawrence has had to endure pain and sacrifice in the role of secretary, at times it's been difficult for him and Pam, but thankfully the club will enjoy the long-term benefits.

**Michael Rodrigues** stepped down as President to deal with a close family member illness. We thank Michael for his long service to the club as a coach, sponsor & executive. As coach Michael built his team from 2nd division into a highly competitive division 1 side, as sponsor he saved the club from bankruptcy in 2008-09 and as an executive member he was the first to stand up when the club needed to be restructured and modernised for the future.

The Bulls have an outstanding sponsorship arrangement with **Bankstown RSL Club**. We thank **Scott Dickson**, all the board & staff members for their support of the Bulls in 2019. The new **Bankstown RSL Club** opened in January this year and has received many positive reviews. The new club has outstanding facilities and well worth a visit.

The canteen was able to build on the big success from last year and the profit generated was over \$26,000 which goes towards our future fund, presentation and gala day. This success was achieved despite us increasing lollies per bag by 1 with the cost still remaining the same and reducing the price of water by 50c. The club invested in two hot chip fryers, a ventilation system and had to buy a new freezer when the old one stopped working. The new additions of hot chips, cheeseburgers and the cheap \$2 noodles all proved to be a big success.

The canteen at Ruse Park was marked "thoroughly clean" in a without notice audit the council carried out in August. A big thanks to Sandra Chahine, Rabab Raad, Jeseka Harmouch, Maggie Chahine, Norma Hadchiti, Amanda Harmouch and Anthony Samuel who spent many hours providing a positive service for all patrons. Our canteen team was always thinking about new and innovative ideas to suit all kinds of budgets and tastes.

Our club was the first and only club to try **Friday Night Football** and both occasions proved to be a positive highlight. The second occasion led into the clubs Gala Day where we were able to provide every player with a free chicken or sausage sandwich, free drink and free packet of chips along with all rides being 100% free.

Due to a significant increase in affiliation fees this year from the CBDJRL the club increased the cost of registration by \$10 per player from U8 to U17. The \$10 increase covered the rise for U8 to U12 age groups however it didn't cover the rise in costs for U13 to U17. Despite affiliation increases in U6-U7 age groups the club decided to <a href="decrease">decrease</a> registration prices by \$20 per player. For the first time in a very long-time the club offered <a href="free">free</a> registration for Under 5 players. Registration money/vouchers was collected close to 100% capacity and thanks to our coaches & managers for their co-operation and to **Sandra Chahine** who took care of all the payments.

We did have issues with **Ruse Park** this year. A lack of training space and over usage virtually killed the surface and forced a temporary departure for training use. We did have three meetings with council officials during the year and have achieved some positive outcomes. Ruse Park has received a complete resurface upgrade and we have **Padstow Park** back for full training and game day use in 2020. An excellent 2020 outcome.

With **Councillor Rachelle Harika** agreeing to come on board as a Joint Patron our lines of communication with the council will only grow stronger. A special thanks to Bankstown RSL Director & City of Canterbury-Bankstown **Mayor Kahl Asfour** for his support. The club has put forward a masterplan to the council for what we would like to see Ruse Park become in the future. We've been advised by council that our club will need to come up with some of our own funding if we were to receive major upgrades which the Future Fund has been designed for.

The maintenance work done in the post-season by **Stan Hetaraka** at Ruse Park has been amazing. Stan has added new shelving and storage areas and fixed up some aging issues associated with the facility.

We had two premiership winning teams in 2019. Congratulations to **Andrew Hadchiti** (U9), **Rabih Chamma** (U10) and their respective sides. Andrew played at the Bulls for 12 years and was asked to coach a team after his SG Ball commitments ended. Andrew's knowledge and patience proved to be amazing assets as he took on a side that needed the positive direction he provided. Rabih and his trainer **Jay El Homsi** came across from another club and quickly blended two half squads into one full committed squad saving their best performance for the grand final.

Our Under 11's made the grand final and whilst they didn't win the game, from where they started to where they finished was a great testament to their strength of character. Every moment from this side was captured by their camera happy manager **Julie Warwar** and shared for members and supporters to appreciate. Four sides made the preliminary final being U9D2, U12D3, Super 15 and U16/2.

A big wrap to the Super 15's who were a spin-off side from the Under 16/2's (both coached by **Hussein Dia**) and fell just one game short. The Super 15's played with great commitment and excitement all season. As part of the Super 15 experience they were able to enjoy the team camp (done mid-season), the heritage jersey and club supplied hoodie & sports bag. The Super 15 has become a great tradition and event at the Bulls. We as a club are aiming to make the Super 15 stronger as every season passes.

The highlight of the year was fielding two all-Girls sides. We thank **Amanda Nabhan**, **Abdul Nabhan**, **Carolina Funa** and **Marboony Tasesa Volkman** for making both sides happen. We thank both teams for their positive efforts all throughout the season. Our Female numbers from U5-U11 sides increased from 7 to 17 players this year showing that Female Rugby League participation is a big part of the club's future growth.

Two sides that deserve special acknowledgement are our two most senior sides Under 17 and Under 16/1 who both played in very tough combined competitions and remained highly competitive all season. With some luck both sides could have made the semi-finals in their respective competitions.

Thanks to all the people who helped either on the BBQ, doing First Aid, being Ground VP or filling in at short notice for another team this year. I pass on my appreciation to **Stan Hetaraka**, **David Tarabay**, **Ali Mehanna**, **Elias Nassif**, **Chady Salamah**, **Zahi Elzein**, **Tawhiri Hetaraka**, **Brad Whigham**, **Fadi Serhan**, **Andrew Hadchiti**, **George Najjar**, **Yehya Abdul Al**, **David Hadchiti** and everyone else that gave up their time.

Over the last two years the club have supported community causes including **Anzac Day Dawn Service**, **McHappy Day**, **Mark Hughes Foundation for Brain Cancer**, **Jersey Day Organ Donation** and **Rugby League in PNG**.

The efforts of our club in the last two years saw **Lawrence Karam** win the CBDJRL Volunteer of the Year Award, **Stan Hetaraka** and myself receive NSWRL Volunteer Appreciation Awards, **Zahi Elzein** receive an Excellence Award & free entry to the NRL Coaching Conference for his work with the Peter Moore Academy, **Stan Hetaraka** won the CBDJRL Coach of the Year award and **Rabab Raad** won the CBDJRL Manager of the Year. A team effort.

This year we won the inaugural **CBDJRL Club's Club of the Year** award. This is the greatest accolade a club can receive when voted on a 3-2-1 basis on a monthly basis as the best club in the district. We've worked extremely hard on building good relationships with all stakeholders as we aim for the long-term progression of our club.

The club is moving forward in a very positive direction and following positive discussions with various parties it looks possible we will be having a long-term A/Grade with their own funding model. With both Ruse Park and Padstow Park in operation for the winter season we will have better opportunities for expansion and growth.

Thanks to all the Bulls coaches, trainers, managers and club members for their support, advice and friendship.

On a personal note, congratulations to **Anthony Samuel (Mullet)** for achieving 20 years of service to the Bankstown Cougars/Bulls. You're a great asset to our club, you're a great friend and we all value your support.

Matthew O'Neill

2019 Treasurer & Yearbook Editor, Bankstown Bulls JRLFC Inc

Thanks to the following for organisations for providing yearbook photos: Bankstown Sports (Richard Bronger), Macarthur Saints (Scott Phillips), Revesby Rhinos (Michelle Wunderlich), CBDJRL (Kellie Stout) and Sports Captured by Fergo.

### **BULLS IN THE COMMUNITY**

### **BASS HILL RSL ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE**

This year the Bankstown Bulls took part in the 2019 Bass Hill RSL Anzac Day Dawn Service with members of club including players from the Under 16/1 side representing the club. The club has taken part in the Dawn Service for the last two years and will continue in 2020 as part of the Bankstown RSL Club Service.

### McHAPPY DAY www.rmhc.org.au/mchappyday

In November 2018, the Bankstown Bulls supported McHappy Day at McDonald's Punchbowl with members of 2018 Super 15/2 present at the event. This was done in connection with Marcelo Montoya being at McDonald's Punchbowl. The people there on the day made donations via the cash bin and purchasing Big Mac's. The Bulls will be embracing McHappy Day in November 2019.



### BULLS JUNIORS ENTER REFEREEING RANKS www.cbra.com.au

The Bankstown Bulls are proud to have helped and facilitated four of its junior players into the refereeing ranks over the last three years. The Bulls have provided support, encouragement and assistance along the way to Hicham El-Ali, Jihad Hammoud, Yehya Abdul-Al and Alaa Chahine.



### BEANIES FOR BRAIN CANCER ROUND MARK HUGHES FOUNDATION www.markhughesfoundation.com.au

The Bankstown Bulls Under 8's side was invited to take part in walking out alongside the Sydney Roosters players as part of the NRL's Beanies for Brain Cancer round. The Bulls actively promoted awareness of the Mark Hughes Foundation, used its Facebook page to create a 'donate now' button and created a separate album of photos relating to Mark Hughes Foundation Beanies. The Bulls will be asking to again take part in the Mark Hughes Beanie for Brain Cancer Round in 2020 and hope to grow further awareness.

### JERSEY DAY www.jerseyday.com.au

Thanks to Bankstown RSL Club, Triple M Rush Hour Show and Penrith legend Mark Geyer players from our Under 6's and Under 16's took part in the "Jersey Day" promotion to raise awareness for organ donation.

### **SUPPORTING RUGBY LEAGUE IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

The **Tobou Bay Club** based in the Cloudy Bay Rugby League Association in Papua New Guinea put in a request for donation of old jerseys to be used for their club. We knew this would be greatly appreciated and used to great effect. The people of PNG have a great passion and love for the game of Rugby League and we believed as a club that we could help support this by a small donation of old jerseys that haven't been used for years. We gave the NSWRL nearly 40 jerseys to dispatch to the Tobou Bay Club.



### **UNDER 16 SILVER IFTAR DINNER**

The CBDJRL agreed for the Bankstown Bulls to host two Friday night games on 17 May 2019. As a result the coaches from Bankstown Bulls and Bankstown Sports Under 16 Silver sides agreed to host a pregame Iftar Dinner prior to their clash to celebrate the breaking of their fast. Players and Officials from both sides and all cultures came together as one to celebrate Ramadan.



www.facebook.com/BankstownBulls

# 20 YEARS OF SERVICE 1999-2019 ANTHONY 'MULLET' SAMUEL

### **BANKSTOWN COUGARS & BANKSTOWN BULLS**

Congratulations to Anthony 'Mullet' Samuel for achieving 20 years of service with the Bankstown Cougars and Bankstown Bulls. His involvement with the club started back in 1999 and his oldest son Vince first played in the 2000 season. Mullet coached Vince's team for several seasons up to Under 11 and provided strong support for Chris Haddad when he was President of the Cougars. He would switch to coach his second son Tony for a couple of seasons before until stopped playing. In 2004, his wife Tania was awarded Manager of the Year. Both Anthony and Tania were tireless volunteers in the canteen when their sons played for the club. Mullet was bestowed Life Membership following the 2012 season. Vince stopped playing at the end of the 2013 season and moved into coaching in 2014 with Mullet helping Vince as trainer of the side. Vince coached for the one season and Mullet remained as team trainer until 2018. He was appointed to the Executive in 2018 as Treasurer and was elected unopposed as Assistant Secretary in 2019.

Through it all Mullet has been a loyal volunteer and regular at Ruse Park for the last 20 years. His cousins and sons have moved on, but Mullet has remained a strong member of our club. His loyalty and his positive attitude have made him one of our most important members for each of the last 20 years. Well done Mullet.



All photos have been supplied by Tania, Vincent & Tony Samuel except for 2018 team photo & Ryan Matterson photo

### **PHOTO EXTRA**



## **2019 TEAM AWARD WINNERS**

TEAM	BEST & FAIREST	COACHES AWARD	MOST IMPROVED
Under 5	Marcus TARABAY	Adam HUSSAIN	Jibra'il HAGEOBEID
Under 6/B	Yusef HAJ OBEID	Lorenzo STANLEY-LIGAIVIU	Jordan MOORS
Under 6/W	Tyrese TU'IMA	Ameera RAAD	Ezra CARDEN-SAMASONI
Under 7	Daniel SPASESKI	Jacob EL NAJJAR	Yusuf KASSEM
Under 8/1	Omar AHMAD	Ahmad HAJOBEID	Omar KABAH
Under 8/2	Giovanni PACICCA	Jahlet WILSON	Tyrese FEALOFANI
Under 9D2	Danny TARABAY	Jarrah DENNIS-REID	Noah NABHAN
Under 9D3	Lemeki NGALU	Onfire for JC FLORIAN	Amelia KAKALA
Under 10	Mahmoud EL SANOUSSI	Ahmad CHAMMA	Isaac EL NAJJAR
Under 11D2	Zayd EL ZEIN	Julius BROWN	Philip EUTA-NANAI
Under 11D3	Mitchell UNGER	Christian DIB	Ayeisha ELZAHR

TEAM	BEST & FAIREST	COACHES AWARD	MOST IMPROVED	MOST CONSISTENT
Under 12D1	Greall TIGHE	Kaden NAPA'A	Leonidas TAALA	Ehab MOUGHARBEL
Under 12D3	Jad SALAMAH	Yusef AHMAD	Leonard KIRI	Elijah TAULAGA
U14 Girls	Dalia NABHAN	Amelia SEMRANI	Gabriella OLIVEIRA	Neinei TUPOLA
U16 Girls	Courageous AFOA	Unaisi BUADROMO	Deborah SAM	Theresa FAKER

TEAM	BEST & FAIREST	BEST BACK	BEST FORWARD	COACHES AWARD
Under 13	Dantae MOORS	Jaiden BARAKAT	Ezekiel SAILI	Assaad DIB
Super 15	Andrew MIKHAEL	Crystal TAULAFO	Jack CULGAN	Abdul Karim AICHAN
Under 16/1	Ngawhiti HETARAKA	Bilal DANINE	Sabah JABBOUR	Michael NEWCOMB
Under 16/2	Dominic ABDOU	Ali BATOUR	Amem HAYDAR	Hussein CHOUKAIR
Under 17	Regan GREGORIO	Jasper ROGERS- HOMOKI	Mohammed EL- CHALLOUF	Ghassan MOUGHARBEL



### **2019 GALA DAY MEDAL WINNERS**

The Bankstown Bulls JRLFC held its Gala Weekend on Friday 14 June and Saturday 15 June. The Under 17 Gala Medal was presented on Sunday 4 August. Winners chosen by the opposition coach.

Marcus Tarabay	Under 5
Tau Junior Saena	Under 6/B
Tyrese Tu'ima	Under 6/W
Daniel Spaseski	Under 7
Ahmed Hajobeid	Under 8/1
Amir Chahine	Under 8/2
Joshua Hadchiti	Under 9D2
Zeinab Serhan	Under 9D3
Mya El Homsi	Under 10
Nour Noureddine	Under 11D2
Jeshua Afa	Under 11D3
Kaden Napaa	Under 12D1
Elijah Taulaga	Under 12D3
Penelope Huakau	Under 14 Girls
Courageous Afoa	Under 16 Girls
Hasan Telim	Under 13
Andrew Mikhael	Super 15
Xander Tavita	Under 16/1
Aziz Mohamad	Under 16/2
Ramon Chaina	Under 17







### **2019 MAJOR AWARD WINNERS**

Bankstown RSL Service Award: Chady Salamah

Club Person of the Year: Sandra Chahine

**Lindsay Roach Junior Club Person:** Tawhiri & Ngawhiti Hetaraka

Secretary's Appreciation Award: Rabab Raad

Senior Player of the Year: Dominic Abdou (u16)

Ray Farah Junior Player of the Year: Danny Tarabay (u9)

**Bankstown RSL Female Player of the Year:** Courageous Afoa (u16)

**Ryan Matterson U15 Player of the Year:** Andrew Mikhael (u15)

Marcelo Montoya Development Award: Mohammed El-Challouf (u17)

**Tom Tasker Encouragement Award:** Matthew Barakat (u13)

**Senior Coach of the Year:** Max Gregorio (u17)

Junior Coach of the Year: Andrew Hadchiti (u9)

Manager of the Year: Julie Warwar (u11)

Team of the Year: Under 10



### **PREVIOUS AWARD WINNERS**

### **2018 MAJOR AWARD WINNERS**

Club Person of the Year: Lindsay Roach Junior Club Person: Secretary's Appreciation Award:

Senior Player of the Year:

Ray Farah Junior Player of the Year: Tom Tasker Encouragement Award:

Senior Coach of the Year: Junior Coach of the Year: Manager of the Year: Team of the Year: Hussein Dia Andrew Hadchiti Zahi Elzein Diego Bravo-Graham (u16) Amy Tu'ifua (u7) Hicham El-Ali (u15) George Farah (u16) George Najjar (u12) Sandra Chahine (u7)

Super 15/2



Club Person of the Year: Lindsay Roach Junior Club Person: Secretary's Appreciation Award: Senior Player of the Year:

Ray Farah Junior Player of the Year: Tom Tasker Encouragement Award:

Senior Coach of the Year: Junior Coach of the Year: Manager of the Year:

Team of the Year:

Brad Whigham Elias Nassif Dianne Williams Daniel Safetly (Opens) Christian Ibrahim (u11) Charles Afeaki (u12)

Najib Albassit (Opens) Brad Williams/Jay Jagadish (u13)

Rebecca Nohra (u10 & u12)

A/Grade Silver



Club Person of the Year: Lindsay Roach Junior Club Person: Secretary's Appreciation Award: Senior Player of the Year:

Ray Farah Junior Player of the Year:

Tom Tasker Encouragement Award: Senior Coach of the Year: Junior Coach of the Year:

Manager of the Year:

Team of the Year:

David Tarabay John Williams

Katia Nader/Suzie Dib Tayson Fakaosi (u14) Paul Alamoti (u12)

Gordon Chan Kum Tong (u14)

Lawrence Karam (u14) Zahi Elzein (u8)

Amanda Nabhan (u6 & u9)

Under 14/1

### **2015 MAJOR AWARD WINNERS**

Club Person of the Year: Lindsay Roach Junior Club Person: Secretary's Appreciation Award: Senior Player of the Year:

Ray Farah Junior Player of the Year: Tom Tasker Encouragement Award:

Senior Coach of the Year: Junior Coach of the Year: Manager of the Year:

Team of the Year:

Mark Shaw Emily Ibrahim Brad Whigham Jason Kazzi (u19) Zayde Sabha (u10) Ameihn Nassif (u14) Abdul Nabhan (u19) Matthew O'Neill (u12)

Zainab Abdul Al (u13)

Under 19/2















### **2014 MAJOR AWARD WINNERS**

Club Person of the Year:Peter DorsettLindsay Roach Junior Club Person:Jake SafetlySecretary's Appreciation Award:Sonya Grady

Senior Player of the Year: Mohammad Kabbout (u19)

Ray Farah Junior Player of the Year:
Tolipea Paleti (u13)
Tom Tasker Encouragement Award:
Millo Mailata (u14)
Senior Coach of the Year:
Chris Haddad (u17)
Junior Coach of the Year:
Maria Mokdassi (u11)

**Team of the Year:** Under 19

### **2013 MAJOR AWARD WINNERS**

Club Person of the Year:

Lindsay Roach Junior Club Person:

Secretary's Appreciation Award:

Senior Player of the Year:

Tom Tasker Encouragement Award:

Senior Coach of the Year:

Junior Coach of the Year:

Wade Giddings

Joshua Ibrahim

Watthew O'Neill

Vincent Samuel (u19)

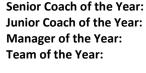
Jonah Moors (u13)

Christian Alaelua (u14)

Abdul Nabhan (u14 & u17)

Lawrence Karam (u11)

lanager of the Year: Rania Ali (u16)
eam of the Year: Under 17





**CLUB PERSON OF THE YEAR: 2004 Nick Yannieh** 

LINDSAY ROACH JUNIOR CLUB PERSON: 2010 Ahmed Yatim, 2011 Bryan Rizk, 2012 Jaiden Barakat

SECRETARY'S APPRECIATION AWARD: 2011 Joe Youssef

SENIOR PLAYER OF THE YEAR: 1991 Amin Awad, Roger Felleto, Mark Partland, 1992 Roger Felleto, Jeff Lane, 1993 Joe Bradley, Sean McGuinness, 1994 Peter Xiros, 1995 Dean Mark, Wallid Abdul Kadir, 1996 Johnny Potter, 1997 Chris Sommerville, 1998 Damien Georges, 1999 Damien Georges, 2000 Damien Georges, 2001 Christopher Vaefega, 2002 Not Awarded, 2003 Wael Tahan, 2004 Adnan Saleh, 2005 Chris Afamasaga, 2006 Christopher Vaefega, 2007 Jamie Luke, 2008 Ali Hijazi (u17), 2009 Hussen Hijazi (Opens), 2010 Halauafu Lavaka (u16), 2011 Daniel Mailata (u17), 2012 Alan Niulesa (u19)

RAY FARAH JUNIOR PLAYER OF THE YEAR: 1994 Daniel Davanzo, 1995 Harlan Alaalatoa, Johnny Potter, 1996 Harlan Alaalatoa, 1997 Harlan Alaalatoa, 2004 Omar Omran (u8), 2005 Andrew Kazzi (u11), 2006 Frederick Dib (u12), 2007 Mohammed Hijazi (u12), 2008 Daniel Hadchiti (u11), 2009 Rodrigo Villar (u10), 2010 Kaidyn Wright (u6), 2011 Gordon Chan Kam Tong (u9), 2012 Destiny Nuuasoa (u11)

TOM TASKER ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD: 1997 Adam Fredericos, 1998 Phelix El Kek, 1999 Chris Sommerville, 2000 Not Awarded, 2001 Mohammed Warwar, 2002 Heka Nanai, 2003 Not Awarded, 2004 Wasim Ali, 2005 Ali Hijazi (u14), 2006 Hilal Shoveiki (u14), 2007 Frederick Dib (u13), 2008 Adrian Hraibi (u12), 2009 Mohammed Hijazi (u14), 2010 Masoud El-Essraoui (u13), 2011 Justin Abou Melhem (u14), 2012 Ali Ali (u15)

MANAGER OF THE YEAR: 2004 Tania Samuel

TEAM OF THE YEAR: 2004 Under 8







## PREMIERSHIP WINS 1998-2019

No.	YEAR	GRADE	OPPONENT	СОАСН	CAPTAIN
1	1998	C/Grade	St Johns 16-4	Craig McLeod	Elie Georges
2	1999	U/6R	Bankstown Sports 20-15	David Dib	
3	1999	U/12	Berala 11-7	Andrew Francis	
4	1999	A/Grade	Berala 24-10	John Graham	
5	2000	U/13	Berala 40-10	Andrew Francis	
6	2000	U/14	Berala 34-24	John Wells	
7	2001	A/Grade	Regents Park 18-10	John Moses	
8	2002	C/Grade	Bankstown Falcons 14-6	Chris Haddad	
9	2003	U/16	East Hills 30-16	Andrew Francis	
10	2004	U/18	St Johns 12-8	Tony Francis	
11	2004	A/Grade	Chester Hill 52-6	Paul Arraj	
12	2005	U/11R	Milperra 18-10	John Sleiman	
13	2005	U/18	St George 22-18	Troy English	
14	2005	A/Grade	Bankstown Sports 28-22	Robert Relf	
15	2007	U/12R	Moorebank 18-12	Hussen Hijazi	
16	2007	U/13R	Revesby Heights 32-24	Abdul Nabhan	
17	2008	U/12-2	Padstow 42-30	Romiz Barakat	
18	2009	U8-4	St George 18-12	Robert Nasr	
19	2009	U/9-2	St Johns 22-20	Ziyad Alameddine	
20	2009	U/10-1	Chester Hill 28-12	Rodrigo Villar Snr	Rodrigo Villar Jnr
21	2010	U/11-1	Moorebank 16-0	Rodrigo Villar Snr	Rodrigo Villar Jnr
22	2010	U/16-1	Berala 32-4	Danny Safetly	Halauafu Lavaka
23	2011	U/14-1	Greenacre 26-0	Richard Kairouz	Alex Park
24	2011	U/17-1	St George 24-14	Danny Safetly	Halauafu Lavaka
25	2013	U/9-2	St Johns 18-14	Robert Mehrez	Penieli Faoa
26	2013	U/10-2	Milperra 28-10	Stan Hetaraka	Jonathan Chan Kum Tong
27	2013	U/13-3	St Christopher's 24-16	Ted El Sayed	Jonah Moors
28	2014	U/11-3	St George 30-6	Daniel Safetly Jnr	Mohammed Saleh
29	2015	U/19-1	St George 20-16	Abdul Nabhan	Reegan Carr
30	2015	U/19-2	Penshurst 26-8	Walid Abboud	Jake Safetly
31	2015	U/14-3	Kogarah 14-4	David Tarabay	Jared Younan
32	2016	U/9-3	Revesby Heights 18-16	Danny Farah	Jad Salamah
33	2016	U/12-1	St Johns 26-18	Steven Matai	Paul Alamoti
34	2016	U/14-1	Bankstown Sports 15-14	Lawrence Karam	Tayson Fakaosi
35	2017	U/11-2P	St Johns 24-14	Victor Barakat	Josh Tonga
36	2017	A/Grade-2	Penshurst 24-4	Najib Albassit	Jay Jagalish
37	2018	U/12-2	Bankstown Sports 14-0	George Najjar	Tylah Slate
38	2018	U/16-1	Bankstown Sports 20-20	George Farah	Diego Bravo-Graham
39	2019	U/9-3	Milperra 30-20	Andrew Hadchiti	Onfire for JC Florian
40	2019	U/10-2	Berala 14-4	Rabih Chamma	Mahmoud El Sanoussi

PREMIERSHIPS BEFORE 1998: Bankstown Collegians 10, Bankstown City 5, Bankstown Central 5







### **CLUB HISTORY**

The original origins of the Bankstown Bulls we see today can be traced back to the 1970's with the Bankstown Central club who won 5 premierships from 1977 to 1983. The Red, Black and White colours of the Cougars and Bulls were the colours of Bankstown Central. The Encouragement Award at the Bulls is named in honour of Tom Tasker who coached Central to their maiden premiership in 1977. Throughout the late 1980's and 1990's Bankstown itself had two sides being Bankstown City and Bankstown Collegians who would form a merger at the end of the 1997 season to become the Bankstown Juniors and adopt the Cougars nickname in 1999.



Bankstown City won 5 premierships from 1984 to 1997 in ages 8, 9, 11, 16 and C Grade. Their first title was won in 1984 in M Grade under the coaching of Peter Byrnes and captaincy of Maniel Byrnes.

Bankstown Collegians was a new club formed in 1981 breaking away from Milperra Colts fielding teams in B Grade (open age), D Grade (u17) and E Grade (u16). Collegians won their first competition in 1982 defeating Punchbowl 25-0 in the F Grade (u15) Grand Final under the coaching of Wayne Dewberry and captaincy of Mark Vella. All up they won 10 competitions across various age groups from under 8's to A/Grade. In 1986, Bankstown Collegians won the International Club Championship. Peter Wagstaff and Stan O'Dowd received Life Membership of the Canterbury-Bankstown District Junior Rugby League for their service to the game and to Bankstown Collegians.

The concept of the current Super 15's has a mixture of the Central, City and Collegians. The first premiership won by Collegians was F/Grade (u15). The Cougars/Bulls are yet to win a Super 15 premiership.

The Bankstown Cougars inaugural season was in 1998 with the club fielding nine sides and took out the under 19's title defeating St Johns 16-4 with Craig McLeod as coach and Elie Georges as captain. Such was the success of the Collegians and City merger that inaugural Cougars Secretary Ray Farah took out the CBDJRL Club Secretary of the Year and the Bulls Junior Player of the Year is named in his honour. In 2002, Bankstown Cougars were joint winners of the International Club Championship.

In 2004, the Cougars affiliated themselves with the Sydney Bulls who played in the competition that is now known as the Ron Massey Cup. As a result of the partnership the junior club became known as the Bankstown Bulls. The Sydney Bulls have since moved on but the Bankstown Bulls continue to go from strength to strength. In 2007, the Bulls won the CBDJRL Club of the Year award.

On five occasions the Bulls have won three premierships in the one season accomplishing the feats in 1999, 2005, 2013, 2015 and 2016. Remarkably in 2015 both under 19's sides won their respective grand finals.



A new management structure was put together at the Bulls in 2018. The club was successful in securing a \$10,000 grant for First Option Bank for a new scoreboard. The club won the Senior Club Championship for the 3rd time in 2018.

In 2018, Amy Tu'ifua became the first female player in the clubs history to win the Junior or Senior Player of the Year award. Following a positive rise in female participation in 2018 the club went down the path of introducing two new all-female teams in ages 13-14 and 15-16. Once the new constitution was voted in unanimously by the members that allowed older aged females to play for the club which wasn't allowed under the previous constitution. The two all-Girls sides was formed in 2019.

In 2019, the Bulls won the inaugural Club's Club of the Year as voted on a monthly 3-2-1 basis by the 11 member clubs. Individually, Lawrence Karam won the CBDJRL Volunteer of the Year, Stan Hetaraka won the CBDRL Coach of the Year and Rabab Raad won the CBDJRL Manager of the Year – a reflection on a collective team effort.

The Bankstown Bulls JRLFC acknowledges its past history with Bankstown Cougars, Bankstown Collegians, Bankstown City and Bankstown Central and will continue to update the club's history section on the website when new information comes to hand about the origins of the Bulls we see today.

Photos: Top right Bankstown Cougars 2000 u6 jersey and bottom left 2016 Super 15's jersey.

For more on the Bulls history, premierships & awards go to www.bankstownbulls.com > History

### **UNDER 14 GIRLS**



Back Row: Jessica Khoury, Suzanna Faka'osi, Lewann Penese, Neinei Tupola Middle Row: Abdul Nabhan (Trainer), Maria Funa, Aisha Bouthiba, Amelia Semrani, Keileah Turagakula, Ihssane Penelope Huakau, Amanda Nabhan (Coach), Alexia Semrani (Manager)

Front Row: Sesilia Kakala, Gabriella Oliveira, Ruqayya Warwar, Batoul El-Mokdad, Mia Youssef, Dalia Nabhan

Late last year there was talk going around the club was interested in fielding an all-girls side. I approached the club about doing the 14 Girls.

The pre-season was very tough work trying to scramble a team together from scratch and we managed against all the odds to create history and put two all-girls teams onto the field at Bankstown Bulls.

It was an honour not only for me, but my husband as well to part a part of the first ever all-girls side that played in competition at the Bulls. It's an achievement and moment that can't be taken away from everyone involved with this side to be the first ever.

For all our football lives my husband and me have been a part of male sides at all levels from 6s to opens and reps. It was such a positive to be part of something new and unique. The girls game is here to stay and growing.

PLAYER	Т	G	PTS
Aisha Bouthiba	1	0	4
Amelia Semrani	3	1	14
Batoul El-Mokdad	0	0	0
Dalia Nabhan	4	0	16
Gabriella Oliveira	2	0	8
Ihssane Penelope Huakau	0	0	0
Jessica Khoury	0	0	0
Keileah Turagakula	0	1	2
Lewann Penese	0	0	0
Mia Youssef	1	0	4
Neinei Tupola	2	0	8
Paige James	0	1	2
Ruqayya Warwar	0	0	0
Sesilia Kakala	0	0	0
Suzanna Abdul-Al	0	0	0

Even though most of the girls have never played a rugby league game in their lives before they showed us why they wore the Bulls badge. Week in, week out they played with determination and heart never giving up. We came up against girls teams who have been playing alongside each other for many years. As their coach I'm proud of every single girl in this team for giving us 100%.

Due to the experience we were up against and the imbalance of the competition we knew results would be tough and we knew what was coming. The great thing is the players played with so much enjoyment it brought a smile to my face.





My husband and I have been involved in the game for nearly 15 years. Being part of the Girls team was such a unique experience. One that was very enjoyable despite the scores against us.

Thank you for the players for their on-field efforts, their positive attitude, the smiles, the laughter and the enjoyment. Thanks for the parents for allowing their daughters to play Rugby League. Thanks to the many people who helped us on game days, at training, recruitment of new players and getting the team registered in such a quick time.

The efforts of all people involved with this side to make it all happen – thank you very much.

It was unfortunate that Suzanna Faka'osi was seriously injured scoring a 50m try in one of the trials and was forced to miss the entire season. Suzanna showed her commitment to our team being there at all the training sessions and games. It would have been tough, but she showed her character and strength.



One Girl in our team Sesilia Kakala turned 12 this year and chose our team over the mixed U12 sides. Great effort and she still has another two years in this side.

Thank you to Main Flow Plumbing for sponsoring our team hoodies.

Well done to the 16 Girls team both players and staff for their efforts this year. They too were a part of Bulls history that can't be taken away from them. We were all a part of something really special.

Thank you to all the Girls that took the field for us: Aisha Bouthiba, Amelia Semrani, Batoul El-Mokdad, Dalia Nabhan, Gabriella Oliveira, Ihssane Penelope Huakau, Jessica Khoury, Keileah Turagakula, Lewann Penese, Mia Youssef, Neinei Tupola, Paige James, Rugayya Warwar, Sesilia Kakala and Suzanna Abdul-Al.

This year was only the beginning and foundation of something very special. See you all next year.







### **2020 JOINT PATRON CLR. RACHELLE HARIKA:**

The Bankstown Bulls are proud to have Rachelle as one of our Joint Patrons in 2020. As a lifelong Yagoona resident and Rachelle was elected as a Labor Councillor for Bass Hill Ward in 2017. Rachelle is passionate about improving resident access to vital Council services and improving infrastructure and facilities. This includes the smooth and effective operation of Council's services, such as well-maintained roads and footpaths, waste management, and parks and recreation facilities, such as sporting grounds and local pools. Rachelle's was the driving force behind the Bulls 2020 return to Padstow Park with full access. Her brother Ziad played one year at the Bulls in 2014.

For more information visit www.cbcity.nsw.gov.au/council/mayor-councillors/councillor-rachelle-harika

### **UNDER 16 GIRLS**



Back Row: Shanikau Rogers, Pricilla Faka'osi, Theresa Faker, Arneece Rogers

Middle Row: Carolina Funa (Coach), Micah Funa (Trainer), Julia Tagiwasa, Ana Moala, Phoebe Te Paiho-Murray, Siusiuosalafai

Volkman, Unaisi Buadromo, Tyra Taupeaafe, Seini Funa (Manager), Tevita Funa (Trainer), Marboony Volkman (Coach)

Front Row: Esili Vitukawalu, Pafusi Cox, Felila Tamano, Bethany Taufa, Deborah Sam, Courageous Afoa

The beginning of the season started out a little rocky. One of the first girls' team for Bankstown Bulls with majority fresh faces. Some girls came from a sporting background like Netball, Touch & Oz tag. This was everyone's first experience with Rugby League.

After many weeks of training the girls started to familiarise themselves with one another as well as the sport. Basic's training took a lot longer than intended. Eventually the girls got a hang of it and the progression was seen as each week passed.

Coaching a girls' team is a lot more complicated than the boy's teams. A lot of emotions and attitude we had to face. Although we managed to rectify any issues that surfaced. Just as much as the girls were learning so were the coaching staff.

Eventually we had our first trial game against Campbelltown Collegians. A team that pretty much lives

PLAYER	T	G	PTS
Ana Moala	1	0	4
Arneece Rogers	0	0	0
Bethany Taufa	2	0	8
Courageous Afoa	14	8	72
Deborah Sam	1	0	4
Esili Vitukawalu	3	0	12
Felila Tamano	1	0	4
Julia Tagiwasa	0	0	0
Pafusi Cox	0	0	0
Phoebe Te Paiho-Murray	0	0	0
Pricilla Faka'osi	0	0	0
Shanikau Rogers	5	0	20
Siusiuosalafai Volkman	0	0	0
Theresa Faker	1	0	4
Tyra Taupeaafe	0	0	0
Unaisi Buadromo	0	0	0

and breathe Rugby League up against our new girls taking their first step in the league game. The game ended a couple of minutes into the second half with the final score of 50-0. The girls were devastated although they were happy to finally get their first game.

We could see the potential in all our girls that we increased the intensity of training. Their games had motivated them to train harder, work harder and be better. We were hit with injuries after injuries early on in our season. The girls were not discouraged but used it as motivation to just push on. The girls have improved so much in the little time we've had together.

It was that time again to go up against Campbelltown Collegians once again. The game's leading up to it was loss after loss, but their performance had dramatically improved. The team had gelled well together. The girls played their hearts out and just had fun. We still lost although at the end of the game the coaches were quite impressed with the way the girls played. We have a bunch of crazy girls. After the game the girls were laughing and celebrating. They didn't even win but their performance was one of the best yet.

There were many bumps along the way, but I couldn't have asked for a better bunch of girls. Thank you, girls, for the hard work that you put in this year our first year is finally completed.

A couple of girls were fortunate enough be picked for the Bulldogs U/16s Lisa Fiaola Cup Development Squad which included Courageous Afoa, Unaisi Buadromo, Pafusi Cox, Priscilla Faka'osi, Shanikau Rogers and Phoebe Te Paiho-Murray. A huge congratulations to the girls that went on to be picked for the Bulldogs Girls U/18's Tasha Gale Summer Squad: Courageous Afoa, Pafusi Cox and Priscilla Faka'osi.

A huge thank you to the coaching staff Marboony Volkman (Coach), Carolina Funa, Seini Funa (Manager), Malae Volkman, Micah Funa (Trainer), Tisera Volkman and Tevita Funa for all the help they have provided throughout the year. A major thank you to all the parents, family and friends that made the time to come out, show love and support the girls. **Good luck to all the girls. Bring on 2020!** 

**ANA MOALA – THE MEAN MACHINE!** Ana has come a long way since the beginning of the season. From struggling to make a tackle in the beginning, to becoming a tackling machine at the end of the season. Very tough on the field with a 'never give up' mindset.

**ARNEECE ROGERS – SMILEY!** Arneece is a solid runner with big potential. Always smiling and keeping the girls hyped in victory and defeat. Unfortunately, she had to sit most of the season out due to injury, but that didn't stop her as she was a big help off the field.

**BETHANY TAUFA – WARRIOR SPIRIT!** Bethany has a warrior like spirit in her when she plays and trains. She is always looking to improve her game. We saw her improve in her passing and tackling this year.

**COURAGEOUS AFOA – POCKET ROCKET!** CJ was one of the smallest girls on the field, yet her size did not define her ability to play (always using it to her advantage). Skilful player who played an integral part in the team, making impressive tackles, line breaks and tries during the season.

**DEBORAH SAM – SILENT ASSASSIN!** Deborah stayed quiet most of the season, however on the field she was a very tough player and always improved after each game. Hard tackler, no fear – all heart.

**FELILA TAMANO – THE TOUGH ONE!** Pepe was a pleasure to coach this year. A very tough and dangerous player. Played in the centres, with some good runs and improvement in her defence. Could always count her to support her players be there when in need.

**JULIA TAGIWASA – CLUELESS UNDERDOG!** Julia was oblivious to everything and the clown in the team, always making everyone laugh. Strong runner, tackler and a very tough player. Injured round 6 but still came through to most of our training sessions and games.

**LAUREL VITUKAWALU – FLYING FIJIAN!** Laurel was our speedster in the team. One of the smallest on the field, yet her size did not define her. Laurel was an expert at finding the gaps within the defensive line and could miraculously find her way to the try line.

**NANCY VOLKMAN – SMASHING FORWARD!** Nancy was our most trusted player on the field. When counted on, she would deliver every time and always gave her 110%. Good leadership on the field with impressive runs and tackles this year.

**PAFUSI COX – THE INTELLIGENCE!** Fusi was an impressive player, improved immensely from the beginning of the season with her tackling, running, passing, attitude and mindset on the field. Intercepts and line breaks were her specialty. Very proud of your efforts this year Fusi.

**PHOEBE TE PAIHO-MURRAY – SILENT SHOOTER!** Phoebe would always shoot through the line when she got the ball – very powerful. Shy girl at first but warmed up at the end. She runs with so much strength and power on the field with a little grace in her strides.

**PRICILLA FAKA'OSI – GENTLE GIANT!** Cilla took a while to get into and used to trainings but killed it at the end and never gave up. Some impressive and strong runs this year, smashing a few girls who got in her way on the field. Big potential with a pure heart.

**SHANIKAU ROGERS – X-FACTOR!** Shanikau played in almost every position this year and proved herself week in and out. Remarkable try saving tackles and line breaks this year. Great leader on and off the field and a very determined player.

**THERESA FAKER – TOWER OF TERROR!** Theresa showed great leadership, always vocal on the field. Tall player with an ability to play in the middle as well as on the wings. Ruled out for a while due to an operation but she came back stronger. Great heart and passion for the game.

**TYRA TAUPEAAFE – POWERFUL PROP!** Tyra was our strongest runner on the field, always making an impact. Big hits. Even with a dislocated finger, she still was keen to get in there with more strong runs and great tackles. A player you would want in your team.

**UNA BUADROMO – WRECKING BALL!** Una started out never wanting the ball and not wanting to tackle. Fast forward to the end of the season and she could do it all – run, catch, pass and tackle. Very dominant player.

### **UNDER 5**



Back Row: Libby Farah (Manager), Jibra'il Hageobeid, Marcus Tarabay, Abhinav Vantedhu, Isaac Glariada, Ameihn Nassif (Coach/Trainer), Rachael Shaw (Coach)

Front Row: George Farah, Faith Glariada, Emily Shaw, Hussain Alaeddine, Adam Hussain Absent: Javiah-James Misiagi, Dynamite for JC Florian, Michael Farah (Timekeeper), David Tarabay (Trainer)

To train and coach the Under 5's was a great highlight and to see all the players improve and enjoy their footy was great.

I was shocked when the committee asked me to run the water for my cousins team. I thought I was only going to be there on game days to assist with water. To end up coaching the side and training them came as a great surprise and I enjoyed it.

After playing 10 years at the Bulls it was rewarding to put something back into this great club. The support I received from Matt, Stan, Mullet, Uncle David and my brother Elias who all believed in me and backed me to take this on.

Our manager Libby Farah was a great friend, support and encouragement to me. She really believed in me. Her support

PLAYER	Т	PTS
Abhinav Reddy Vantedhu	1	4
Adam Hussain	7	28
Bassam El Dhaibi	7	28
Dynamite for JC Florian	3	12
Emily Shaw	6	24
Faith Glariada	1	4
George Farah	9	36
Hussain Alaeddine	3	12
Isaac Glariada	1	4
Javiah-James Misiagi	1	4
Jibra'il Hageobeid	23	92
Marcus Tarabay	51	204

towards me and the team can't be thanked enough. Thanks to Michael Farah for his help on game days helping me get the kids onto the field, scoring and his all-round support. Thanks to all the parents who allowed their kids to play the game, supported every week at training and the games, who helped me at training and gave me so much support. Thanks to Rachael Shaw for being coach earlier in the year.

I had no plans doing anything in footy this year being my HSC year. I'm so happy I took this on and the team became another family for me. I really appreciated the encouragement and support. It means a lot to me.

The season had many highlights. To see everyone score a try was pleasing. The Superhero Day was great fun and many players dressed up for the day. Winning and losing didn't matter to the boys & girls it was all about them having fun, learning and improving. I hope to see everyone back next year.

Ameihn Nassif (coach/trainer)

### **OUR MIGHTY UNDER 5's TEAM:**

**Abhinav Reddy Vantedhu:** Always eager to learn more about the game asking many questions but of course trying whenever he played.

**Adam Hussain:** Although he was one of the smallest, he always showed up on training and game day giving the bigger boys a run for their money.

**Bassam El Dhaibi:** A late addition to the team but nevertheless a player with a lot of heart and ability working hard all the time.

**Dynamite for JC Florian:** One of the big boys who was always hard to stop making trouble for the opposition whenever he ran the ball.



**Emily Shaw:** One of the girls on the team who always seemed to be enjoying herself whenever she was with her teammates.

**Faith Glariada:** Another one of the girls on the team that enjoyed playing alongside them while also always looking out for her brother.

**George Farah:** One of the most energetic boys on the team never shying away from the ball always asking for more runs.

**Hussain Alaeddine:** He was a very quiet boy but was very reliable in defence and towards the end of the season put in an amazing effort in his last game. **Isaac Glariada:** Another one of the energetic boys always getting involved in the action and always looked like he was enjoying himself.

**Javiah-James Misiagi:** A quiet achiever who was improving with every game and had a great attitude, sadly his season was cut short due to the sad passing of his grandmother.

**Jibra'il Hageobeid:** Always a very hard-working player, very reliable and always caused trouble for the opposing team with his running.

**Marcus Tarabay:** A very good player, has much skill and knowledge of the game making him a great leader for the team always scoring and tackling.



What a season it has been! My first year managing a team of little football pocket rockets. I was so lucky to have a great team of boys and girls. I was also very fortunate with great awesome parents and fantastic help where we all worked as a team off the field to make it work on the field. Even when I couldn't make games due to my daughters netball I knew the team was in good hands with my husband Michael and all the parents. I want to thank Rachael Shaw for getting the team off the ground and we all wish her well as she's planning on having her second child.

My biggest thanks goes to our trainer and coach Ameihn Nassif. I'm already lost for words. A gentleman, with a big heart and so much passion. I kind of put the heavy words as manager for him to jump in as coach of the Under 5's. I asked a lot from Ameihn with the HSC on his plate and the dedication he's putting into his studies. He stepped in and supported me and most importantly the team with everything he had. The kids appreciated and enjoyed his training nights along with his game day presence. Parents and myself are truly grateful for your support and asked last minute to step into coach role and performing it with style. We all benefitted from your long playing experience with the club and your respectful attitude. Thank you.

To the club executive thanks very much for your support of the under 5's and helping me along as a first-time manager. In particular thanks to Matt who put up with me, my crazy messages at all late hours and all my new ideas for the club. I look forward to the new goal posts next year!!!!!

Two final people I want to thank are David Tarabay and Elias Nassif. David helped out a lot when he could and his experience as both a parent and coach was very noticeable. Elias has great passion and dedication to the game and club. His loyalty to his older brother is immense. Thanks David and Elias. Libby Farah (Manager)



### UNDER 6/B



Back Row: Carmen Elchab (Manager), Lorenzo Stanley-Ligaiviu, Yusef Haj Obeid, Lupetuutasi Taulaga, Amanda Nabhan (Coach)
Front Row: Zaid El Jamal, Jordan Moors, Omar Elhousseny, Tau Junior Saena, Laith Nabhan
Absent: Isaac Nabhan (Trainer)

Another great season with this amazing team!! We had a few wins, and a few loses but the boys/girls had fun doing it all. They defiantly learnt a lot of new things and showed it on the field. And of cause they all kept me on my toes.



Laith Nabhan: This was Laith's 2nd year in the team and it showed on his experience. He never let his team down by turning up each week and giving it his best. He

PLAYER	Т	PTS
Jordan Moors	27	108
Laith Nabhan	9	36
Lorenzo Stanley-Ligaiviu	25	100
Lupetuutasi Taulaga	2	8
Omar Elhousseny	18	72
Tau Junior Saena	21	84
Yusef Haj Obeid	22	88
Ziad El Jamal	1	4

really likes to play the Fullback position and let his teammates know it. GREAT WORK LAITH!!

**Tasi Taulaga:** Tasi was our only girl in the team and she showed everyone that it didn't matter. She always tried her best to tackle or run the ball. A little shy at first but slowly came out of her shell. WELL DONE TASI!!

**Lorenzo Stanley-Ligaiviu:** Aka Lolo was a new player to our team but had played before, it showed. Lolo was a great defender and loved to score a try or more! He was always ready to play and learn something new. AWESOME WORK LOLO!! **Tau Junior Saena:** Aka TJ was our live wire of the team. He was always full of

energy and ready to go. Great at defence and even better at scoring tries. WELL DONE TJ!!

**Jordan Moors:** Jordan started with us last year but wasn't ready to take the field. This year he came back and boy was he ready. Always the first one up ready to tackle and loved to score a try! GREAT JOB JORDAN!!

**Ziad El Jamal:** Ziad has improved since last year. Instead of sitting on the bench he hardly wants a break. He's really come out of his shell and is starting to love the game. KEEP IT UP ZIAD!!

Omar Elhousseny: Omar one of the big boys in the team and ran and tackled harder. He scored some great long-distance tries. AWESOME WORK OMAR!! Yusef Haj Obeid: Yusef is one of our strong players. He is very essential player to our team. He's always in there making tackles and scoring tries. The other players really look up to him. GREAT JOB YUSEF!!

Now that the players are out of the way I would like to thank my staff. Carmen thanks for helping get the boys and Tasi organized on game day and for keeping

the parents entertained at training. Isaac my trainer thanks for helping out on game day and keeping the team hydrated. Also, thanks to my husband Abdul for helping out when Isaac couldn't be there and being the boss like the team calls him. Thanks to the parents for bringing the boys and Tasi to training and games week in and week out. If it wasn't for you there would be no team.

Finally, one BIG shout out to Soni (coach of the other team) for putting his hand up to coach the other side and not letting them down. Also, thanks heaps for helping me out at training (even though they don't listen to you either) haha.

### THANKS EVERYONE SEE YOU NEXT YEAR 2020!!!



### MAJOR SPONSOR OF THE BANKSTOWN BULLS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB



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### **UNDER 6/W**



Back Row: Rabab Raad, Samasoni (Coach)
Front Row: Ameera Raad, Ezra Carden-Samasoni, Tyrese Tu'ima, Baljeet Pannu, Moussa Darwiche, Maysa Raad
Absent: Sosaia Napaa, Solopani Napaa, Tawhiri Hetaraka (Trainer)

2019 was a great and interesting year for myself and my team. Myself and my son were new to the club and not knowing what to expect I was welcomed by the current coach Amanda Nabhan and the team. We had an excess amount of kids and due to this fact I was asked by Amanda if I could coach the second team, I was happy to do this as I had coached the year before. Thanks Amanda for your help I couldn't have done it without you. To the parents in my team thanks for all your support, we had a great and wonderful year.

Thanks to Rabab Raad who was a great team manager, very generous, did so much for the side and helped me out so

PLAYER	Т	PTS
Ameera Raad	14	56
Baljeet Pannu	2	8
Ezra Carden-Samasoni	6	24
Lorenzo Stanley-Ligaiviu	7	28
Marcus Tarabay	3	12
Maysa Raad	1	4
Moussa Darwiche	19	76
Solopani Napaa	1	4
Sosaia Napaa	10	40
Tyrese Tu'ima	18	72

much. Well done for winning the Manager of the Year award from the Junior League. Tawhiri Hetaraka helped as trainer on game days and despite no relatives in the side was always there at our games. Thanks also to the entire Bankstown Bulls club for their support.

We played a lot of games with only 4 kids, we didn't win many games this year but the kids never gave up in any of the games and I know for a fact each individual child had fun and improved as the year got on. All the players in the team scored tries this year and that was one of the most rewarding parts of the year. We also had a player from the under 5s team Marcus and also a player from the other under 6B team Lorenzo help us out with some of our games. We thank both of you and your parents for helping us out with year.

The highlight of our season came at the very end with the Terry Lamb Gala Day. The kids got to run out onto Belmore Sports Ground, play at Belmore and wear the Bulldogs jersey. We saved our best football for this Gala Day and everyone had so much fun. It was a great day for everyone involved. See you all next year.

**Ezra Carden-Samasoni:** A little live wire who competed every week. When Ezra was switched on there was no doubt in willingness and determination to play footy. Scoring some tries and developed some footwork and a fend as the year got on.

Tyrese Tu'ima: A damaging ball runner who always looked to score a try with every hit up. Running was his best trait, but his defence was just as good. A big defender and a player the team could always depend on to make a tackle. Watch out 2020 as Tyrese will be back and be just a damaging as he was in 2019.

**Ameera Raad:** One of 3 girls in the team she was quick on her feet and was always willing to have a run. Was very hesitant at first but once she found her feet she was quick as lightning and very hard to catch once she



was gone. Ameera was also a great defender using her pace to run down the opposition whenever they made a break.

Maysa Raad: The cheeky kid in the team. Maysa along with her sister played every game this year and improved each week. Once she found her feet it was quick to tell she was just as quick and determined as her sister. Moussa Darwiche: One of the stars of the team, always willing to run and make tackles. Great footwork and speed Moussa was always a handful for the defence. It was with attributes Moussa Finished the year as the teams top try scorer. Destined for big things in the game of rugby league.

Sosaia Napaa: Sosaia played only a handful of games this year but in those games he showed great courage and determination in every game he played. His long limbs helped him run away effortlessly from defenders.

Played dummy half every game and never let me or the team down once.

**Solo Napaa:** Solo's first year of rugby league was a learning curve for him and was always enjoyable to watch, was always happy and always smiling when he played. He finished the year well and improved with every game he played.

**Baljeet Pannu:** Joined the team late and was a real help to myself and the other members of the team. Scoring 2 tries in her first game it was easy to tell this girl was going to be good.

**Lorenzo Stanley-Ligaiviu (U/6-B):** Player from the Under 6/B's played a few games for the team when our times were different. Scored 7 tries making a very positive impact for the side.

**Marcus Tarabay (U5):** Player from the Under 5's also filled in for several games when he could and played for us in the Gala Day. A great future in front of him. Thanks to his Dad David and Cousin Elias being there as a support to the team when Marcus was with us.









Back Row: Brad Whigham (Trainer), Sarah Spaseski (Manager), David Hadchiti (Coach), Lawrence Karam (Assistant) Front Row: Joseph Tarabay, Yusef Kassem, Daniel Spaseski, Luay Ismail, Jacob El Najjar, Natalia Karam Absent: Charbel Hadchiti, Micah Gear, Ahmad Saleh Moussa, Imran Sayadi

Under 7s what can I say! I would like to start by thanking the children and parents for making this year a successful and enjoyable experience, as this is my first time as a coach.

Also, a huge thank you to our manager Sarah Spaseski and our trainer Brad Whigham for their hard work, time and dedication towards our team to have made it a successful and enjoyable year of football. Last but not least a big thank you to Lawrence Karam for guiding me and throwing me into the deep end "haha" in coaching these great bunch of kids.

Over all, it was a fantastic year from these group of young kids, we grew from a squad of 3-4 last year to a squad of 10. They

whilst playing football, which says a lot.

represented the club and their families to the highest level and most of all they had smiles on their faces

PLAYER	T	PTS
Ahmad Saleh Moussa	17	68
Charbel Hadchiti	16	64
Daniel Spaseski	34	136
Imran Sayadi	1	4
Jacob El Najjar	31	124
Joseph Tarabay	6	24
Luay Ismail	16	64
Micah Gear	4	16
Natalia Karam	6	24
Yusuf Kassem	9	36

Before the season kicked off, the kids got an amazing opportunity to walk around ANZ Stadium before the Bulldogs first home game of the 2019 season. The players and of course Brad were so excited and it was an amazing experience these kids and Brad won't forget.

Ahmad Saleh Moussa: "sir "sir "sir", playing his first year of rugby league and sure did blow us all away. He would side step players, trip over and still manage to score. He was great in defence and would not hesitate to throw his body onto the biggest players and bring them down with plenty of aggression. We look forward to seeing what you do next season.

Charbel Hadchiti: Being the coach's son can be a tough gig. Charbel was only with us for half of the season, but what a half it was. Once again our side stepping genius and try scoring machine, ran circles around the opposition this year. Always taking a leadership role and helping to guide his team mates on the field.

**Daniel Spaseski:** Daniel, one of the senior players going to his second year of football and the highest try scorer this season. Confident and a hard runner that doesn't mind palming a player off to get to the try line. Daniel having the excitement and enthusiasm in every game and never shy to put his hand up to ask for a kick off.

**Imran Sayadi:** Imran played his first season this year after watching his big brother from the sidelines. He only managed to play a handful of games but always enjoyed himself and always tried his best. We hope to see you back again next year.

**Jacob El Najjar:** Jacob is a natural footballer, takes his footy seriously and possesses all the skills. He is a great competitor. His defence was amazing and his attacking ability was up there with the best. He would often remind us how he scored two, three, or four tries in the game. What a season Jacob.

**Joseph Tarabay:** It's not how far you get, but it's how far you've come. Another

newcomer this season took a while to come out of his shell. However, Joseph never gave up and always put in 100% effort. Half way through the season Joseph was rewarded for his efforts and scored a well-deserved try. From this point on his confidence grew and so did the length of his runs. Great start Joseph.

**Luay Ismail:** BIG AND STRONG! Playing his first year of footy, it didn't take Luay long to realise his power. Luay's confidence in his own ability grew and he became an asset to the team in both attack and defence. Luay would often run most of the field with the whole of the opposing team trying to bring him down but he kept going and going and scored those tries.

**Micah Gear:** Micah is an energetic player who is keen to get involved with each play. Micah provided some destructive runs this season which led to some good tries. A young boy with a lot of potential.

**Natalia Karam:** Natalia was the only girl in the team, but another year in and she proves to be as good as the boys. She gave it her all and would run hard and get back up after a hard tackle. She loved playing footy and u could tell with that lovely smile on her face at every training session and at every game.

**Yusuf Kassem:** A newcomer to football this year, but Yusuf was ready to play rugby league like his big brother. Yusuf continued to impress us throughout the season. He kept improving game after game. I was proud of his effort and with every try it gave him more confidence and with every tackle it gave him more power. Well done on a great first year.



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### **UNDER 8/2**



Back Row: Tanika El Jamal (Manager), Marlon Saisoa'a (Coach), Jahlet Wilson, Yassir Zraika, William Ngalu, Tyrese Fealofani, Hudson Leolahi, Ethan Saisoa'a (Trainer)

Front Row: Mahmoud El-Challouf, Khaled Chamma, Amir Chahine, Zakariya El Jamal, Soane Paseka, Jin Leatinuu, Giovanni Pacicca Absent: Jeremiah Misiagi

I would like to thank my wonderful manager Tanika El Jamal and trainers Ethan Saisoaa and Rabih Chamma for their hard work – thank you so much.

This team was full of new comers to the game. Only a handful had played before. This team kept on improving throughout the season and I'm proud of their efforts towards the end of the season.

One of the highlights was walking out with the Roosters players supporting Mark Hughes Foundation. All the players received a Beanie from the Roosters players.

There's a lot of potential in this side and I'm looking forward to see what these boys are going to do next year. 2019 was a good year, 2020 will be even better. Excited thank you to the players and parents. May God keep you safe in the off-season.

Blessings, Marlon Saisoaa.

PLAYER	Т	G	PTS
Amir Chahine	0	1	2
Giovanni Pacicca	17	6	80
Hudson Leolahi	0	0	0
Jahlet Wilson	8	2	36
Jeremiah Misiagi	1	0	4
Jin Leatinuu	0	0	0
Khaled Chamma	1	5	14
Mahmoud El-Challouf	0	0	0
Omar Kabah	1	0	4
Soane Paseka	7	2	32
Tyrese Fealofani	5	2	24
William Ngalu	1	1	6
Yassir Zraika	9	0	36
Zakariya El Jamal	2	0	8

### **Players Summaries:**

**Hudson Leolahi:** First year in the game, showed a little improvement at training and the games, still learning, will get better once he gets to know the game, well done.

**Jin Leatinuu:** First year in the game, still learning, will get better once he becomes familiar to the game, well done.

**Jahlet Wilson:** Started the season slow, improved as the season went on, made fullback his own and tackled really well, great defender, well done.



**Yassir Zraika:** First year, natural footballer, great player, hard runner who made a lot of metres, strong, looking forward to see what he does next year, well done. **Tyrese Fealofani:** First year in the game, still learning, has potential, improved as

season went on will only get better next year, well done.

**Mahmoud El Challouf:** First year in the game, a bit shy, improved throughout the season, will be better once he gets to know the game, well done.

**Giovanni Pacicca:** Started the way he finished, has got it all, great on attack and tackles really well, puts his body on the line excited to see what he does next year. **William Ngalu:** Big boy first year in the game, improved during the season, once he gets his confidence up next year no one will be able to stop him, well done.

**Amir Chahine:** Came to our team half way through the season, improved as the season went on, needs more involvement, well done.

**Soane Paseka:** This kid has a lot of potential, very strong ball carrier, improved as the season went on, looking forward to see what he can do next year, well done.

**Zakariya El Jamal:** Improved as the season went on, can only get better, looking forward to see what he produces next year, well done.

**Jeremiah Misiagi:** Has a great attitude, was improving with every game he played and will only get better when he returns next year, well done.

**Khaled Chamma:** Excellent attitude, organised the team really well, improved so much and fitted into the team so well despite being in his first year with us, well done.

### **MANAGERS REPORT:**

First and foremost a big thank you to Marlon for taking this side on. I'd also like to thank our trainer Ethan for his effort each and every week as well as Rabih for his support towards our team.

This year we started with 3 players. It was a slow start, and we didn't think the team would eventuate. We worked hard and we built a team full of great kids that came to

training and game days week in and week out and tried their hardest every single game. We had many kids this year who were first time players, and under the guidance of Marlon, Ethan and Rabih, built up the boys confidence as well as their ability to work together within a team. The great thing was that Marlon gave every kid in the side encouragement (which some haven't had before), gave everyone a fair go and it was all about giving every kid a chance to shine.

Our team was lucky enough to be selected to run out with the Sydney Roosters players at ANZ Stadium this year in the Beanies for Brain Cancer round. As our boys lined up and discussed who the best player in the Roosters was and who they would run out with, they displayed excellent team spirit as they ran out with these players, shook hands and received their beanies. This day was a very surreal moment for the team and all of the players loved and enjoyed every single moment.

Words cannot express how proud I am of the team we have created. This was my first year of being a manager, and it was my absolute pleasure to sit on the sidelines every single week and watch these boys go from strangers to building fantastic friendships as well as strong bonds on and off the field.

We are all very thankful to Matt and Lawrence for their hard work and support this year. Tanika El Jamal (Manager)





# **UNDER 8/1**



Back Row: Billal Hassanein (Coach), Omar Ahmad, Ahmad Hajobeid, Kaedis-Cordal Roebeck, Aymen Mougharbel, Yaqub Harmouch,
Jeseka Harmouch (Manager), Mahmoud Mougharbel (Trainer)

Front Row: Anthony Mousses, Zakaria Haowshar, Amy Tu'ifua, Omar Kabah, John Lokotui, Latrelle Murdoch Absent: Amer Mougharbel (Trainer)

Well this year has been a rollercoaster ride. Previous players and new players joined the club, became a team by coming together to play the sport they love. The kids put in a lot of effort each time they played a game.

One of the highlights of the year was the Canterbury Bulldogs vs Sydney Roosters game. Our players were invited and had a chance to play a short game on the field during half time at ANZ Stadium. This was such a rewarding and unforgettable experience for both the players and their families.

I would like to thank all the parents as they had to drive around different locations in Sydney to bring their kids to

PLAYER	T	G	PTS
Ahmad Hajobeid	5	2	24
Amy Tu'ifua	3	0	12
Anthony Mouses	0	1	2
Aymen Mougharbel	0	1	2
John Lokotui	4	4	24
Kaedis-Cordal Roebeck	13	1	54
Latrelle Murdoch	6	2	28
Omar Ahmad	10	5	50
Omar Kabah	2	0	8
Yaqub Harmouch	1	5	14
Zakaria Haowshar	1	2	8

the game. Some parents also have more than one child playing football and sometimes this was quite difficult trying to get to two different locations on the same day. I would also like to thank the Coach, Billal Hassanein and Trainers, Mahmoud Mougharbel and Amer Mougharbel for their help throughout the game.

Last of all, I would like to thank the whole Bankstown Bulls community especially Lawrence, Matt, Stan and Mullet for their roles behind the scenes in making footy enjoyable for the kids.

This was my first year as a Manager. It was quite the experience. I really enjoyed seeing the kids play the sport they love and having fun whilst doing so. This made me love coming to each game. During the season, I had a lovely surprise of finding out I was pregnant which made things a bit difficult for me as I had 3 boys playing at 3 different locations at times. Overall, it was an enjoyable experience and I would like to thank everyone who helped me and supported me throughout the year.

Jeseka Harmouch (Manager)



**Ahmad Hajobeid:** Comes to games with a big smile and leaves with a big smile. Played with lots of defence and never gave up.

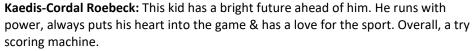
**Amy Tu'ifua:** She is a player who has a lot of skill. She never gives up & has always displayed her skills in each game.

**Anthony Mouses:** This kid loves football. Whether it's a training session or a game he always puts in 100%. He has good skills & has a bright future.

**Aymen Mougharbel:** From start to finish, this kid plays a great game. Made a good effort this year.

**John Lokotui:** Very fast player with try saving tackles. He never gave up & always played his best.

**Latrell Murdoch:** A small kid with a big heart. Had really hard tackles and never gave up during a game.



**Omar Ahmad:** Solid runs, game after game & never gave up. Brings lots of good vibes to the game.

**Omar Kabah:** Wow! What a year for this kid. He shined through & played really well. He made big tackles as well as scoring some great tries.

**Yaqub Harmouch:** Has a good kick, made some hard hits and big runs. He has really improved and played his best this year.

**Zakaria Haowshar:** He has a smile on his face every game day. Always puts in so much effort, has lots of speed & courage.















## **JOINT PATRON TANIA MIHAILUK MP:**

The Bankstown Bulls are pleased to have Tania Mihailuk as our Joint Patron. Tania has been the Member for Bankstown since March 2011. Previously, she served as Mayor of Bankstown City Council from 2006 to May 2011. Having been raised in Bankstown, Tania is honoured to serve her community as Member for Bankstown. As the local representative, Tania wants to make sure that Bankstown receives the infrastructure, resources and attention it deserves at a State Level. Bankstown has a great future. With a growing population and strategic location, the area is well placed to become a major centre in Sydney. Tania is in her 3rd term as the NSW member for Bankstown. For more information visit www.nswlabor.org.au/tania\_mihailuk

# UNDER 9 D3 PREMIERS



Back Row: Fade Serhan, Onfire for JC Florian, Dereon Leatinuu, Emmarlyn Matic, Lemeki Ngalu, Andrew Hadchiti (Coach)
Front Row: Ali Serhan, Amelia Kakala, Dominik Attewell, Ibrahim Kassem, Zeinab Serhan
Absent: Jacob Allouche, Hussein Saleh Moussa, Terrence Winship, Norma Hadchiti (Manager)

Firstly, I'd like to mention that the chant 'I'M A BANANA' has been stuck in my head for months now!

Thank you to all the parents and families for their patience and commitment all season. The effort to take kids to and from training and games was appreciated. Secondly, a huge thank you to the staff, Fadi (trainer) and my mum Norma (manager) for their commitment to the team. The teams accolades couldn't have been achieved without your constant support at training and on game days. Also, thanks to everyone who helped out throughout the season, your contributions are appreciated. Big thanks to Matt for his constant support to the team behind the scenes. Appreciation to David for training the players in the pre-season and grand final day.

PLAYER	Т	G	PTS
Ali-Al-Rida Serhan	1	4	12
Amelia Kakala	1	0	4
Dereon Leatinuu	1	0	4
Dominik Attewell	18	5	82
Emmarlyn Matic	5	3	26
Hussein Saleh Moussa	2	2	12
Ibrahim Kassem	3	0	12
Jacob Allouche	3	3	18
Lemeki Ngalu	42	9	186
Onfire for JC Florian	23	8	108
Terence Winship	14	6	68
Zeinab Serhan	2	1	10

I had an absolute ball coaching **The Bananas** this year. Being a first-year coach, I didn't know what to expect, but I am so glad I took the opportunity to coach these amazing and talented kids. When I first took over as coach it was evident that a lot of patience and effort was needed to ensure all players improved and nobody was left behind. I credit all the parents for raising such dedicated and teachable kids. Although at times they were a handful, they always remained respectful and eager to learn. It's obvious that all kids enjoyed each other's company and most importantly created great friendships.

For some, it was their first-time playing rugby league and I'm amazed at the pace they improved. Originally it was difficult to find a pace of learning where no kids were left behind due to the differences in skill levels, however all players improved every training session, and it definitely showed on the field and in our strong finals series.

I am so grateful I got to coach this team and I am so proud of every one of them for our accomplishments this season. Our grand final win is a memory that we will all cherish forever and look back and laugh at the crazy Bananas! I'M A BANANA!

(In alphabetical order):

**Jacob ALLOUCHE:** Little pocket rocket! I love the way this kid plays. He came mid-season and added a lot to the team. He wears his heart on his sleeve and is a non-stop tackling machine! He has great footwork and is an amazing





kid to coach. Won our grand final game ball award. Saved his best for the occasion. **Dominik ATTEWELL**: Very quick! Was missed while absent mid-season but picked up where he left off when he returned. Great leader with awesome footwork and agility. Adds a lot to the team in both attack and defence. Awesome to coach. Big part of our success!

**Onfire For JC FLORIAN:** Captain! Definitely lives up to his name. A natural leader who helps all his teammates be better. If this kid tackled you, you'd feel it! Such a strong runner who scored many tries this year, and saved just as many. Player of the grand final.

**Amelia KAKALA:** Her first year playing the sport, she surprised me every week! Her improvement throughout the season was amazing. Always at training and ready to learn. Great team player whose defence impressed me through her fearlessness. Very unselfish who puts the team first.

Ibrahim KASSEM: A great leader. His talk on the field and at training helps the

entire team be better. Very smart footy player and a great dummy half for us all season. Always at training early and loves learning. Awesome defender and a player I loved coaching!

**Emmarlyn MATIC:** Fearless! An amazing athlete with great speed and strength. Emma has a fearless attitude and is very competitive, both at training and on game day. Incredibly talented and has as a bright future ahead, no matter what sport she plays.

**Lemeki NGALU:** Not much needs to be said about this kid. What a talent! Incredible speed and footwork. The competitions leading try scorer, goal kicker and point scorer. Great defender. Overall, an amazing athlete that was a pleasure to coach.





**Hussein SALEH MOUSSA:** This kid impressed me towards the back end of the season. Not

the biggest player, but still puts his body on the line to make his tackles. Has lots of energy and can run around forever. Very fast with great footwork.

**Ali-Al-Rida SERHAN:** Great team player who always tried his hardest. Funny character who got along with everyone. Loves to laugh! Always at training ready to learn and helped me out a lot all year. Improved a lot throughout the season and has lots of energy!

**Zeinab SERHAN:** Another one of our fearless girls. Definitely not scared to smash the boys! Loves defending, especially for bull rush. The youngest player in the team, she played nearly 2 years up and still done an amazing job all season. Funny kid to coach. Won the Gala Day Award from Revesby on our gala day and also their gala day. **Terence WINSHIP:** Saved his best game for last! Big and strong ball carrier who's very hard to stop. Very athletic for his size and only knows one way; forward! Lead us all season with his very strong runs and awesome defence. Was one of our best on grand final day and the intercept try to win the game I never forget that!





# UNDER 9 D2 FINALISTS



Back Row: David Tarabay (Coach), Ayah El-Ali, Joshua Hadchiti, Ibrahim Elzahr, Danny Tarabay, Zane Abdul-Al, Elias Nassif (Trainer), Rola Baghdadi (Manager)

Front Row: Jawad Hamdan, Noah Nabhan, Zach Abdul-Al, Rahmy Chamas, Yusef Jabaseh, Jarrah Dennis-Reid Absent: Junaid Sayadi

We had a season of many highs and lows that come accustomed to any football year. It all started in the preseason where it was very challenging with Elias and myself having to control two teams with Andrew on Bulldogs SG Ball playing duties. It was a tough job selecting teams for the D2 and D3 sides with a lot of new talent coming to the club and players in the other side worthy of their shot in the higher division.

In the end we stuck loyal to the group of players that have served us well in the last 3 years. To finish second in the minor premiership and only miss out on the grand final by a matter of seconds with by far the smallest side in the competition was a phenomenal effort by the team.

PLAYER	T	G	PTS
Ayah El-Ali	0	0	0
Danny Tarabay	17	8	84
Ibrahim Elzahr	0	0	0
Jarrah Dennis-Reid	8	10	52
Jawad Hamdan	1	0	4
Joshua Hadchiti	8	6	44
Junaid Sayadi	6	6	36
Noah Nabhan	8	4	40
Rahmy Chamas	3	1	14
Yusuf Jabaseh	1	1	6
Zachariah Abdul-Al	5	0	20
Zane Abdul-Al	5	1	22

What we lacked in size we made up for it with skill, lots of heart and a willingness to player for each other on the field. We were a very gutsy side in defence and always defended as a group. Our players dug deep for each other and gave everything they had during the year. We won so many games by close margins and had some epic battles with Sporties, Tigers and Hornets.

It was disappointing not to make the grand final being so close, but that's the way football is and we will only bounce back stronger. The real positive is that this age group is now very settled and a good flow of players coming through meaning we will in the coming years have strong sides in the 1s and 2s.

In each of the last 3 years I've seen the players in this side improve greatly as individuals and as a team. The fact we play as a team has impressed me more than anything this season.

Every coach needs help along the way. Firstly, thanks to my trainer Elias who has been a rock-solid supporter of the players in the team for the last 3 years. Elias trains the team, does all the little jobs and he's formed such a great bond with the players and parents. This is all on top of playing for his own side, cooking the BBQ and doing all the field duties at Ruse Park. Well done Elias. Secondly, thanks to my manager Rola who stepped up with Fatima not around. Rola added her own style as manager and took lots of photos along the way. She's a great asset to the club and any team. Thirdly, thanks to both Ameihn for helping as trainer when Elias wasn't available and Fatima for manager when Rola couldn't make it late in the season.



The club goes through a lot of work to put our teams together on the field each season. It takes a lot of time for a club to operate. Thanks to the Bulls Executive Matt, Lawrence, Mullet, Stan and Michael and the main canteen helpers Sandra, Rabab and Jeseka. You all do so much for the

club. I'd like to single out Matt for getting the team registered and answering all my requests at short notice.

A big congratulations to Andrew, Fadi, Norma and their Under 9's team on an outstanding grand final win. The way the players have come together as a team is credit to Andrew, Fadi and Norma. We have a lot of talented kids in the age group that all goes well for the future.

Lastly and most importantly, thanks to <u>ADVANCED BODY SCULPTING</u> for sponsoring the team that allowed our players to receive outstanding sublimated hoodies. Support like this is much appreciated.

David Tarabay (Coach)

## **Player Comments:**

**Ayah El-Ali:** The only girl in the side. Played a lot of dummy half and done really well. Was improving with every game she played, sound defence and she made good strong runs from dummy half. We missed Ayah when she had to go away towards the end of the year.

**Danny Tarabay:** Our leading try-scorer and point-scorer. Danny is our go-to player in attack either scoring tries, creating tries or making breaks. Danny is also a great worker in defence and directs the team around the field really well.



**Ibrahim Elzahr:** Our biggest player took a lot of tough hit ups during the season and made many metres.

**Jarrah Dennis-Reid:** One of the real shining lights this year. Scored 8 tries and was our leading goal kicker with 10. Jarrah really came out of his shell and was one of our main players when we needed inspiration.

**Jawad Hamdan:** First full season with the team, great attitude, improved during the season and a real willingness to learn.

**Joshua Hadchiti:** The enforcer of our side and was a wrecking ball for us causing a lot of damage for the opposition. It was a shame Josh had to leave towards the end of the season as we missed him a lot.

**Junaid Sayadi:** Missed a lot of the season and we missed his presence on the field. Junaid has always been one of our leading players and when he played he was a great asset for us. We look forward to Junaid playing more games next year where his presence sets a good example for others to follow.

**Noah Nabhan:** The youngest player in our side yet played like he was one of the most experienced. Noah is a tough competitor, very strong and got better every game. Noah has a fantastic attitude at training, shows everyone lots of respect and gets himself involved in every game he plays.

**Rahmy Chamas:** Excellent team player with great involvement on the field. Was always team first in everything he did and helped give our team direction.

**Yusuf Jabaseh:** Very enthusiastic player, a great learner and plays with a lot of heart and energy on the field. **Zachariah & Zane Abdul-Al:** We have to put the twins together as one as we couldn't tell them apart during the season. We have them down for 5 tries each and half the time we didn't know whether it was Zach or Zane that scored. Identical twins and play in the exact same identical fashion. Both are totally fearless in everything they do and whether in attack or defence they throw themselves into the contest head first. Both have a strong competitive edge and a love of the game that will take them a long way in the game.

# UNDER 10 UNDEFEATED MINOR PREMIERS & PREMIERS



Back Row: Yehia Katahie (Manager), Jay El Homsi (Trainer), Zain Katahie, Legion Wilson, Leighton Ford, Filimoto Ngalu, Youssef Soliman, Isaac El Najjar, Taha El-Hamid, Rabih Chamma (Coach)

Front Row: Abdullah El Homsi, Mahmoud Dennaoui, Mahmoud El-Sanoussi, Omar Zaki, Jairome Lewis, Motaz El Hamid, Mya El Homsi, Ahmad Chamma

Absent: James Marszal, Mohamed El Sanoussi (Trainer)

WOW what a season coming over from another club I didn't know what to expect at Bankstown Bulls. From day one the club has been totally supportive, allowed me to run my own show and made those who made the tough decision to come to Bulls were made to feel welcome by the management of the club.

Right from that first meeting with Michael, Matt & Lawrence about joining Bulls they made us feel like we have always belonged at the club. Also thanks to Stan, Mullet, Dave, Brad, Sandra, Jeseka and Rabab for making me, Jay and the new players feel so welcome.

Combining two half sides into one side was the greatest challenge to begin with and teaching the players the one victory song was another challenge. Being undefeated meant we did sing the victory song many times and the players quickly mastered that. The players blended into one tight knit side from the outset and there was no us or

PLAYER	T	G	PTS
Abdullah El Homsi	1	0	4
Ahmad Chamma	0	2	4
Filimoto Ngalu	4	0	16
Isaac El Najjar	0	0	0
Jairome Lewis	10	6	52
James Marszal	8	10	52
Legion Wilson	11	6	56
Leighton Ford	1	0	4
Mahmoud Dennaoui	2	6	20
Mahmoud El Sanoussi	14	11	78
Motaz El Hamid	1	8	20
Mya El-Homsi	2	4	16
Omar Zaki	0	2	4
Taha El-Hamid	0	2	4
Youssef Soliman	26	11	126
Zain Katahie	6	1	26

them – everyone was 100% Bankstown Bulls and we united to make sure nothing was going to stop us.

Following the trials where it was all about adjusting into a new club and settling on the final squad, we started with a 40-10 win over Moorebank and backed that up with a 52-0 win over St Christopher's who came 3rd last year. We won our first 9 games before coming up against Berala who came from division 1. We finished 24-all. We knew we would get Berala next time and was always looking forward to that challenge.

Come finals time we met St George in the first semi-final who had only lost two games all season. It was a tough game and won 30-20 on the strength of superior goal kicking. The Dragons came to play and the relief and excitement that we were first to make the grand final was there for all to see.

We watched at our home ground to see who play us in the grand final and it was Berala. We were ready following the draw earlier in the season. We saved our best performance for last. We led 4-0 at half-time on the back of a strong defensive effort and soon after the break went to a 10-0. Berala tried to comeback, scored a try and threw everything at us. Our scramble defence held strong and a late try sealed a memorable and tough victory for the team. Defence wins big matches as it did on grand final day.

The grand final win capped off a great season. Coming to a new club was a tough decision as was bringing all these players together as one side. The team just bonded so well and the club gave us all the support needed to settle in easily.

Thanks to my loyal trainer Jay El Homsi who has been with me for several years. Jay is a vital importance to our side and he did so much for the success of the team. Yehia Katahie who was with the team last year thanks for taking on the vacant manager's position at short notice. Your help and support in making Jay and myself feel so welcomed at Bulls was very valuable. Thanks to Mohamed El Sanoussi for his passionate support of the team. He was always there to do anything for the team whether it was being trainer or even time keeper. Thanks to the parents who brought their kids to the game every week and supported the team all the way to our premiership success.

We were able to get the team hoodies this year thanks to **STRONG HOLD FIXING** (0404 555 216) Structural Reinforcement for proudly sponsoring the team with hoodies.

To all our players thank you very much. We asked a lot of you all during the season and you all delivered with your efforts at training and on the field: Abdullah El Homsi, Ahmad Chamma, Filimoto Ngalu, Isaac El Najjar, Jairome Lewis, James Marszal, Legion Wilson, Leighton Ford, Mahmoud Dennaoui, Mahmoud El Sanoussi, Motaz El Hamid, Mya El-Homsi, Omar Zaki, Taha El-Hamid, Youssef Soliman, Zain Katahie.

Well done to Youssef Soliman for being leading try-scorer, point-scorer, equal leading goal kicker and player of the match in the grand final. We did have the 3 leading goal kickers with Youssef, Mahmoud El Sanoussi and James Marszal. Our team was well led by Mahmoud El Sanoussi who captained us on grand final day and also Jairome Lewis. Great individual efforts by these players.

Now we've conquered the season. It's now time we step up to the next level and I'm confident we will.



## BANKSTOWN BULLS SCOREBOARD SPONSOR

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# **UNDER 11 D3**



Back Row: Michelle Baldwin (Manager), Shakira Leolahi, Joey Vaukatagane, Joshua Baldwin, Isabeau Kiri, Christian Dib, Jeshua Afa,
Chris Baldwin (Coach)

Front Row: Mitchell Unger, Ayeisha Elzahr, Firas Obeid, Jehad Hamdan, Charlie Golfes, Jayden Unger, Jamal Darwiche
Absent: Corey Baldwin (Trainer)

"**Proud**" .... That's what I am for the U11's team. Of every player on the team. We started the year off with six players that turned up every training. Then as the weeks went, more players came and joined the team.

Some players came back from last year, some come having only played at school and others not played at all. From the time each player started training with myself and the team, they were focused on the learnings of the game rugby league and of the bond between players that is made.

Throughout the season we struggled with numbers but with enough to field a team on the field we never gave up at any stage, no matter what. We slowly got numbers up and started to play as a functional team. This came from

dedicated boys and girls that turned up to training to train, concentrate on what was shown and dedication to make themselves a better player with each training session and each game.

We have a lot of diversity in our team such as players playing up a year, strong girls and low numbers. The U11's team should be very proud of themselves as throughout the season every coach, manager and ground officials commented on how our players played, never gave up and the way they held their heads up high and a cheer and smile for the winning side.

I have found as of last year and now this year that we have huge respect from coach's, managers and their supporters from all of our opposition teams. The reason for this comes down to one thing only, everyone that is a part of our team developing into respectable players. This come down to playing for each other, playing for fun, playing to play this wonderful game we call rugby league.

PLAYER	Т	G	PTS
Ayeisha Elzahr	0	0	0
Charlie Golfes	0	0	0
Christian Dib	1	0	4
Firas Obeid	1	0	4
Isabeau Kiri	0	0	0
Jamal Darwiche	0	1	2
Jayden Unger	1	0	4
Jehad Hamdan	0	0	0
Jeshua Afa	0	0	0
Joey Vaukatagane	4	1	18
Joshua Baldwin	0	0	0
Mitchell Unger	0	2	4
Shakira Leolahi	0	0	0





Final note from myself is that the dedication of all the players that play for this team, I believe as they develop their skills they will achieve great things in this sport. My promise is that if you are coached by me, I will help you achieve your goals, dreams and to help in any way I can.

A little something on each player:

Shakira (Kira) Leolahi: Shows a lot of zest when she runs with the ball towards opposing players and retains skills shown at training.

Joey Vaukatagane: Came late in the season but shows a lot of skill. Can't wait for next season to hone and fine tune his skill and agility.

Joshua Baldwin: A smiling assassin, well once he reaches his ability he will be. He loves playing with his teammates and is of the only boy that will have the whole team on him and will stay standing and play the ball. Isabeau (Issy) Kiri: A dynamic player that with passion for the game. This comes at training and playing. Needs to keep busy as I believe Issy will surprise even herself when she starts playing her potential next year.

**Christian Dib:** Very strong player that plays hard for himself and his team mates. Strong in his runs and developing a good tackling technique.

Jeshua Afa: Unfortunately, only played one game, but showed huge skill in that time on the field.

**Mitchell Unger:** One of our newer players shows skill whenever he touches the ball. A very dedicated team member.

**Ayeisha Elzahr:** Is a player that hides her talents until she is the field on Saturday, Ayeisha will run towards any size player and will fight for every blade of grass.

**Firas Obeid:** A shy player that broke out of his shell and is now playing with a great attitude. Will keep improving as he trains and learns skills.

**Jehad Hamdan:** Plays good when on the field and will develop more with time on the field.

**Charlie Golfes:** Very dynamic player, runs a very hard line. Is a big asset to our team. One tuff nut to crack.

**Jayden Unger:** Tough as they come and is very skilful with his running style and he will tackle anything that moves with a ball. Also played almost a whole game with a broken wrist, very committed.

**Jamal Darwiche:** One of our younger players that played well above his age. Always committed to learn and play hard every week.

Thank you, Corey, from the 16/1 for trainer and the dedication that you have shown to this team. Thank you to my manager Michelle (my wonderful wife) for your help and dedication to this team. Stan, I would like to thank you for your support to come to some trainings and help this team.

Also thank you to the whole committee and other coaching staff that have said wonderful things about this team also. Thanks, you to the parents of our players for your support and letting your child be part of this wonderful team.

Go Bulls.
Chris Baldwin (coach)







# UNDER 11 D2 GRAND FINALISTS & MINOR PREMIERS



Back Row: Julie Warwar (Manager), Zahi Elzein (Coach), Bassam El Hamid, Joseph Hadchiti, Zaine Warwar, Julius Brown, Charbel Mousses, Daniel Safetly (Trainer), Anwar Adhami (Trainer)

Front Row: Muhammad Baradaaji, Ziyad Al-Hasan, Shadi Harmouch, Zayd Elzein, Karim Adhami, Fouad Chamma, Nour Noureddine Absent: Philip Euta-Nanai, Joey Vaukatagane



		1	
PLAYER	Т	G	PTS
Ali Zreika	21	2	88
Bassam El Hamid	1	11	26
Charbel Mouses	1	0	4
Fouad Chamma	1	4	12
Joey Vaukatagane	1	0	4
Joseph Hadchiti	9	5	46
Julius Brown	14	2	60
Karim Adhami	6	14	52
Muhammad Baradaaji	0	0	0
Nour Noureddine	5	2	24
Philip Euta-Nanai	5	3	26
Shadi Harmouch	5	8	36
Zaine Warwar	7	8	44
Zayd Elzein	3	4	20
Ziyad Al Hasan	0	0	0

2019 what a year we had, memorable on so many levels. Minor Premiers with 13 games played a record of 12 wins and 1 loss in the regular season.

Our next game was the Grand final qualifier and it was 1st vs 2nd. The team was ready for a tough game, they rose to the occasion and did not disappoint, they fought tough and came out with the win32to 22 to qualify to the Grand Final. We had the bye the following week and the anticipation to who will be our opponents was nerve racking, the game was at Ruse Park and most of the team made their way there to watch them battle it out, at the end it was Bulls vs Sporties B progressing to Grand Final. Grand Final week, the team trained hard and looked ready for Sporties.

Our team Dinner on Friday night before the big game brought the team closer as a unit and the boys had a lot of fun when mixed together outside the footy field.



The big day came around and the nerves were running high for the parents but not the players, they looked cool, calm, and collected. Warmed up, geared up and ready to take the field for the big game, the Red and Black army was loud and proud and cheering the boys as they took the field. The intensity just went up a notch, we kicked off and it was set for set for most of the first half, we crossed over first and the score was 6-nil, with a few minutes left in the first half Sporties go over to even the score at 6 all going into the half time break. Second half started and we were receiving, off the kick-off a line break was made that led to a try to put us in front 12-6. After a few repeat sets on our line they managed to cross over for a try, the score was 12 –10, with 8 minutes left on the clock, with 2 minutes left on the clock they crossed over again and the score was 12 -16.

The game finished with score staying that way it was hard to take the loss, very emotional for everyone, but I was so proud of what they had achieved all year, and it was great we made the Grand Final, the team huddle after the game was emotional, the boys faces just showed it all, it was just not our year.

Pre-season didn't come without its hiccups, numbers were not looking good, as the weeks rolled on more and some new faces turned up but still was not enough to field the team. It was not till round 1 of the season did we have numbers we needed for the team and, training to commence and combination could start to develop, and the team could start to gel. We had seven returning players and seven new players in the team, and they needed to get to know one another.

Round one kicked off and we came away with the win, as the weeks went on the players turned up and gave

it their all, opening rounds we were 5 win 0 losses. Round 6 Friday night game, it was the first time a game at this time was played, and it was 1st vs 2nd, both undefeated teams, just separated by points difference, the atmosphere was electric, Friday night footy and the boys didn't disappoint we came away with the win, 24 to 6 and we were outright first. Round 9 was another Friday night feature and the boys were pumped again to play under lights, with a great defensive effort they managed to keep the other team scoreless. Round 13, it was a close game, but the other team managed to hold on to a 20 to 18, first time the boys tasted defeat for the year. Round 14 last round of the season and we needed to finish on a high going into the finals series, we started off slow and at half time the score was 12 –6 their way and they were playing for a spot in the finals, a win and they make it through, second half started and they came out firing, we managed to hold them off and got over the line twice to finish with the scores 12 to 18 and the win for us.



I would like to thank the staff for all their efforts in making this year such a successful year, without your help this would not be possible. Julie Team manager, everything you do for the team is awesome, team photographer, communications, uniforms and the list goes on.

My trainers Daniel and Anwar, your footballing brains, the way you see the game and our conversations on the sideline helped in developing the team we had this year, you guys were there week in week out, helping at training and games and taking out messages to the boys coaching them on the field. It was a pleasure working with you all and hoping for another successful season next year.









# **UNDER 11 D2**

## CONTINUED

### **Player Summaries:**

**Ali Zreika:** Not a rookie anymore, he put is body on the line in both attach and defence, a powerful forward that could break the line, and in turn find the try line, he was the leading try scorer with 21.

**Bassam El Hamid:** Newcomer to the Bulls, was lightning fast on the win, had a positional change in the year to dummy half and became a great asset in that position, his passing game, balls skills were great and goal kicking was awesome with 11 conversions for the season and one try.

**Charbel Mousses:** Playing up in age, showed lots of promise to matching with the boys up the middle, crossed the line for one try this year.

**Fouad Chamma:** A great addition to the team, he put is body on the line in both attack and defence, his around the legs tackles, stopping the opposition in their tracks. He kicked goals too, having score one try and four conversions. **Julius Brown:** Came out of his shell in a big way, led from the front a powerful

runner, was unstoppable in the open field, try scoring machine, attack was not just his strength, his defence in the middle of the field stopped a lot of go forward. Scored 14 tries.





**Joseph Hadchiti:** The meter eater, the big forward that made all his runs count, long range tries was his thing, he crossed the line 9 times, and was a big part of the team success. Was greatly missed in the last part of the season due to going overseas.

Karim Adhami: Newcomer to the bulls, put in at first receiver he was able to guide the team in attack, running through set plays, taking on the line, setting up tries, and scoring some of his own, crossing over the line on six occasions and kicking 11 goals. Defensively he was a force, coming out of the line when he needed to stop the opposition.

Mohamad Baradaaji: A newcomer to the game, first time on the footy field and showed some promise, unfortunately his season was disrupted with an injury and an operation, hoping to see him back next

**Nour Noureddine:** A great addition to the team, big voice and big heart, rev the team up when needed and knew were the try line was, he crossed over for five tries and kick two goals.

**Philip Euta-Nanai:** Defence wins games and on the back of Philip's defence that was the case. His one on one tackles there great to watch, stopping the oppositions was his number one purpose. Philip was not a one-dimensional player, is runs and stepping game made us meters when it was needed

year bigger and better.

and his try scoring tally was five.

**Shadi Harmouch:** New year, new position, he moved into the dummy half roll and made his own, great service from there and great passing game, his runs made us meters and lead him to score on several occasions.

**Zaine Warwar:** Started moved mid-season to fullback, and made his mark returning the ball with speed and power he was unstoppable, he scored six tries and kicked seven goals, from a season that saw him miss a lot of games through injuries.

**Zayd Elzein:** Team Captain and led by example, played with intensity, moved from Centre to fullback his ball returns got us out of trouble, and he was able guide the team from the back in defence.

**Ziyad Al Hassan:** A newcomer to the game, first time on the footy field, and willing to learn, always a smile on his face. He hit the ball up with power and made meters when needed. Showed a lot of potential and will be better for having this year under his belt.

**Joey Vaukatagane:** Thanks for filling in for our side late in the year, such a likable kid, proved to be a matchwinner in the semi-final and we were all disappointed that injury prevented him playing the grand final as he looked like he belonged in our side from day one.



## Managers Report (Julie):

To see our boys drop to the ground in tears of disappointment was heartbreaking, the emotions were high from every kid and adult on our team, we thought Grand Final was ours to win but it wasn't meant to be. Managing this team is an honour. We have a great bunch of boys and dedicated parents that come along every week as great support and an awesome cheer squad and I thank you all for that. Zahi coaches with his heart and soul, football is one of his passions and it shows both on the field and with the efforts he puts into the club. We all appreciate every minute of your time that you put in to bringing out the best in our boys. To both our trainers thank you. Daniel is our team clown, he pumps up those boys, they love him, and he loves them just as much. We welcomed Anwar and he fit



in like he'd always been there. We had a varied mix this year, our boys that have played for years found their confidence and brought out the beast on the field this year and we had some new boys they had never played football before, with hard work hopefully we are destined for bigger and better next year.

### **Trainers Report (Daniel):**

"Winners never quit, and quitters never win". It was an absolute pleasure to be a part of this team, the passion and love they have for the game shows me they will do something special in the years to come. The boys were the best team all year unfortunately fell short and were one try away from being the champions. Zahi is a great coach and I've seen how far the boys have come not just as footy players but also have grown into young men. Wishing everyone a happy and safe holiday/new year.

## **Trainers Report (Anwar):**

This is my first year at the Bulls and what an enjoyable year it has been. Unfortunately, we fell one game short after being the front runners all year. It was a massive decision for Karim and I to move after 6years playing in another comp and we didn't know what to expect however it didn't take long for us to feel part of a great club with great people, awesome kids and lovely parents with a great culture. Firstly, I would like to thank Zahi for all his efforts, passion and patience as coach. Julie for all her hard work every week, and Daniel for helping us out. I really enjoyed my role as trainer and seeing these young boys put in the effort and listen is rewarding. Hopefully we can go better in 2020. Go the Bulls.



# UNDER 12 D3 FINALISTS



Back Row: Lubna Salamah (Manager), Chady Salamah (Coach), Omar Khaled, Christian Leatigaga, Leonard Kiri, Shane O'Callaghan, Harry Wilson, Omran Roude, Abdel-Karim Moussalli (Trainer)

Front Row: Adam Nabhan, Riyadh Allouche, Yussef Ahmad, Ahmed Dib, Elijah Taulaga, Ezekiel Taulaga, Jad Salamah, Nooan-Dennis Reid, Omar Ahmad (Ball Boy)

Absent: Mohamed Alamali, Blake Bayliss, Hassan Eid

DI AVER

Another year done and dusted and what a year it was, starting the year really strong in pre-season with a big turnout lots of new faces and all the boys from last year as well all eager to play the some footy. Starting the season, we were off to a great start 4 wins in row and came up against a team we couldn't manage to beat St Christopher's, somehow they managed to beat us in the dying minutes of every game we played against them. Every week the boys produced great results and all-round team efforts.

Finishing off the year 1 point away from minor premiers coming into week 1 of the finals the boys dug deep, but St Christopher's got us in the last minute and losing 14-10. Second chance playing at home started sloppy allowing to early tries but came back on the second half leveling the game at 12-all but not long after Chester Hill scoring and winning the game in a disappointing end to the season BUT WE CAN ONLY GO UP FROM HERE so hope to see you all next year for a bigger and better season and MUCH MORE MALCOM'S.

MUCH MORE MALCOM 5.
To the parents who came and supported the boys every
game and a special thank you to our hall how Omar Ahms

PLAYER	ı	J	P12
Adam Nabhan	4	1	18
Ahmed Dib	0	0	0
Ali Zreika	1	0	4
Blake Bayliss	0	1	2
Christian Leatigaga	2	0	8
Elijah Taulaga	6	2	28
Ezekiel Taulaga	6	1	26
Harry Wilson	5	7	34
Hassan Eid	3	0	12
Jad Salamah	5	5	30
Joey Vaukatagane	1	0	4
Leonard Kiri	6	0	24
Mohamad Obeid	1	0	4
Mohamed Alamali	0	0	0
Nooan Dennis-Reid	8	6	44
Omar Khaled	0	0	0
Omran Roude	1	8	20
Riyadh Allouche	2	0	8
Shane O'Callaghan	2	0	8
Yussef Ahmad	2	0	8

game and a special thank you to our ball boy Omar Ahmad we couldn't have done it without you on game day and at training. Thank you to Under 11 players Ali Zreika, Karim Adhami and Joey Vaukatagane for helping out during the year. Thanks to the Bulls executives for your support.

Last but not least thanks to the manager and trainer for sort of helping.

## MILTRIX PROJECTS, TRADE LICENCES & HI-TECH BRICKLAYING

THANK YOU to our 3 sponsors this year for providing our team with their jumpers and sports bags

**Adam Nabhan:** Playing again with his old team mates. Started at 5/8 but wanting him to be get more involved pushed him to fullback but still want to see him get his hands on the ball, smart player who can change a game. **Best moment:** playing against Revesby shows how good he can be when he's on his game scoring 2 great tries and a try assist earning him the man of the match.

**Ahmed Dib:** First year playing footy has great potential just needs to believe in himself and build some confidence off the back of the year where he started to show his potential and also come to training a lot more! **Best moment:** against Moorebank he showed what he is capable of.

**Blake Bayliss:** What a season Blake was having this year came back bigger and faster. When he had the ball in his hand, he only had eyes for the try line. A leader of the forward pack when we needed a push Blake was the guy who got us going. Season ended early with a broken shoulder and was dearly missed. **Best moment:** was the game against Chester Hill where he ran riot on them from his runs and his defence he was the talk of the game everyone wanted to know who this kid was.

**Christian Leatigaga:** Came back to the team after a couple of rounds out, started rusty but his tackling went to another level making 3-4 consecutive tackles in a set. And when a game is on the line, he's one of them guys who's leading. **Best moment:** scoring a great inside ball try and making 4 tackles in one set to help the boys get the win.

**Elijah Taulaga**: The captain of the side doesn't say much but his work on field showed just why he is the captain of this team. From the start till the end of every game his giving 100% when we needed push Elijah was the guy. Most humble player and respected player. **Best moment:** neck and neck against Revesby scoring the winning try in the dying seconds to win us the game. Just to show how humble he was he went over to the Revesby side and congratulated them on a good game when the team was celebrating.

**Ezekiel Taulaga:** Playing up an age with his brother this year Ezekiel surprised me with his try scoring ability being able to score no matter who or what was in front of him and had lots of speed to burn and always scored in style. **Best moment:** came against St Christopher running down the sideline inches away from the chalk and scoring 40 metre try.

**Harry Wilson:** First year playing rugby league started the year shaky but improved more and more as the year went on. Eager to learn and become and better player great kicker of the ball, watching over the year his has got some good traits but needed to back himself with the ball and use his speed to get through defence which I know he can do. **Best moment:** scoring a double against St Johns one off a great kick and an overall great performance earning harry the man of the match.

**Hassan Eid:** The vice-captain of the side Huss isn't not the biggest player but somehow, he would manage to break out of the tackle. Started as our fullback and then pushed him into centre a solid defender never missing a tackle with the perfect technique. **Best moment:** the game against Revesby Rhinos took the ball 30m out and shook of 7 defenders to score a try.

**Jad Salamah:** Ahhhh 480 laps and still counting. Had a really great season this year (you can thank me later) playing halfback controlling the team suited him as he gets to keep on talking (one of his best attributes and a contribution to why his done 480 laps). Steering the team really well and had a hand in a good amount the tries we scored this year. **Best moment:** scoring his 100m try during the trials stepping and weaving pass players to score. (Could have passed but hogged it).





# **UNDER 12 D3**

## **CONTINUED**



Joey Vaukatagane: Very talented player from the U11's who played two games for us. Had a rare honour of scoring tries for three different sides this year. Sadly, was injured in the semi-final and missed the U11's grand final. **Best moment:** scoring a dazzling 85m try in his first game for us, we were in trouble and he saved us.

**Leonard Kiri (L):** What a year LJ had this year when he flicked the switch good luck trying to stop him one of the hardest runners in the competition speed strength and his fend, he was unstoppable. LJ was the guy when no wanted it his hand was up when he locked targets with the attacker, he wasn't getting pass. **Best moment:** Round 1 against St Johns LJ made a statement with 2 tries scoring untouched and big hits earned him the first man of the match of the year.

**Mohamad Obeid:** Only played one competition game and it was his first year but scored a try from a grubber in his first game.

**Mohamed Alamali:** First year player and playing up an age Mohamed started slow at the start but once he became familiar with the game, he improved week in week out and earned his spot as a starting front rower. **Best moment:** game against Moorebank every tackle he made he made sure the opposition felt it his strong runs earned him man of the match.

**Nooan Dennis-Reid:** Where to start with this kid just natural talent. Everything he does on the field is like he has practiced it 1000 times from his kick perfect try assist to his dummy half zig zag runs getting the opposition dizzy. **Best moment:** against St Johns assisting a try for Harry with his pin point kicks and him scoring from dummy half for a strong performance. Can't wait to see what he has up his sleeve next year.

**Omar Khaled:** My driving buddy my daily pick up to training and all this kid would talk about is FOOD! Hardly every talk about footy. Omar did miss couple of games during the year but this kid has potential never give up attitude. **Best moment:** was against St Christopher's he was a man on a mission not sure wat food he ate before the game but it helped. Breaking the St Christopher's line with every run he made and his bone crunching tackles helped him get the man of the match. (Hope to see more games like that next year).

**Omran Roude:** Played a few positions during the year but had at the end playing 5/8 role has slick hands and his kicks whether it was on the tee or in play kick he would get that ball exactly where he wants it to go want to see him get his hands on the ball more looks like he can be a really solid 5/8 just needs to back himself.

**Best moment:** scoring against St Johns and using his speed to get through just showed you what Omran is capable of when he backs himself.

**Riyadh Allouche:** What a character he always puts a smile on anyone face. One of the smallest boys but that didn't matter to him anyone who was running at him he made sure they won't be getting pass. **Best moment:** scoring his try against Moorebank and his unique celebration deserved the best moment.

**Shane O'Callaghan:** Finally back to his old team after a year off playing in the centre position always took advantage when he had the ball showing his IQ for the game had the defense constantly guessing if he was running or passing helping his winger get the advantage. **Best moment:** against Revesby Rhinos when Shane supported his player from a break waited for that offload and when he did, he evaded 3 players and put his foot down to score a great try.

Yusuf Ahmed: The vice-captain of the side after missing most of last year due

to an injury Yusuf came into this year even tougher and full of confidence always giving 100% at training and games. Playing at lock he wasn't the biggest forward but he played like one. Yusuf was quiet achiever he let his action do the talking when he put. **Best moment:** captained the team in a game against East Hills and what a game he had from his hole running which he scored a try from to his damaging tackles just shows his leadership earned him the man of the match and a future star of the game.



# **CLUB PHOTOS**



# UNDER 12 D1



Back Row: Omar Mougharbel (Trainer), Brian Ibrahim (Coach), Thurston Saisoa'a, Greall Tighe, Constantine Lee, Kaden Napa'a, Leonidas Taala, Ehab Mougharbel, Wes Napa'a (Trainer), Tevita Funa (Trainer)

Front Row: Semisi Funa, Divine Saena, Jacob Nohra, Mohammed Haowshar, Elijah Tu'ifua, Sione Moala, Christian Ibrahim, Rabieh El Mohammed

Absent: Stamatis Moananu, Veronica Ibrahim (Manager), Mark Mougharbel (Trainer)

As always, it's been a pleasure coaching the boys. They faced many challenges throughout the year but as always, they put their heart into every game.

Lets start with our captain **Elijah Tu'ifua** he put his best effort into every game it was a pleasure as always having Elijah on our team.

We have our feisty vice-captain **Greall Tighe** which always put his heart on the line throughout the year.

**Christian Ibrahim** always performing his best to his ability within every game.

**Divine Saena** our fast winger always chasing down the opponents to save the team.

**Ehab Mougharbel** our other winger jumping on their backs to save the game.

**Jacob Nohra** our front rower charging through to gain those metres.

**Kaden Napaa** our lock always smashing his opponents across the field.

Leonidas Taala (John) our prop as always showing no fear as he steps on the field.

Mohammed Haowshar our centre never missing a tackle.

Semisi Funa what a top player as his first year with us.

**Rabieh El Mohamed** our hooker small in structure but big in heart.

Stamatis Moananu (Sam) had short time with us but performed well.

Thurston Saisoa'a always showing his best performance.

**Constantine Lafolua Lee** knows as Royce was his first year with us what a performance. **Sione Moala** his first year playing showed a good performance has a big future ahead of him.

I would like to thank the team for the wonderful year we had, it's always a pleasure working with these young boys and hopefully 2020 is bigger and better. I would also like to thank Wes, Amer, Tevita and Karam my trainers and my two managers Veronica and Rebecca. Last but not least thank you to all the parents for showing your support every week.

PLAYER	Т	G	PTS
Christian Ibrahim	2	6	20
Constantine Lafolua Lee	2	0	8
Divine Saena	7	0	28
Ehab Mougharbel	3	0	12
Elijah Tu'ifua	3	2	16
Greall Tighe	2	0	8
Jacob Nohra	0	0	0
Kaden Napa'a	0	0	0
Leonidas Taala	0	0	0
Mohammed Haowshar	0	0	0
Rabieh El Mohamed	0	0	0
Semisi Funa	0	1	2
Sione Moala	0	0	0
Stamatis Moananu	1	0	4
Thurston Saisoa'a	3	3	18



# **BANKSTOWN RSL CLUB**

After years of planning the new Bankstown RSL has opened, after the re-development of land adjacent to our old Club. The new Club, opened in January 2019, represents Sydney's newest, state-of-the art hospitality location. With facilities and car parking extending over four floors. A Mercure operated 250 room hotel will be constructed above the Club in Stage 2. The venue is fast becoming the very hub of activity in Western Bankstown. The brand new building has been finished to the highest standards, and offers patrons a variety of bars, dining and entertainment options, whilst retaining some familiar favourites, as well as the same friendly service. The Club also has a pavement front cafe, offering coffee on the move for locals.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Joining Bankstown RSL for as little as \$11, with multiple year memberships available. Members can tell their friends that they belong to Sydney's newest and smartest club. You can enjoy live music on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons from 2pm. Members enjoy discounts, points rewards and celebratory birthday offers, join now to take advantage of all that the Club has to offer.

### **CAFÉ & COFFEE**

Our existing customers already know that Hennessy Coffee brings them a great coffee, an enjoyable experience and unbeatable service. Come and sample Bankstown's newest coffee vibe, available inside or outside the club.

## **SALT AND PIZZA, PASTA & SALADS**

Modern grill offers a hand-picked selection of quality meats, boutique burgers, local seafood and a range of classic regional dishes. New additions include a great selection of Pizza, Pasta & Salad options. \$10 specials for weekday lunch and dinner on Tuesday & Thursday.

### **STAR BUFFET**

Enjoy a wonderful and delicious variety of both Asian and western cuisine, at our Star Buffet restaurant. Whether it's a

full buffet experience, with hot and cold dishes, salads and desserts, or a selection of dishes from our very own sushi train, we can guarantee you'll be back for more.

TICKETS 11.30AM

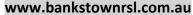
Meat & Seafood Trays

SUNDAY OF MONTH

DRAW STARTS 12PM

WIN A SHARE OF





# **UNDER 13**



Back Row: Ezekiel Saili, Brandon Toko, Muhammad Harmouch, Ayman Mourad, Alijah Conteh Middle Row: Victor Barakat (Trainer), George Najjar (Coach), Nazih Chahine, Dantae Moors, Billy Najjar, Saad Bidewy, Assaad Dib, Wasam Masri (Trainer), Jeseka Harmouch (Manager)

Front Row: Adam Zaki, Hassan Javed, Jaiden Barakat, Matthew Barakat, Yasin Jlilati, Imran Kabbah Absent: Hasan Telim, Tylah Slate, Osama Masri (Trainer)

2019 didn't start off great for the under 13 team with a number of last year's team going their own way and not sure of our ability to field a side. The players came rolling in once the club and executives heard we were struggling to field a team. The side was up and running with the squad growing from 10 in the first trial round to eventually fielding a squad of 20 in round 1.

As is the norm for this team they put in the effort required week in and week out and they could hold their heads up at the end of the games and the year. For most games through the year, these young men were right in the contest with often a handful of points between the teams at the final whistle. This year showed further improvement in the team from existing and brand new players with some joining this year with no rugby league experience. It was great to see the entire team continue to grow in ability, enthusiasm and effort.

Unfortunately for the team, injuries to key players at different stages through the year made it difficult to keep continuity for the team week to week but I think this also showed the ability of the team to adapt and forge on.

PLAYER	T	G	PTS
Adam Zaki	0	0	0
Ahmad Zreika	0	0	0
Alijah Conteh	5	0	20
Assaad Dib	1	0	4
Ayman Mourad	0	0	0
Billy Najjar	0	0	0
Brandon Toko	0	0	0
Dantae Moors	10	0	40
Ezekiel Saili	4	1	18
Filipe Vuakatagane	0	0	0
Hasan Telim	5	9	38
Hassan Javed	0	0	0
Imran Kabbah	0	0	0
Jaiden Barakat	3	0	12
Matthew Barakat	5	2	24
Muhammad Harmouch	1	0	4
Nazih Chahine	3	0	12
Saad Bidewy	0	2	4
Tylah Slate	0	0	0
Yasine Jlilati	0	0	0

I would also like to say thank you to the parents for their assistance throughout the year because without you the team could not have made it through. Thanks to Jeseka for taking on the role of Manager this year your efforts are appreciated. Sam what can I say? Thank you for assisting with the coaching. Your effort and commitment for the team was unbelievable. The respect they have for you is immense.

Wes, thank you for your support and experience, the boys showed show much respect for you. Victor, thank you for another year of assisting the team, your experience and dedication towards the team it is truly appreciated and the players enjoy having you as part of the team.

**Dantae Moors:** Thank you for all your effort and support this your you are an amazing player who is willing to learn week in and week out you showed why you are a true leader on and off the field.

**Jaiden Barakat:** Your help and encouraging words during training half time and full time shows what a great player you will become.

**Matthew Barakat:** You will be a great half back playing up one year for the last couple of years show how much heart and talent you have.

**Tylah Slate:** Defensively was always your strong point this year I asked youth work on your attack and attitude you passed with flying colours keep it up.

**Assaad Dib:** Fearless and you have the biggest heart I have seen. It is a pleasure to catch you and see how you have grown from day 1.

**Muhammad Harmouch:** So much pressure was put on you this year you done more than what we can ask for keep it up.

**Saad Bidewy:** First year playing with this team and you fit in well. Towards end of the year you showed what type of player you can be keep it up.

**Nazih Chahine:** You started the year well injury in Round 3 disrupted the season but I can see the talent you have in you bring on 2020.

**Alijah Conteh:** Great first year for you keep it up you have confidence in yourself you are a natural wrecking ball.

**Ayman Mourad:** First year with the team was great to coach you. You left everything on the field played tough.

**Billy Najjar:** Directed the team well your experience helped throughout the year as Victor always says we can't hear you take that into next year.

**Adam Zaki:** First year with the team played well throughout the year adapted to the team quick. Always gave a 100%.

**Ezekiel Saili:** Stared the year and ended the year of with an Injury. You were truly missed when you were out. You always left all you had on the field.

**Filipe Vuakatagane:** Great addition to the team who gave the team experience and passion, bring on 2020. **Yasine Jiliati:** Improved well started to take instructions well and came well towards end of the year.

Imran Kabbah: First year with the team played and trained well. Gave it all his got game day up the middle.

Brandon Toko: Brought great experience to the wing played well throughout the year.

Ahmad Zreika: Great second year of playing you continued to develop and grow your game.

**Hasan Telim:** Joined our team just in time for Round 1 and was a great asset for us before moving interstate.

Congratulations to the boys who had the opportunity to trail out for the Bulldogs Under 13 development squad you deserve to be there. I am so proud of the efforts all the boys put in this year and the improvements they all made I can confidently say that if all the boys believe like I do then we are just around the corner from something special again.

George Najjar (Coach)

### **MANAGERS REPORT**

As this was my first year as a Manager and then finding out I was pregnant, I knew it was going to be quite challenging and difficult at times as I have 3 boys playing for the club. However, seeing the kids and all the effort they were putting in made it enjoyable and worthwhile. I would like to express a big thank you to George Najjar for his role as a Coach and for making the boys love coming to games. Even though it was a tough year for them with lots of injuries and players out due to this. I would also like to thank the trainers Victor Barakat who stepped in whenever needed and to Wasam Masri who always had my back, helped me with getting the boys ready and for showing his love for the boys. Also, thank you to Osama Masri who made it fun for everyone and always kept everyone in high spirits. Thank you to the Bankstown Bulls community and to Lawrence, Matt, Mullet and Stan for all their help and support from behind the scenes.

Jeseka Harmouch (Manager)





Back Row: Jerome Rogers, Frederick Maui, Kalama Napa'a, Charles Afeaki, Lucas Nohra Middle Row: Najib Albassit (Trainer), Marlon Saisoa'a (Trainer), Jirae' Afoa, Isaia Tu'ifua, Anthony Haikal, Alias Saisoa'a, Nasem Hayek, Abdul Hamid Sabbagh, Karam Nohra (Coach)

Front Row: Donna Zummo (Manager), Jacob Nohra (Ball Boy), Luca Zummo, Filipe Vuakatagane, Masse Masae, Chad Daniels, Adam Noureddine, William Ben, Jad El Ali, Rebecca Nohra (Manager)

Absent: Tevita Aho, Elipeteli Keresoma, Tasesa Volkman, Tyrhys Laupola

The season started full of promise with a big roll up to pre-season training and some encouraging trial form. First round was an excellent result winning 46-24.

However, in round 2, the team suffered 3 key injuries in a very hard fought loss to Sporties after leading 12-0.

To recover from injuries and two players walking out was always going to be very tough. Another setback for the side came with the re-grading done after round 5 where the competition was cut down from 8 teams, to 6 and to 5. With this situation in place an attempt from team officials and the club itself was done for the side to be graded with Eaglevale and St Johns. The NSWRL declined both our verbal and written re-grading applications.

With only 5 teams left in the competition and injuries setting in, the team struggled in numbers to take the field and the season came to an early finish.

Thank you to Karam and his staff for all your efforts.

Thanks to all the parents for your support of the team.

Thank you to all the players for their efforts this season, they gave it everything they had and done extremely well under the structure of competition that ended up in place which didn't help the team one bit. Great effort by all.

The club looks forward to a bigger 2020 season as part of

PLAYER	Т	G	PTS
Abdul Hamid Sabbagh	0	0	0
Adam Noureddine	0	0	0
Alias Saisoa'a	0	10	20
Anthony Haikal	0	0	0
Chad Daniels	0	0	0
Charles Afeaki	3	0	12
Elipeteli Keresoma	3	2	16
Filipe Vuakatagane	0	0	0
Fredrick Maui	0	0	0
Isaia Tu'ifua	1	0	4
Jad El-Ali	0	0	0
Jerome Rogers	3	0	12
Jirae' Afoa	1	0	4
Luca Sebastian Zummo	2	0	8
Lucas Nohra	0	0	0
Masse Masae	0	0	0
Maxwell Taotua	1	0	4
Mitchell Taotua	2	0	8
Nasem Hayek	0	0	0
Siaosi Napa'a	0	0	0
Tasesa Volkman	0	0	0
Tevita Aho	0	0	0
Tyrhys Laupola	0	0	0
William Ben	0	0	0

the Bulls Super 15 heritage side and the chance for many players to push for Harold Matthews honours.

# **GOOD SPORTS LEVEL 3 CLUB**

# LEVEL THREE ACCREDITATION

LEVEL 3

The Alcohol and Drug Foundation's Good Sports Program recognises the achievement of

# **Bankstown Bulls JRLC**

# in addressing the following:

- For embracing the Good Sports values
- For providing a positive, healthy and family friendly sporting experience for all
- For contributing to reducing alcohol and smoking related harm in the community

Dr Erin Lalor / CEO Alcohol and Drug Foundation

2019



# SUPER 15 & UNDER 16/2 BOTH FINALISTS

# **SUPER 15**



Back Row: Jack Culgan, Andrew Mikhael, Malcolm Chambers, Mohamad Maksoud
Middle Row: Mortada Salome (Trainer), Adam Aouad, Kalvin Taotua, Omar Hares, Liam Maui, Ghassan Al Salti, Hussein Dia (Coach)
Front Row: Matilda Faker (Manager), Ali Mehanna (Trainer), Yehya Abdul-Al, Hussein Alameddine, Jawad Saleh, Abdul Karim Aichan,
Bahaa Chahine, Ali Kabah, Chady Salamah (Trainer), Brad Whigham (Trainer)
Absent: Adam Elcharif, Crystal Taulafo, Savenaca Cakaunitabua, Sultan Dakkak, Zein Safwan

## **UNDER 16/2**



Back Row: Ali Batour, Ahmed Zraika, Charlie Faker, Mohamed Saleh, Hassan Hassan
Middle Row: Mortada Salome (Trainer), Antonio El-Ters, Amen Haydar, Dominic Abdou, Jack Culgan, Elias Nassif, Hussein Dia (Coach)
Front Row: Ali Mehanna (Trainer), Matilda Faker (Manager), Jihad Hammoud, Mohammed Jabaseh, Hussein Choukair, Crystal
Taulafo, Hicham El-Ali, Abdul Karim Aichan, Jawad Saleh, Chady Salamah (Trainer)
Absent: Aziz Mohamad, Ali Mattar, Gerard Maui, PJ Afoa, David Tarabay (Trainer)

## "There is no disgrace in being knocked down, there is only shame in not getting back up; never quit!"

The above quote describes the motto that the team collectively adopted throughout the season and led us to two very successful seasons.

Taking on 2019 was a very big challenge for the staff and I. We were faced with coaching two sides, only one year apart, and faced with the task of creating a whole new side, coupled with having to increase the numbers for our

16's. From the outset, upon agreeing to coach both sides, the staff got to work and put their heart and soul into getting both teams off the ground.

To say that 2019 was tough would be an understatement. However, with the hard work of the staff, the parents and families, the executive committee and the entire club collectively, we wouldn't have been able to achieve what we did this year for both the Super 15's and Under 16/2's.

Amongst the two sides, we featured the highest try and point scorer of any senior team, being Mohamed Saleh (22 tries and 128 points overall), and the highest goal scorer in the club, being Andrew Mikhael (23 goals).

I would firstly like to thank our executive committee, Michael Rodrigues,

Lawrence Karam, Matthew O'Neill, Anthony Samuel (Mullet) and Stan Hetaraka. The committee did their absolute best in helping the two teams and bent over backwards to assist the teams succeed in every way possible. Whenever game times between the two teams clashed, they were always ready to step in and get the job done.

Lawrence was always there when the teams needed him and was always willing to share his knowledge and wisdom to the boys. Matt was not only hard working in ensuring that game times didn't clash every week, he was instrumental in ensuring that the teams could get off the ground and be coached simultaneously by the same staff. He was also extremely helpful in advertising the new Super 15 side and did his best to help the teams recruit new players. Mullet was always ready to help the sides when they needed him most and provided valuable advice

to the staff and me throughout the year. Stan's help and support this year was extremely valuable, especially considering he had his own team to tend to. Nevertheless, he was always happy and willing to step in and assist on game day whenever the teams needed him.

Secondly, I would like to thank our families, supporters and club members who helped us in every way they could throughout the season. I would also like to thank you for your patience and unwavering support for the staff and me. Of special note, I would like to thank



Sobayda Hawa, David Tarabay, Sandra Chahine, Anthony Mikhael, Vince Samuel and George Najjar, for always being happy and willing to step in as either a trainer or manager to help the teams. Your support is highly appreciated. I would also like to thank Christina and Theresa Faker for helping out wherever they could.

Thirdly, I would like to thank my trainers, Chady Salamah, Ali Mehanna, Mortada Salame and Brad Whigham. Every week they would spend their whole Saturday on getting the players onto the field. They would rush from



one game to the other, all the while transporting players to and from games.

Training was not any easier, especially when having to deal with my 2-hour training sessions while having to juggle work and university at the same time.

Finally, I would like to thank the best manager going around, Matilda Faker. As usual, Matilda brought the teams together and worked her best to make sure everything ran smoothly. Despite having 4 kids of her own, and a daughter in the 16 girl's side, she would wash the jerseys of both teams every week, rush from game to sign the boys on and spend whatever money necessary to help the boys. She has always been more than just a manager and was a mother to the players and staff alike.

What I valued most about my staff was their genuine love, dedication and sacrifice for the boys. Whilst winning a competition is desirable, the staff coached and mentored the boys on the basis of principles, on and off the field, as opposed to a winning at all costs mentality. The staff collectively measured success on the basis of the boys' attitude in games and at training, as opposed to wins and losses. I will be forever grateful for having such great people around me who supported the boys and I at all times and I cannot thank you enough.

# SUPER 15 FINALISTS

Who would have thought that a team who did not exist a year ago, could go on to be within one win of a grand final.

The team started with 5 players who all played up an age in last year's super 15's team. Whilst the staff did succeed (after intense resistance) in convincing those players to leave their original team, we were left with the task of recruiting 15 more players to get the team up and running.

As the pre-season went on, our player numbers kept increasing, until we eventually had to turn players away due to an excess number of players during the season. Despite playing together for the first time, and featuring many players who were either playing football for the first time or were playing up and age, this team fought valiantly and won their first game against a team double their size.

The team continued to grow in strength as the season went on and their bond grew similarly. Slowly but surely, the team grew into a family who all fought for each other on and off the field. Throughout the season, the boys played with a never quit mentality and almost always came back after being behind on the scoreboard.

A highlight for the team this season was during the Friday night thriller against Berala. The team were behind 0-12 on the scoreboard going into half time. The boys fought hard and dug deep in the second half to win the game 18-12.

PLAYER	T	G	PTS
Abdul Karim Aichan	5	0	20
Adam Aouad	2	0	8
Adam Elcharif	1	0	4
Ali Kabah	0	0	0
Andrew Mikhael	2	22	52
Bahaa Chahine	0	0	0
Crystal Taulafo	14	0	56
Ghassan Al Salti	4	0	16
Hussein Alameddine	4	1	18
Jack Culgan	1	0	4
Jawad Saleh	3	9	30
Kaled Arnaout	0	0	0
Kalvin Taotua	2	0	8
Liam Maui	6	0	24
Malcolm Chambers	0	0	0
Mohamad Maksoud	0	0	0
Omar Hares	0	0	0
Savenaca Cakaunitabua	3	0	12
Sultan Dakkak	4	0	16
Yehya Moussa	0	1	2
Yehya Abdul-Al	0	0	0
Zein Safwan	2	0	8

From that point, the team understood their strength when they play to their best and put the effort in every game. At the conclusion of the normal season, the boys lost 5 games out of 15, which was a major feat on its own for a team who had only been put together in the pre-season.

Their effort throughout the season earnt them a spot in the semi-finals. They won that game convincingly and moved on to the preliminary final. Unfortunately, they lost that game, but the loss only left them hungrier for next year. Despite not winning a grand final this year, this team succeeded in many ways on and off the field and I'm sure the memories and bonds created this year will be kept with them forever.

In looking at the success of this season, we must thank the Club for fully funding a 3-day trip away for the team to the South Coast. This trip was key to helping the boys grow in bonding and played a big part in the team's success.

We would also like to thank the club for providing the team with customised hoodies and duffle bags which featured each player's name. We would also like to thank **Ground King Civil** (Elias El-Helou & Charlie Boustani), **Odyssey Plumbing** (Michael Rodrigues) and **Eurostone Tiling & Polishing** (Matilda Faker) for their generosity and sponsorship of the team. The staff and I are looking forward to another big and successful season in 2020.

## **Player Summaries**

**Abdul AICHAN (captain):** Abdul was one of the most effective players on the field. He led from the front and always let his football do all his talking (apart from his occasional outburst). He always rose to the occasion when the team needed him most and gave confidence to all the players that played around him. Abdul is also credited with playing for both teams in 2019 as he was originally part of the u16's team. Unfortunately, a severe injury in the final games of the season meant he was unable to captain his team in their final's series. However, I'm sure he'll come back better and stronger next year.

**Hussein ALAMEDDINE (captain):** It was a great pleasure to see Hussein return back to his original club. His work ethic and dedication in the off season quickly earnt him the captaincy role. His ability to lead and guide the team was key to the teams success. Also, on and off the field, he was great at talking and sometimes convincing players, referees and staff to cave into his requests just to get him to shut up LOL! Despite playing in several positions this year, he moulded well into the 5/8 position and assisted several important tries during the season.

Andrew MIKHAEL (vice-captain): Although this was Andrew's first year playing football, his hunger to learn and attentiveness to what he was being taught enabled him to very rapidly become one of the best players in the team and earnt him vice-captaincy. His selfless nature and hard work meant that he assisted many tries during the season. He was also able to mould his soccer skills with football and scored the most goals of any player in the club. After coaching this player for only one year, I was left with no doubt that if he perseveres with football, we'd be watching him on our television screens in years to come.

**Yehya ABDUL-AL:** Yehya continued to grow and improve this season which meant that he became a permanent fixture in the starting line-up. He adapted very well to his new position and moving back to his correct age group allowed him to continuously grow in confidence.

**Ghassan AL SALTI**: Although this player was one of the smallest players on the field, his heart and effectiveness in defence meant that players would try to avoid him. He would not shy away from tackling the biggest players on the field and made several try-saving tackles during the season.

**Adam (goofy) AOUAD:** Even though his nose ran like a damaged tap every game, Adam would put his body on the line week in and week out. He put 110% into every single game he played in, although will need to buy him some adhesive spray for his fingers next year.

**Kaled ARNAOUT:** Kaled played very well in the few games that he participated in. Unfortunately, due to other commitments he was not able to see out the full season.

**Save CAKAUNITABUA:** Playing out on the edges, save was the most slippery player on the field. He would literally have 5 players chasing him and would still manage to slither his way to the try line.

**Bahaa CHAHINE:** Although Bahaa was playing above his age, he put a lot of effort every time he went out onto the field. He was pretty slow to come out of his shell, but then become one of the most loved players in the team. He was an absolute pleasure to coach and made a very big improvement this year.

**Malcolm CHAMBERS:** Malcolm joined late in the season, but his addition was very effective and injected our forward pack with much needed size and strength.

**Jack CULGAN:** The hardest working forward in the side and one of the most hardworking of all the players. Jack did not know how to stop so long as he was on the field. He would take hit up after hit up and make tackle after tackle, yet still managed to get back into position and get ready for the next play. He played with his heart on his sleeve and embodied the meaning of playing for your team and never giving up.

**Sultan DAKKAK:** Took a while to open up but became every effective playing out on the edges. He was also useful when having to fill in the halves. One of only two players to score a hat trick in a single game this year.

**Adam ELCHARIF:** Adam's improvement this year was from 0 to 100. His small and petite body did not stop him from making tackle breaks almost every game and making key tackles on the edges. His game continuously improved with his growing confidence.

**Omar HARES:** As a player who came to this side playing up an age, never having played or watched football, let alone know what each position meant, he made vast improvements and came very close to scoring several times.

**Ali KABAH:** Ali's larrikin and positive attitude always managed to cheer the team and staff. He was the smallest player on the team, and usually on the field, but that did not stop him from playing to his best ability and trying his best despite playing up a year.

**Mohamad MAKSOUD:** Mohamad's work and strength in the forward pack ensured that the team had forwards that they could rely on. Mohamad started off with a bang and continued throughout the season to run his hardest at defensive lines on almost every run.

**Liam MAUI:** Liam is one of the most skilful players that I have ever coached. He never lacked in confidence and it was this confidence that was important in the big games. He would always run the ball when others didn't and was always ready to do whatever he needed to on the field.

**Zein SAFWAN:** With Zein playing on the edges, he always found the ability to catch any ball that came his way and somehow manage to score. His classiness in scoring whenever the ball came to him gave the team a significant advantage in attack.

**Jawad SALEH:** The smartest footballer of all the players which earnt him the half back position. Jawad was not only the halfback for the super 15's, but he was also the halfback for the 16's side, which meant that he would play two games every single week, unless the game times clashed. His importance in both teams was unmatched. He would work with the players around him and identify the strength and weaknesses in order to get ahead on the scoreboard. Unfortunately, he sometimes mistakes football training for dancing classes.

**Kalvin TAOTUA:** Kalvin was an absolute pleasure to coach due to his humble attitude on and off the field. His work ethic was also very high, putting his all whenever he was on the field and at training.

**Crystal TAULAFO:** Crystal's steps would make ponga blush. Whenever Crystal had some space in front of him, he would leave ankles littered all over the field. He was able to score many tries this year from individual brilliance as well as support play. Playing in the full back position, he was also instrumental in saving many tries throughout the season.

# UNDER 16/2 FINALISTS

This year was my second year coaching this side and it was one of my most challenging tasks. It was difficult in getting players to training and games when they were having to deal with increased responsibility juggling either work or school with football or juggling all three at once. However, they always did their best to show up and get the job done.

At the beginning of the season, the team lost five players to the Super 15 side. Despite this, the team got off to a fiery start, losing only 1 of their first 8 games. Amongst one of their wins was a Saturday night thriller, which saw them winning 46-8 against one of the more competitive sides in the competition, being the Greenacre Tigers.

Unfortunately, they lost 0-50 in their 9th game of the season, which was a catalyst to a downturn in the season and saw them losing 3 games in a row. Following a very tough and disheartening few weeks, fraught with injuries and low morale, the staff, supported by the club, fought very hard to get the team back on their feet and back on track.

After having the benefit of two weeks off, the team regathered and won their next game by 52-4; This was the highest scoring game in the history of this side. Thereafter, they continued their resilience to finish third on the ladder at the end of the regular season.

PLAYER	Т	G	PTS
Ahmed Zraika	2	0	8
Ali Batour	16	4	72
Ali Mattar	0	0	0
Amen Haydar	3	0	12
Andrew Mikhael	1	1	6
Antonio El-Ters	2	0	8
Aziz Mohamad	2	0	8
Charlie Faker	1	0	4
Crystal Taulafo	1	0	4
Dominic Abdou	10	0	40
Elias Nassif	0	0	0
Gerald Maui	3	0	12
Hassan Hassan	2	0	8
Hicham El-Ali	0	0	0
Hussein Choukair	3	1	14
Jawad Saleh	1	8	20
Jihad Hammoud	1	0	4
Mohamed Saleh	22	20	128
Mohammed Jabaseh	0	0	0
PJ Afoa	0	0	0
Yaacoub Nader	1	4	12

Their resilience in bouncing back after suffering a big defeat no doubt displayed their character and strength as a team and as teenagers transitioning into their adult years. The semi-final was nail biting, with the team digging deep in the face of a hungry opponent, winning the game 22-18 on the sounding of the buzzer.

However, nothing displayed how far this team had come and how much they had learnt about attitude, more than the preliminary final. The boys got off to a slow start, going into half time losing 4-14. Early in the second half, the boys conceded another try, taking the score to 4-18. With about 15 minutes to go, and the score remaining unchanged, 2 players were dismissed from the field, reducing the team to 11 players. However, this is when the boys showed their worth and stood firm when their backs were against the wall. Playing with 11 men, the boys managed to score 2 tries and kept the opposition scoreless for that whole period, even managing to drag the opposition over the sideline twice. They fought to the last second. Unfortunately, the boys lost the game, with the final score being 14-18. Nevertheless, watching the boys in that last 15 minutes was one of my most fulfilling moments in rugby league.

The staff and I have tried very hard since taking over the side to instil the boys with the mentality to never quit and fight when they've been knocked down; that was exactly what they did in those final 15 minutes of the preliminary final. The resilience the boys showed in the face of hardship was worth more to the staff than winning a premiership. It displayed how far the boys had come as players and how far they had come in attitude.

Overall, the boys enjoyed a very successful season, especially considering the injuries which plagued the side and the low numbers in the team, having to rely on some of the Super 15's players in almost every game. In looking at the success of this side in 2019, we must thank the Club in supporting us allowing the players to pay their own way to be part of the trip away to the South Coast with the Super 15's.

We'd also like to thank **Eurostone Tiling & Polishing** (Matilda Faker) and **Fit By Physio** for their generous sponsorship of the teams' customised hoodies and duffle bags which featured each player's name.

The staff and I are extremely proud with the performance of the boys this season and are honoured to have contributed in any way possible to develop their resilient character. We look forward to working with the returning players and wish the rest a successful life ahead.

### **Player Summaries**

**Dominic ABDOU (captain)**: A true leader in every sense of the word who played not for himself, but for the team as a whole. He played his heart out in every single game that he played. He was a natural leader on and off the field and gave the team confidence whenever he was around. His strong and resilient mindset was a major factor to the teams success this year. His selfless and humble attitude meant that those playing around him always got a fair go and made the most out of every opportunity.

**Mohamed (Baqs) SALEH (captain):** Baqs' playing style on the edge this year was comparable to that of Latrell Mitchell. His bulky build, yet explosive speed, made the boys get the ball out to him whenever they had the chance and gave them a big advantage on the edge. He would tear defensive lines apart and would palm those that came into his way. Therefore, it was no surprise that he managed to score the most tries and of any senior team in the club, the most points and the second most goals (22 tries, 20 goals, 128 points).

**Hussein CHOUKAIR (vice-captain)**: The most respectable and respectful player in all aspects. Hussein played with his heart on his sleeve in every single game and gave it his all every single time. His dedication to the team was above all others and even though he was at school and working, he almost never missed a training session. He was tough as nails whenever he was on the field and scored some key tries throughout the year.

**PJ AFOA**: PJ is a skilful and tough player who was a key part of the forward pack. Unfortunately, an injury in the first few games meant that he was out for the rest of the season. Nevertheless, PJ remained committed to the team, attending training and games to support the boys throughout the season.

Ali BATOUR: Ali's explosive speed and confident attitude allowed the team to feel safe in both attack and defence. Whenever he had some space, defenders would scramble, but he'd leave them all within a mile of him. The danger that Ali posed when he ran the more meant that he quickly became a target for opposition teams. He was by far our best and most effective back this season.

**Hicham EL-ALI**: Hicham provided the team with many attacking opportunities within his position as dummy half. He never overplayed his hand and knew all the right things to do. Although he struggled at times, he would always step back up and get the job done.

**Antonio EL-TERS:** Antonio had a great season with the team this year playing out on the wing. He was regularly targeted by opposition teams but always held his ground. He worked very hard to get the team out of trouble and scored a world class try in the preliminary final.

**Charlie FAKER**: As the fastest player I have ever seen in football, Charlie would give Usain Bolt a run for his money. His runs coming out of our own half would almost always get us out of trouble and get the team on the front foot. With increased confidence, Charlie can go very far in football.

**Jihad HAMMOUD**: Jihad tried very hard throughout the year to improve himself and has come a very long way to become the great player he is today. He was always safe to have on the field and was able to score some tries after appreciating the value of support play.

**Hassan HASSAN**: Hassan without a doubt created a lot of impact, literally and metaphorically, whenever he was on the field. Hassan's defence was one of the best in the team despite playing in the forward back. Hassan has a lot of potential in football, he just needs to apply himself more.

Amen HAYDAR: Amen's work ethic on the field secured his position as the best forward in the team. He would always be ready and prepared to run the ball and get the team moving forward. His effort and determination meant that he was the only forward in the team who was capable of playing a full game and always gave 100% on the field.

**Mohammed JABASEH**: Mohammed's determination on the field was admirable. Whenever he was on the field, he would try his best in defence and attack, and came up with some very important tackles during the season.

**Ali MATTAR**: Ali had a slow start this year learning the skills that were required of him. However, as the season progressed, his skills improved and so did his fitness. His hard impact in defence and when running the ball provided the team an advantage in the forward pack.

**Aziz MOHAMAD**: Aziz was a pocket rocket throughout the year. Despite his small stature, he ran the ball and defended as if he was part of the forward pack.

**Elias NASSIF**: Elias' versatility in the team was very important. He was able to play in several different positions when required and always managed to do his job. In attack and defence, he was always ready to run the ball or defend his line. A great Bulls clubman.

**Ahmed ZRAIKA**: Even though Ahmed dislocated his shoulder more time than we could count, his towering stature on the field gave our forward pack much needed size. Whenever he did run the ball to his best ability, players would either go flying or he'd manage to cross the try line.

Thank you to the following players who played with this team whenever they needed assistance:

Gerald Maui, Jawad Saleh, Abdul Aichan, Crystal Taulafo, Jack Culgan, Yehya Abdul-Al, Liam Maui, Hussein Alameddine, Ghassan Al Salti, Adam Aouad, Andrew Mikhael and Kalvin Taotua.

# **UNDER 16/1**



Back Row: Natrell Tawa, Bilal Danine, Michael Newcomb, Hamid Sesay
Middle Row: Tawhiri Hetaraka (Trainer), Jeremy English-Barry, Ngawhiti Hetaraka, Corey Baldwin, AJ Masau, Ahmad Al Hashemy
Front Row: Charbel Challita (Trainer), Rabab Raad (Manager), Stan Hetaraka (Coach), Tyrese Fuatimau, Sabah Jabbour, Dylan Su,
Xander Tavita, Harris Le, David Tavake-Finefeuiaki, Alaa Chahine, Chris Baldwin (Trainer), Nick Khalifeh (Physio/Trainer)
Absent: Duwayne Swann, Jaylen Tuitama, Nicholas Nini, Thomas Bardossi, William Tuitupou, Yousef Abdul-Rahman



Firstly, thank you to all the boys who made a commitment to training and playing this season. Our parents, thank you for allowing me to coach your son's through an eventful year at Bankstown Bulls.

Our trainers Charbel, Chris and Tawhiri, Nick administering First Aid and physio, Rabab and Sandra managing, we are all grateful and thank you for your time, patience and efforts this year.

A slow start to the season with limited players and short team training sessions left us coming up short in numbers during trials and eventually the



competition. We were fortunate enough to have players from out of district, we are immensely grateful for their support of our

PLAYER	Т	G	PTS
Ahmad Al Hashemy	3	0	12
AJ Masau	1	0	4
Alaa Chahine	3	2	16
Bilal Danine	8	0	32
Corey Baldwin	2	0	8
Duwayne Swann	0	0	0
Dylan Su	1	0	4
Hamid Sesay	1	0	4
Harris Le	0	0	0
Jaylen Tuitama	0	0	0
Jeremy English-Barry	0	0	0
Michael Newcomb	1	0	4
Natrell Tawa	2	7	22
Ngawhiti Hetaraka	4	0	16
Nicholas Nini	0	0	0
Sabah Jabbour	0	0	0
Serge Antypas	0	0	0
Tevita Tavake-Finefeuiaki	0	0	0
Thomas Bardossi	2	8	24
Tyrese Fuatimau	1	0	4
William Tuitupou	2	1	10
Xander Tavita	3	0	12
Youssef Abdul Rahman	0	0	0

campaign, but we still had insufficient numbers to field a full side.

By the start of our 4th week we were joined by 3 Harold Matt representatives, Tyrese, Billy and Jaylen then by our 6th week there were 2 more, William and Natrell. Our training sessions became increasingly physical as we tried to increase the stamina of our new members to our team and club.







The four Under 15 boy's Sabah, David, Harris and Dylan, played with us sharing some jaw-dropping highlights and passion that I know will carry them into 2020 as strong competitive players in their own age group, good luck boys and the door is always open to be a part of our team and your own age group.

The core players of the team carried us through some of the most challenging games of our competition with their play to the final whistle attitude no matter what factors we were confronted with, despite our losses and serious injuries their energy and heads remained high.



I'm proud of the courage the team displayed every time they ran out on the field and above all the respect and discipline shown throughout the entire season towards our opposition, their home grounds, officials and supporters win or lose. The main reason Rabab and I have been so lucky to win awards this year is due to the committed yet respectful efforts of our players. These awards are dedicated to our players.

This season, this year, at this Club, with these young gentlemen has been such a privilege to share their highs and lows, efforts and expectations, family and friends, thank you all so, so much for allowing us to share this with you.

Thanks to Huss and Ali for always being there to support our team always being prepared to offer players from their Super 15 and Under 16/2 sides. The spirit in which the players played for us filling in was what the Bankstown Bulls club is all about and experience of playing games in division 1 was a benefit to their teams.

Next year is going to be another amazing year at Bankstown Bulls, I'm looking forward to the coming off-season and pre-season training. Our preparation is going to be so much fun boy's I can't wait, I'm looking forward to seeing you all on the field soon.



## 2019 BANKSTOWN BULLS CLUB SPONSORS



# UNDER 17



Back Row: Max Gregorio (Coach), Dominic Kassis, Rizky Malik, Ramon Chaina, Noureddine Bahamad, Ali Ibrahim, Soakai Tohotoa, Fred Mougharbel (Trainer), Peni Qio Tanioria, Amanda Nabhan (Manager), John Kassis (Trainer)
Middle Row: Ghassan Mougharbel, Sajad Alsafi, Regan Gregorio, Samson Vatuvei, Jasper Rogers-Homoki, Isaac Nabhan Front Row: Amer Mougharbel, Liam Maui, Bernard Lelei, Raffi Ivanoff, Mohammed El-Challouf, Laith Nabhan (Ballboy)
Absent: Ali Ibrahim, Anthony Aziz, Joshua Beshay, Gerard Maui, Toetu Joseph Faletuai, Torren Wigg, Abdul Nabhan (Trainer)

Wow what a year the 17s Div 2 had. To see where this group of boys a have come from in 2018 to 2019 was a great effort by all, just to miss out on finals is great achievement from 2018. I couldn't be prouder of this group of boys never gave up looking forward to a big 2020 with this group of young men.

Thank you to the Bankstown Bulls executives for giving me a chance to coach these boys, and all your support through the year thank you, I look forward to working with you guys next year.

A big thank you to our team manager Amanda Nabhan with all help making sure all the text message got out to the boys and getting them to the game all this while coaching her own girls side and her under 6 side thank you from the 17/2.

John Kassis thank you for your help through the year at training and game day, also bring some new boys to the club to help boost our team. Fred Mougharbel thank you also for all your help at training and game day your passion for this team and game is 2nd to none. The boys really appreciated it thank you.

Abdul (Abs) Nabhan what can I say thank you for everything you made me a better coach with all the knowledge you with this game and always being my ear

PLAYER	Т	G	PTS
Ali Ibrahim	0	0	0
Amer Mougharbel	1	0	4
Anthony Aziz	0	0	0
Bernard Lelei	2	0	8
Dominic Kassis	1	0	4
Gerald Maui	4	1	18
Ghassan Mougharbel	1	0	4
Isaac Nabhan	0	0	0
Jasper Rogers-Homoki	3	0	12
Joshua Beshay	0	0	0
Liam Maui	2	0	8
Mohamed Kondeh	1	0	4
Mohammed El-Challouf	10	0	40
Noureddine Bahamad	2	0	8
Peni Qio Tanioria	0	0	0
Raffi Ivanoff	2	0	8
Ramon Chaina	2	0	8
Regan Gregorio	6	17	58
Rizky Malik	1	0	4
Sajad Alsafi	0	0	0
Samson Vatuvei	0	0	0
Soakai Tohotoa	0	0	0
Toetu Joseph Faletuai	1	5	14
Torren Wigg	0	0	0

either by text message or phone calls when I needed advice thank you, your passion for this game Rugby League just wow.

So the season 2019 we had three boys make Bulldogs development great stuff boys very proud to see the boys make it keep it up.



## **Player Summaries:**

**1 Ali Ibrahim:** Came over from Kingsgrove mid-year great team player, settled in to fullback role really well, and has real potential at fullback.

**2 Noureddine Bahamad:** 1st year playing club rugby league came over from soccer, took him a bit of time to get use to the game but once he did he started to shine well done.

**3 Isaac Nabhan:** One fiery boy always played with heart, couldn't ask for more always gave 100% don't lose that fire.

**4 Jasper Rogers-Homoki**: 1st time playing club rugby league pick it up real easy never gave up this kid has some real potential at either centre or 5/8 keep at it Jasper.

**5 Bernard Lelei:** Our own Benji with his crazy step and hop but one kid always play with heart at whatever position I played in

him, Bernard make Bulldogs winter development squad well done.

**6 Foetus Joseph Faletuai:** This kid has some real potential at this game, a lot off skill, some natural ability and also playing 1yr up.

**7 Raffi Ivanoff:** Another fiery boy, who wasn't scared to go in a big hit, always try his hardest also co-captain. **8 Peni Qio Tanioria:** The friendly prop forward who wants to be friends with everyone, always has a smile on his face even when attacking opposition teams.

**9 Mohammed El-Challouf:** Another one who made winter development Bulldogs and well deserved one crafty dummy half, that I believe can play NRL keep at it.

**10 Soakai Tohotoa:** The quiet prop forward, but once he had that 1st hit up you knew he was out there tough boy.

**11 Regan Gregorio:** Co-Captain who never gave up out there he has a good footy brain, and understanding of the game I really believe Regan can go on and play NRL and our goal kicker.

**12** Amer Mougharbel: Always has a smile on his face and can really lift team spirit up, apart from injury he always tried hard out on the field.

**13 Gerald Maui:** Another one off our players who made Bulldogs winter development squad has some real potential always play with heart.

14 Gus Mougharbel: Great kid a joy to coach never whinged and always gave his all well done Gus.

**15 Dominic Kassis:** He really enjoyed training never whinged it's a shame he only got to play a few games due to shoulder injury putting an end to his season a real shame chin up, will come back stronger in 2020.

**16 Samson Vatuvei:** Signed with us after not playing for a few years settled with in the group really well also playing a year up well-done Sammy.

17 Ramon Chaina: Damaging prop forward on his day

**18 Torren Wigg:** Never really got see what could off been with Torren due to a season ending injury this kid got some real potential another one that can only come back stronger 2020

**19 Liam Maui:** Liam played 2yrs up wow that is great courage always gave his all and never gave up. He also made winter development Bulldogs squad Harold Matt's great stuff Liam. You have some real potential.

**20 Rizky Malik:** What an improvement in his game this year was amazing showed a lot of guys up on the field well done Rizky.

**21 Sajad Alsafi:** Signed with us mid-way through the year always try his best out there keep it up.

Anthony Aziz and Joshua Beshay: Only played a couple games each due to injuries but both really put in when they were out there.

I'm really looking forward to 2020 season with this group off young men.

DREAM IT BELIEVE IT ACHIEVE IT



# **RUSE PARK & PADSTOW PARK**

An area of concern for the club this year was the state of Ruse Park, how a once great surface deteriorated rapidly during the season, the lack of training facilities hampering our teams, the tight space we had at Ruse Park and the complete loss of Padstow Park for 2019 after having the ground for the previous 9 seasons.

### **RUSE PARK**

The ground had long been regarded in the top 2 for ground surface in the 10 years. This year however the surface had run its course and with 21 teams training together on the same ground it finally deteriorated to the point we were forced to close the venue for a month for training.

It all hit boiling point in the week leading up to Gala Day where the grounds rest over the June long weekend did nothing to settle the ground. The council was within a whisker of calling off Gala Day. Due to all the bookings that took place with the junior league, team photos, rides and stalls the show simply had to go on for that weekend.

Thanks to some quick thinking led by **City of Canterbury-Bankstown Councillor Rachelle Harika** along with support from **Bankstown RSL Club** and one of their sponsored Soccer clubs we were able to get Middleton Park as a temporary training venue to give Ruse Park a chance to rest and settle. Due to Middleton's location this was only a band aid solution as was the issue of the surface at Ruse Park. We were able to finish the season off at Ruse Park with the surface battered and beyond natural repair.

### **PADSTOW PARK**

The Bulls got allocated Padstow Park for the 2010 season and used it for Sunday games in 2010-11 when the club expanded to 21 teams in 2011. The club played all games back at Ruse in 2012 and by 2013 the club had been relegated in its training use at Padstow Park. This frustration continued until the end of 2018 and from there the club lost all access to Padstow Park for the 2019 season.

The loss of Padstow turned to be a blessing in disguise for the club as it allowed us to restart again. The good news now is that Padstow Park be returning as a full-time league venue for the first time since 2011. The council have agreed to give Bulls full use of Padstow Park for training, canteen, dressing rooms, facilities and hosting matches. This will be of great benefit for our senior sides who will enjoy the extra space for playing games and preparation. The canteen and dressing rooms have received maintenance upgrades in 2019.

### THE MEETINGS

Rachelle Harika organised for myself to meet with **Mayor Khal Asfour**, herself and council management in July where I was able to put forward a "*Masterplan*" for Ruse Park, the goals I see for our club at Ruse Park and push forward the Padstow Park matter.

Mayor Asfour and Councillor Harika immediately agreed that the Bulls should be given back Padstow Park for the 2020 season with full usage as stated above. It was a massive victory for the club.

I did discuss the options for Graeme Thomas Oval as we did originally get allocated that ground only for no lights to be installed therefore we had to forgo that arrangement. A change mid-season to that field to have synthetic cricket wickets onto the field of play mean the boundaries didn't permit for a full league field to be built.

A second meeting was held in late August with five council officials where Rabab Raad and myself represented the club. We showed council around the ground and showed the field surface. We outlaid our visions for the club.

### OUTCOMES

Council did state to us in both meetings that we would need to help finance some of the major plans for facility upgrades into the future. We stated we had \$45,000 locked away (figure at the time) which is now \$60,000 that will be purely used for ground improvements as part of our "Future Investment Account".

However, the club was delighted when council confirmed and undertook work to put in a complete new playing surface and drainage system in place that surpasses grounds such as Terry Lamb Complex. The estimated cost is believed to be over \$100,000 – a fantastic result for the club. Added with Padstow Park as a playing and training facility our players, coaches, teams and members will have better grounds to train and play at in 2020.

The NSWRL through **BJ Mather** and **Mo Fajojo** have supported our case and due to the club being successful in their Blue Shield compliance we will receive some financial support for a future upgrade.

On top of the surface upgrade, our Senior Vice President **Stan Hetaraka** has done plenty of maintenance work to our dressing rooms and storage areas. Stan has used his own material which we must all be thankful to him for.

Matthew O'Neill

2019 Treasurer & Executive, Bankstown Bulls JRLFC Inc

# PHOTO EXTRA



# **CLUB PHOTOS**























































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