

RUCKER MAULER

Volume 1

www.buffalorugby.com

January 2003



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March 3rd**

From the President:

Happy and Healthy New Year to all! Welcome to what should prove to be another great year of rugby. We have some great things planned for the club this year.

First our biggest fundraiser to date: an evening with John Valby on Feb. 13th at the Sphere on Main St. in Buffalo. Tickets are \$20.00 (including a commemorative bottomless mug) and can be purchased on line by going to our web page www.buffalorugby.com. High Falls Brewery is sponsoring the event (thank you Mike Lazkowski) and has donated a large portion of their radio-advertising budget to promote this event on 103.3 the EDGE. The event will be MC'd by Shredd and Ragan and should be a great evening. Our goal is to sell 1000 tickets. We can raise close to \$10,000.00 with this event alone, if everyone sells his share. Please do your part to support the club. Of course cash donations are always gladly accepted from those who cannot attend. The club member who sells the most tickets by the banquet will win a free trip to Ruggerfest in Ft. Lauderdale Fla., and anyone selling 40 tickets or more will have dues waived for the season. Contact me if you need tickets.

Next is the Annual Awards Banquet Feb. 8th at the Tonawanda Police Hall (clues are in the newsletter or on line). This year we are honoring one of the greatest players in Buffalo Rugby history: Gerry Wojcik. Please plan on attending this event and celebrating the evening with Gerry.

As all of you know, the biggest challenge we face every year is the financial backing needed to run this club effectively. With the recruitment of foreign players and the National Tournament travel, it is more costly than ever to make this club a viable National Championship contender every year. It can't be accomplished just by showing up on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturdays, and paying annual dues. To make it affordable for players to travel in the spring, we need to raise over \$20,000.00 per year. This is our goal for the year and it will only be accomplished with hard work on everyone's part. We are in the process of putting together a fundraising committee of players and alumni to focus on developing a product that will have more value than just jersey and web page exposure for potential sponsors. Please contact me at 855.3700 if you would like to get involved.

Have you been on the web site lately? If you haven't you will be pleasantly surprised. Matt Malinski has done a terrific job developing the new site. He and Alex Nadiak are in the process of developing a team store, where Buffalo Rugby merchandise can be purchased as well as dues paid and donations received. Please take a minute to look us up. I look forward to seeing everyone at the banquet. Here's to another great year, as we start our quest for the 2003 USA Rugby National Championship.

Cheers,

John Baldwin

Date	Club	Venue
02-15	Winterfest	Home
03-01	Ruggerfest	Ft. Lauderdale
03-22	Buffalo vs. Cincinnati	Away
03-29	Buffalo vs. Akron	Home
04-05	Buffalo vs. Scioto Valley	Home
04-12	Midwest Regional	Home
	Dev. Side vs. Lockport	Home
04-13	Midwest Regional Finals	Home
04-13	Consolation Round	Home
04-19	Buffalo vs. Pittsburgh	Home
04-26	Midwest Final Four	Home
05-03	Alumni Weekend	Chicago
05-10	USA Rugby Sweet 16	TBA
05-17	Buffalo vs. Detroit	TBA
05-31	USA Rugby Final Four	Pittsburgh, PA

See
<http://buffalorugby.com/new/members/training.php>
 For new updated training schedule

Captains Corner:

By Paul Vallone

The start of training will be here in less than a month. It is important that everyone show up in the Horse Barn fit and ready to practice. If you expect to use the 2 months in the Barn to get fit, you're kidding yourself and cheating your teammates who are working their butts off to be ready. We'll be playing rugby in Ft. Lauderdale in less than 2 months so we need to be ready.

Last year was a success by most team's standards but we did not reach our ultimate goal, the National Championship. While this may be many team's goal, we are one of the few for which it is a realistic goal. But the hard work has to start now. We cannot rest on our prior accomplishments. The road will only get tougher. There will be 2 very good Chicago area teams coming here for the first round of the playoffs and we don't want to look past them, like the Condors did to us last year, and be out in the first round.

That said, I am more excited about this season than any of the others. We have the heart, desire and ability to win it all. Now we just need to follow through.

Please remember to support our sponsors by purchasing their products the next time you go out to the bar. Many thanks to Mike L. and the High Falls Brewery.



Winterfest 7's:

Saturday February 15, 2003 at Delaware Park by the Zoo. The captains meeting will begin at 9:00 AM sharp. Matches begin at 9:30 AM. The cost is \$175 per team (\$150 for a second side). Reservations are only guaranteed by payment. There will be two Men's divisions and 1 Women's division. Each team is guaranteed a minimum of three games, and is also guaranteed a spot in the playoff rounds and a chance to compete for the bowl, plate or cup. Last year we had 35 teams. This year we are capping the event at 32 teams. As of now 5 teams have already signed up. Food and beverages will be available for purchase at the main tent. This year we will have tournament T-shirts available for purchase. We will also have a social event after the tournament (time and location T.B.D.). The Park's commissioner has asked us to remind everyone **"No parking on the grass"**.

You can pay and register online at the club website www.buffalorugby.com,
or make checks payable to the Buffalo Rugby Club:

Send checks to:
Alex Nadiak
77 Allenhurst Rd.
Buffalo, NY 14214

Note: Make sure to include team name and what division you plan to enter.

Club Fundraiser- Dr. Dirty John Valby

The Buffalo Rugby Club in conjunction with [High Falls Brewery](http://www.highfallsbrewery.com) presents John Valby in Concert on the night of Thursday, February 13th at the Sphere Entertainment Complex in downtown Buffalo. MC's for the night will be [Shredd and Ragan](http://www.shreddandragan.com) of 103.3 The Edge. The event begins at 6 PM. Tickets cost \$20.00 per person, and include a mug and free beer for the event. Tickets can be purchased through any club member and can also be purchased online at www.buffalorugby.com. Remember, it is essential that club members sell the 20 tickets that were distributed to them at the AGM. The event is a huge fundraiser for the club and will not be a success without the efforts of all of the clubs members. So keep selling those tickets!

End of Year Banquet

The End of the Year Banquet will be held at the Town of Tonawanda Police Club located at 25 Roswell Street in the Town of Tonawanda on Saturday February 8th, 2003. Drinks begin at 7:00, Dinner served at 8 PM. The cost of the Banquet will remain the same as in past years. The price of the tickets is \$30.00 per person or \$50.00 per couple. The cost of the ticket includes a buffet, free beer, wine, and soda, shots of crown, and will also include a Buffalo Rugby Pint Glass for all who attend. The Banquet will honor Jerry "Woj" Wojcik who has been selected to the "Wall of Fame". Awards will be given out for the A & B Side Most Improved Player, and the A & B Side MVP Forward and Back. Directions to the banquet are attached.

Support our sponsors! Buy a car from Towne Automotive.



Get it insured at Tom Finn Allstate.

Shop Online at the Buffalo Rugby Club Store:

The club has established an online rugby shop through Pay Pal where you can do the following:

- Pay your dues online
- Purchase club items such as the new High Falls Jersey, club socks and shorts
- Purchase tickets for the Clubs John Valby fundraiser
- Purchase a club kit bag
- Register a team for Winterfest 7's
- Make your payment for the Ft. Lauderdale trip

Pay securely with any major credit card through Pay Pal! Go to www.paypal.com and start supporting the club today!!!



Reminder!!!

Payment is due to John Baldwin for the Ft. Lauderdale Ruggerfest Tournament. If you have not already paid, please send the balance for your trip to:

John Baldwin
222 Elmwood Ave
East Aurora NY 14052

Whoever sells the most tickets by the Banquet will have their flight to Ft. Lauderdale paid for by the club.

Any club member selling 40 or more tickets will have their club dues waived for the spring season.

WEBSTER SZANYI LLP

The Winterfest Committee will be having a meeting on Thursday January 23rd at 8:30 PM at Coles.

Anyone who would like to assist with the committee may attend the meeting.

The Winterfest Committee consists of: Alex Nadiak (chair), Steve Caruana, Tom Surwill, Glen Nenoff, Pete LaJeunesse, Pat Mulcahy, Mike Dorgan, Jamie Bono, Adam Kelleher, and Aardvark.

*****Being drunk and volunteering at the AGM does not excuse you from your responsibilities to participate on this committee!**

Fundraising Committee

The club is looking to establish a committee for fundraising. The purpose of the committee is to establish connections and fundraising opportunities within the community. The committee will also look into the development of the club, land, field and clubhouse potential, fundraisers, and new sponsorship opportunities.

If you have any interest, please contact John Baldwin at:

jbaldwinbcom@worldnet.att.net

Interested in ordering a team jacket, please email Alex Nadiak at:

alex.d.nadiak@saint-gobain.com

Buffalo Rugby
(AKA Buffalo Old Boys) News



A Buffalo Rugby Club Old Boys team will be entered at Dead Ants, May 2003 in Batavia. Please contact Tom Surwill if you are interested in playing. Everyone that comes, plays! Unlimited substitutions. We *could* have three other alumni matches this year, if you are interested in playing.

Dues: It's time to ask you to send in your new 2003 Alumni Dues this month. We're hoping that all 2002 donors/members will renew for 2003, and that many others will join the "Alumni Team" with a donation.

We depend on your yearly generosity to assist the Club financially, as well as fund our own Old Boys activities. Each alumni donor will be recognized in all of the 2003 *Rucker-Mauler* newsletters. In addition, all \$100+ donors will receive a gift from the Club (Rugby key chain, BRC window decal, or Buffalo Rugby bumper sticker, based on your choice and on availability).

Last season our Alumni dues helped bring key players from Wales and England. And, we provided critical money for team travel to the playoffs and more.

Also, we need a new set of Old Boys game jerseys at a cost of about \$1,000.

Please help your Club and send in your Alumni Membership dues today.

The four levels of Old Boys membership are:

Lifetime Member \$500+
Select Side \$100+
"A" Team \$50+
Member \$25+

Please send your dues today to:

Buffalo Rugby Club Alumni HQ
30 Brantford Place
Buffalo, NY 14222

For more information, contact Tom Surwill at (H) 716-881-0048, or (O) 626-4433, ext.117, or tsurwill@aol.com.



Buffalo Rugby Club Alumni
"Buffalo Old Boys RFC"

Alumni Donor Honor Roll- Year Ending - 2002

Lifetime Members (\$500 +)

Mike McNerney, in 2002
Chuck Mosey, in 2002
Jose' Perez, in 2002
Terry Lee, in 2002
Cole's / Dave Shatzel, in 2001
Dave Cidale, in 2000, + \$100 in 2002
Rory O'Connor, in 2000

Select-Side Member (\$100 +)

Randy Bailey (Virginia)	Pete Johnson
Will Beckwith	Lex Maccubbin (NJ)
Jim Dunnigan (\$200)	John Phinney (\$200)
Eddie Dzurilla (Texas)	Bob Schoff (Connecticut -- \$200)
Tom Finn (\$200 +)	Jack Schweigel
Jim Haberstro (Washington State)	Rob Stirling
Jim Hess	Tom Surwill (\$200)
Frank Holden (\$250)	John Walier (Rochester)
Fred Jelonek (Texas)	

"A" Team Members (\$50 +)

Dick Basile (Massachusetts)
Joe Coyne
Mike Dahm
Dan Drury
Barry Ferguson (Ohio)
Gary Hackbush
Randall "Goose" Luce
Mike McGuire
Chuck Mosey
Matt Szkotak (PA)
Jim Walier (PA)
Ed Woods

BOBCAT TOURNAMENT A HUGE SUCCESS!

The annual Buffalo Old Boys College Area Tournament (the BOBCAT) was a huge success largely in part to the organization of Bobby Bogdonawicz. Bobby B. spent a great deal of time and effort to organize the event and to get one of the largest turnouts. There were over 40 student ruggers that played in the tournament from the 6 Colleges and Universities represented. The colleges in attendance were: Alfred State, Buffalo State, Daemen College, University of Buffalo, Fredonia State, Canisius College. There were four games played in all, with everyone getting their fill of rugby on the day. Selections were made for the best player representing each college. Darren "Mustang" Schrader of Fredonia was selected as the Outstanding Player of the tournament. There was a great turnout for the party afterwards held at Mr. Goodbar. Please remember to support our sponsors for the event:

Uncle Joe's Pizza

885- 0888

Located on the corner of Elmwood and Bidwell Ave.

Volunteers are needed for the Equipment/ Field Committee. Please contact committee Chair Dennis Curtin if you are interested.

dennis.m.curtin@verizon.com

Election notes from the AGM:

John Baldwin- President
Peter Turner – Vice President
Alex Nadiak- Treasurer
Steve Caruana- Secretary
Bobby B- Social Chair

Have a Red Bull today!



In the Next Edition of the Rucker Mauler:

- Duffy sightings...illicit photos of “Coco” from ski’s wedding
- Grand Theft Auto III- a video game review by Paul Vallone and Alex Nadiak
- That’s No Woman, It’s a Man- Sure fire tips to avoid “a mishap” in Ft. Lauderdale by Glenn Nenoff
- Marriage Advice from the Newly Weds- When does practice begin? by Dennis Curtin and Chris Kowalski