

Buffalo Rucker Mauler Vol. 2

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Presidential Address



One of Rugby's greatest assets is the camaraderie that is generated among teammates and club members. In fact, camaraderie is almost always one of the biggest reasons players cite when asked why they play the game in the first place. Relationships spawned out of the grinding competition against other clubs and the struggle for a common goal endure for years. I have always felt that Shakespeare's quote, "*For he who sheds his blood with me today shall be my brother*" was a perfect fit for the game. These bonds are strengthened by traveling together on tours both foreign and domestic (my wife calls it a "guy thing"). All our lives have been enhanced by the friendships, memories and characters Rugby has given us.

The annual awards banquet is a truly auspicious occasion because it gives all of us the opportunity not only to recognize the successes of the past season, but it also gives us the opportunity to celebrate the camaraderie of the game. It is a combination of awards ceremony and reunion.

One of the most important aspects of the banquet is that it gives the

younger members of the club the chance to meet and mingle with the older members who have given so much to the club's history and tradition. It fosters a sense of appreciation among the players in the early stages of their careers for what this game is all about.

1999 was a terrific season for the Buffalo Rugby Club— an undefeated tour of England and Ireland, a mad run through the Midwest and National playoffs and an undefeated League season. We made a name for the Club in National Rugby circles with our commitment on the pitch and our class off the pitch. But the groundwork for these achievements was set by the club members who came before us. Current players, alumni, family and friends all played key rolls in the success we enjoyed in 1999.

The executive committee is working hard to make this year's banquet at the Pearl St. Brewery (2-5-00) a fantastic event. But in the end, the success of the banquet depends on you and your attendance. If you haven't been an active member in the club, now is a great time to step back in and renew the friendships from long ago. Make plans with the players of your era to meet at the banquet and enjoy the festivities. If you have been an active member, the banquet is a great way to kick off our run at the

national championship in 2000. Most importantly, let's get everyone together to honor the achievements of 1999 and to celebrate the camaraderie of the game. Hope to see you all there.

Match Secretary Report



We have made an addition to the schedule. Niagara Men's club has been added to the schedule as a B side match over Easter. The schedule is now as follows:

- 2-19 Winterfest 7's Delaware Park
- 3-16 Savannah Tournament, GA
- 3-25 TBA
- 4-1 Albany Knicks-H
- 4-8 Syracuse Chargers-H
- 4-15,16 Midwest Regionals-H
- 4-22 Niagara Men-H (B side)
- 4-29,30 Midwest Final 4, Chicago

May and June are still being worked on.

Coach's Corner



Training has begun with basketball at Mosey's Gym on Thursdays. This will continue until February 17, 2000 when full training begins. Training will begin twice a week on Feb. 22, 2000 with Tuesday on Mosey's gym at 7pm and Thursdays at Mosey's gym at 7pm.

Anyone interested in going to Savannah with the club March 16 - 20, must have at least \$200 in to Bear by the Banquet (Feb. 5). This money pays for your airfare as well as a deposit on the motorcoach. This is your last and only chance, airline tickets must be paid by Feb. 8th. If your money is not in, there will not be a seat for you.

The total cost for the tour will be \$375, the remainder will be due March 2nd. This price includes; airfare, transportation & lodging.

The itinerary is as follows:

Thurs March 16- 8:30 PM - Depart Buffalo Airport
10:45 PM- Arrive Atlanta Airport
11:30 PM - Welcoming party at Old White RFC bar
Free evening in Buckhead area of Atlanta

Fri March 17-3:30AM- Board motorcoach for trip to Savannah
9:00 AM - Check in to Savannah motel
10:30 AM-St. Pats parade in historic district
Afternoon free to enjoy Savannah sights
7:00 PM - Team dinner (site TBA)
Sat March 18-9:00AM- Play rugby and WIN
Evening - replenish fluids on River St.

Sun March 19 AM- Play Rugby and Win Championship
4:00 PM - Kangaroo court on bus ride to Atlanta
9:00 PM - check in to Atlanta hotel
Evening free in Buckhead

Mon March 20-10:00AM - Depart Atlanta airport
Noon - Arrive Buffalo airport

Mail your payment of \$200 to Steve "Bear" Kuznick at 161 Imperial Drive, Amherst, NY 14226. Make checks payable to Steve Kuznick.

Vice President's Corner



Anyone who is interest in playing for Buffalo in the Winterfest 7's needs to contact Alex so that we can begin to put together

our teams. Anyone can play so contact Alex at 837-0512.

We still do not have enough people who have placed an order for a Buffalo Rugby jacket to place an order. Remember they take approximately 8 weeks to come in. If you want a jacket get your money to Alex **immediately**. Checks should be made payable to Alex Nadiak at 77 Allenhurst, Buffalo, NY 14214.

Social Chairman



This year's banquet will be held on February 5, 1999 at Pearl Street Grill and Brewery on the corner of Pearl and Seneca streets.

The price will be \$30.00 a person. There will be cocktails at 7 PM and dinner at 8 PM. There will be 3 hours of open bar and then a cash bar after that. Dinner will be buffet with either beef tenderloin, seafood pasta or chicken with wild rice.

We will be inducting Lex Maccubbin to the wall of fame. So bring out the old boys and your best Lex stories.

Everyone is encouraged to bring pictures from last season to be put on display during the banquet.

We will be selling old jersey. There will be a raffle during the banquet. We will raffle off a Guinness world cup jersey and rugby ball. There will also be a basket of cheer donated by the Executive committee. E is also working on obtaining Sabers tickets. So bring your money.

We will also be awarding the following:

MVP Forward A and B
MVP Back A and B
Most Improved Forward and Back
Rookie of the Year Forward and Back
Man of the year.

The ballots for voting are attached. Please fill them out and bring them with you. Make your checks payable and send the payment to John M. Emmons, 511 Northwood Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221. Make your checks payable to Buffalo RFC.

There will be a surprise guest speaker.

Sabers Game

Paul Glodzik is organizing a team Sabers trip for February 3, 2000. Cost is \$15 a ticket. If you want a ticket call Paul at 882-4806 or send him your money at 227 Parkside Ave., Apt. #4, Buffalo, NY 14214. Let's try and get as many people to the game as possible.

Winterfest 7'S

Winterfest 7's is beginning to shape up. We have one women's team already and have 3-4 other men's teams that have contacted us to play. The tournament will be on February 19, 2000. We need everyone to come out and participate, either play or work to make this a profitable fundraiser for the club.

A word from Bruce Marahn:

I thought it about time to shed some light on the beginning, middle and present state of the BRC web site.

About five years ago while I was still at Daemen College I got interested in web page creation and design. I was developing the pages for the college's student life division.

With help from Jack Schweigel and Ron Astridge, the first pages were hosted by the SUNY @ Buffalo School of Architecture where Jack was king. To facilitate my being able to directly access

the site, we moved to a free site, xoom.com where it is still located.

The original pages were a bare bones site with rudimentary rugby fare: opening page and welcome a contact page, officer, phone #s and addresses clues to the pitch history of the club and game results/schedules

In those days I had hoped for some input regarding where the site would go, what it would include, etc. Lex (Les) Maccubin was the only person to more or less discuss the pages with me. It was probably too early to see the advantages of having a web site.

At about this time things took my attention away from the Old Boys, toward Emmett's college games and I was elected President of the NYSRC. At that time I was spending more time on the rugby site and on the NYSRC site with Ron Astridge as webmaster.

From time to time Lex would supply me with the latest scores. However, I was missing officer election results, timely messages that could have been published on the site, upcoming schedules, etc. The web site was falling behind.

I mentioned to Lex that I could use some input with scores and other matters that I wasn't getting. At some point Peter (ya doesn't have to call him) Johnson emailed me that he was the new Secretary and wanted to help with the web site. GREAT! I sent him the username and password to access the site and make changes, but the only updates that I recall were his name as Secretary and other new officers as well on the contacts page.

More recently Rich VanCouvering has volunteered many hours to the site. However, Rich made wholesale changes and set himself up as the site's designer

and since I had been using the site to promote myself as a designer and since his changes made many of my graphics incompatible and irrelevant, I asked Rich to remove my name as designer.

This fall I had a job interview where we looked at the sites I had listed as being mine. The interviewer had an old copy of my resume which lists among others the BOB site. Since the site now had images and animations that were not consistent with my work, I requested that the remainder of my graphics be eliminated from this location on the WWW.

This presented a problem as this was interpreted that I was taking my work away from the club, NOT SO. My graphics can still be used by the club in anyway except to be placed on the <http://members.xoom.com/OldBoys/index.html> site.

Rich has provided what the site needed, close supervision and updating of the information. The present officers (Ted and Emo) have been doing a great job of over seeing the site and creating data resources. Rich has been updating these.

I hope that In the future the site will be two faceted:

Rich will continue to develop interactive selections* like chat rooms, update directories and keep us linked with the WWW.

I will provide the look that will create an image for the club, provide navigation through the site, and provide graphics that can be downloaded and used in various other projects

(Rucker/mauler, the Mid West server, jackets and equipment, posters, etc.).

As Rich has stated, he thinks I have "been replaced". For me I would rather consider that I have been displaced. You

can find my version of the club's web site at (dis place): <http://go.to/buffalorfcb>

*I know that many of us use email to talk with one another. Additionally, I registered our site with a couple of search engines a year ago or so. I understand they are two years behind unless you pay a registration fee. A decision for the club to make.

Miscellaneous Matters

We have a touring side from Wales coming to play us in late May during the week before the final 4. Everyone will be expected to come out and welcome them when they come into town. We will be hosting them for two nights. The game will be played at night on Wednesday, May 31, 2000.

CIPP Forms

CIPP forms must be completed and turned into USA Rugby immediately. In the past you were allowed to play in games by showing the carbon copy of your application while waiting on your card. **This will not be allowed this year.** There is a 4-week turnaround time for them to process the applications. Do not miss a chance to play in a playoff game just because you were slow in submitting your CIPP application. CIPP applications can be downloaded from USARugby.org or obtained from Ted Graney.

Ted Graney will be sending in the CIPP forms for the team on February 27, 2000.

Playoff's Schedule

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. -- USA Rugby today announced the venue sites for the majority of its sanctioned national

tournaments in 2000, while the remainder of the sites will be announced after the first of the year.

"Our number one goal was our athletes," USA Rugby Competitions Committee Chairman David Pelton said. "We worked extremely hard to determine sites that would best benefit those participants who will compete."

USA Rugby's Competitions Committee determined the venue sites during a three-month evaluation process. The committee will begin the selection process for all 2001 events in January of 2000.

Club DII Men's Sweet Sixteen
May 13-14

Pool A Fort Worth, Texas
SC#1, S#1, W#1, NE#1

Pool B New Haven, Conn.
MA#2, NE#2, NE#4, M#1

Pool C Fort Worth, Texas
PC#1, M#3, W#2, SC#2

Pool D New Haven, Conn.
M#2, MA#1, PC#2, NE#2

Club Men's DII Championship
June 3-4 Rockford, Ill.

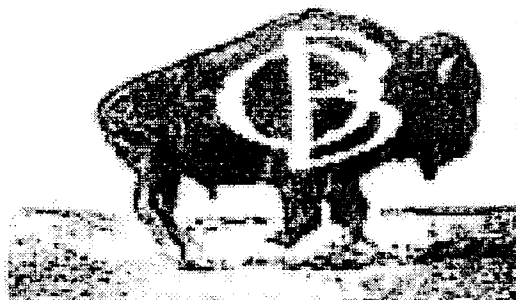
Club Men's DIII Championship
June 3-4 Rockford, Ill.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

"The Road Less Traveled- A visitor's guide to Saranac Lake and Lake Placid"
By Chris Kowalski

Let's Dance!!! An instructional guide from one of the masters."
By Alex Nadiak

The Generation Gap in Y2K-Relating to those crazy kids."
By Tom Surwill



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Captain's Corner



The season got off to a very good start in Savannah. There was some question as to whether or not we belonged in the Premier Division. Well, we belonged there. While we still need work on our fitness and teamwork, it was a strong showing for our first outing, making it to the semi-finals before losing to the eventual champion, Wing Foot.

Man of the Match awards go to Ted Duffy for his punishing running in the SEMI game, Bobby B. for his 2 tries and overall solid play in the Raleigh game and Scott Terech for his tough running and tackling in the Wing Foot game. I also want to thank the reserves who made the trip and didn't get as much time as they wanted, but were ready to step in when called on. It will take this kind of unselfish attitude to carry us to our goal of a National Championship.

With Savannah behind us, it's time to focus on the road ahead. The playoffs will be here in 2 ½ short weeks. We need to keep focused and continue to work harder than last year. We won't surprise anyone this year, not after our showing last year and in Savannah. Everyone needs to make every effort to make training and train on their own on off days. The results will be well worth it.

Wing Foot was my first loss as Captain. I do not expect there to be another.

Onward to Chicago!!!!!!

[This was written before last weekend's game against Albany.]

Territorial Information:

From: Tristan B. Lewis Commissioner
To: League Coordinators, Member Clubs

The Midwest VP Competitions in association with the League Commissioner is pleased to announce the adoption of a new scoring system for Midwest League matches in the Fall season.

The Midwest RFU will adopt the "Super 12" system of 4 points for a win, 2 for a draw, 1 point for losing by less than 7 and 1 point for scoring 4 or more tries. The new scoring system will reduce the number of equal playing records and will reward teams for close games.

The new scoring system will be in effect for all Men's Div 1, 2, & 3 games, starting in the Fall 2000 season. It is expected for this system to be adopted by all other levels of Midwest league play but those announcements will follow as the

coordinators decide on the systems effectiveness.

Next Season's Schedule is Out:

Eastern Conference
Buffalo Old Boys
Cleveland Rovers
Eastern Suburbs
Pittsburgh
Rochester Aardvarks

Aug-25 Eastern Suburbs @ Rochester Aardvarks
Cleveland Rovers @ Buffalo Old Boys

Sep-02 Labor Day Weekend

Sep-09 Rochester Aardvarks @ Cleveland Rovers
Buffalo Old Boys @ Pittsburgh

Sep-16 Pittsburgh @ Rochester Aardvarks
Cleveland Rovers @ Eastern Suburbs

Sep-23 Rochester Aardvarks @ Buffalo Old Boys
Eastern Suburbs @ Pittsburgh

Sep-30 Buffalo Old Boys @ Eastern Suburbs
Pittsburgh @ Cleveland Rovers

Oct-07 Eastern Suburbs @ Cleveland Rovers
Pittsburgh @ Buffalo Old Boys

Oct-14 Rochester Aardvarks @ Eastern Suburbs
Cleveland Rovers @ Pittsburgh

Oct-21 Cleveland Rovers @ Rochester Aardvarks
Eastern Suburbs @ Buffalo Old Boys

Oct-28 Rochester Aardvarks @ Pittsburgh
Buffalo Old Boys @ Cleveland Rovers

Nov-04 Buffalo Old Boys @ Rochester Aardvarks
Pittsburgh @ Eastern Suburbs

Youth Program:

I believe that Clancy told me after the game Saturday that he will be again running a youth rugby camp for local boys and girls at Delaware Park on June 21-24, 2000.

If you are interested in more information please contact Clancy at Seymourc@canisisu.edu.

Jacket Orders:

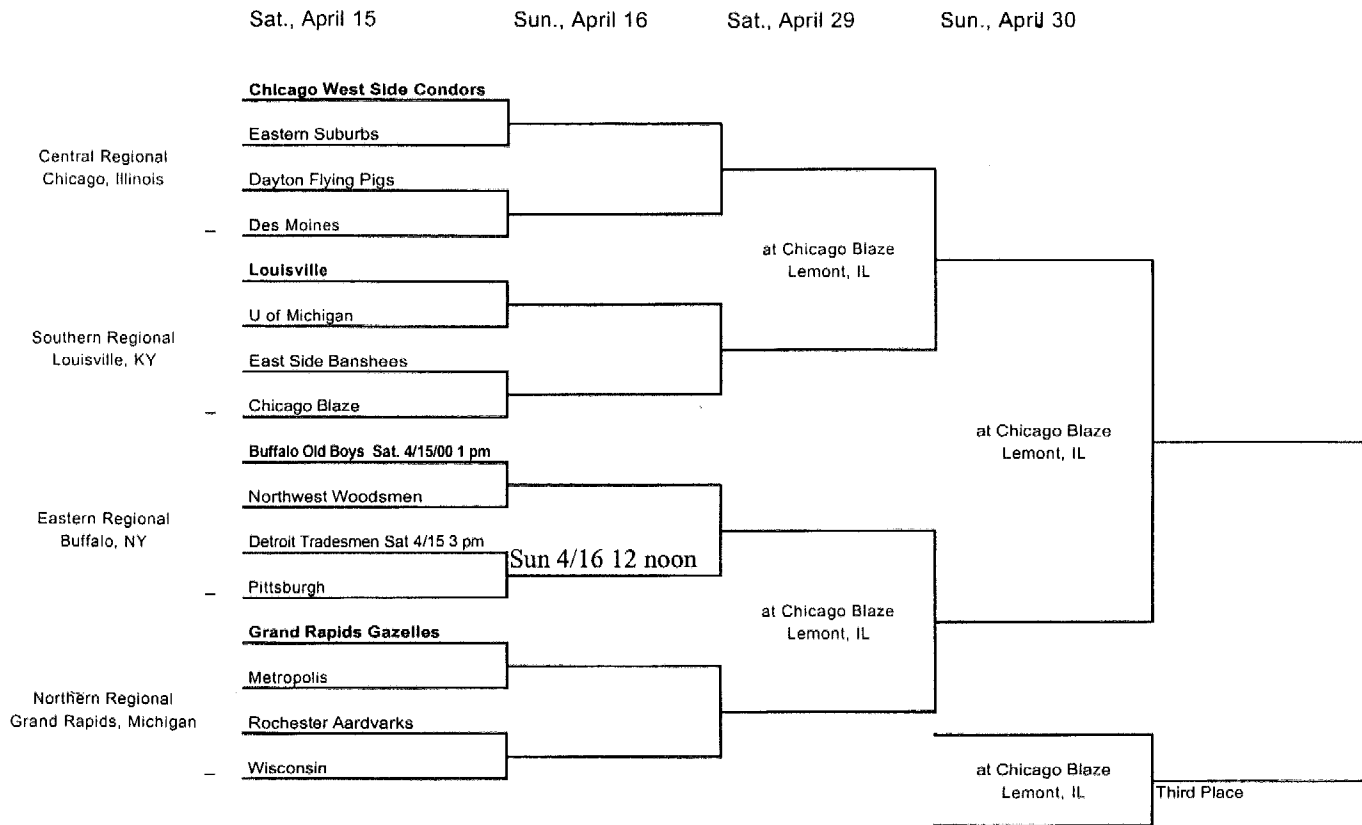
The jackets have been ordered and are due to arrive in a week or two. You must have your money for the jacket to Alex before you can get your jacket. We want everyone to have this jacket before the first playoff game so talk to Alex at practice about paying him.

Practices:

REMEMBER: PRACTICES ARE NOW AT DELAWARE PARK STARTING AT 6:00 P.M. SHARP. DO NOT BE LATE AT IT WILL STILL BE GETTING DARK EARLY.

Congratulations go to Marcus Holloway for his being award Man of the Day for his play in his B-side game against Albany. All his hard work at practice and off the field is beginning to pay off.

**Midwest RFU
2000
Division 11 Playoffs**



FALL 1999 SETUP

Western Conference

North Section
Eastside Banshees
Golpher College
Metropolis
River City
St. Paul Jazz Pigs

South Section
Cedar Rapids
Des Moines
Iowa Falls
Quad Cities Irish
U of Iowa

Central Conference

Chicago Blaze
Lincoln Park
Northwest Woodsmen
NW Indiana
South Side Irish
West Side Condors
Wisconsin

Northern Conference

Detroit
Detroit Tradesmen
Grand Rapids Gazelles
Kalamazoo Dogs
U of Michigan

Southern Conference

Cincinnati Kelts
Dayton Flying Pigs
Lexington Blackstone
Louisville
Queen City

Eastern Conference

Buffalo Old Boys
Cleveland Rovers
Eastern Suburbs
Pittsburgh
Rochester Aardvarks