



NEWSLETTER

# MAY

## MAY HIGHLIGHT - MAGIC ROUND

### SPREADING THE MAGIC!

For the week of Magic Round our Game Development Staff were busy engaging with students across community, school and club rugby league activations. Click on the image below to hear more about what our amazing team got up to!



## MAJOR MOMENTS

May was jam packed with exciting events including Regional Games, Magic Round, and the first game of the 2024 Women's State of Origin Series!

## MAY HIGHLIGHT - MAGIC ROUND!

Over the span of seven days, we had the pleasure of spreading the Magic and engaging with over 3,500 children across 10 different events, providing them with an opportunity to participate in school, club rugby league and community activities.

A special thank you goes to Eagleby South State School, Saint Thomas Catholic Primary and West End State School, for welcoming us and allowing the presentation of our 'Simply Your Best' program to over 1,800 students. Your support was instrumental in the success of these events.



The excitement was palpable, from the P-2 Gala Day at Petrie Terrace to the assembly presentations, and the official Magic Round launch at King George Square with over 350 fans attending. It was a joy to see every spectator, young and old, enjoying themselves. The involvement of 45 children and parents in the Today Show weather crosses and the enthusiasm of over 200 kids running around with a footy with Ryan Papenhuyzen at Carina JRL brought smiles to everyone's faces.

We would also like to acknowledge the Queensland Children's Hospital for permitting the Tigers NRLW players to visit and create lasting memories with the students during Magic Round.

Once again, thank you to each and every one of you who contributed to making these events a resounding success. We look forward to continuing our partnership and bringing more exciting opportunities to the community.



## MAJOR MOMENTS

### WESTS TIGERS TAKE OVER TAMWORTH!



It was a huge week for Rugby League in Tamworth with the Wests Tigers coming to town for their home game against the Newcastle Knights. The week was full of activities, with schools, Junior Rugby League participants, clubs, and volunteers involved in the festivities.

On Wednesday, the West Tigers community team and NRL Game Development staff visited primary schools, where the Wests Tigers delivered their 'Wests Tigers Teach: Harmony' program to Stage 2 and 3 students.

Thursday the NRL team held the Tamworth Buckley and University Shield Gala Day, with U14 and U18 High School students participating in the event. The Wests Tigers were there, helping the NRL make the day a successful one! After the Gala Day, the Tigers held a coaching workshop for all coaches to attend. They provided insightful tips to the community coaches and put theory into practice, as they trained their 'Cubs' players for their game on the weekend.



Friday morning, the whole team held a Disability Clinic, where participants could experience inclusive drills and skills. In the afternoon, all local junior rugby league participants were invited to attend the community clinic and signing session. The Telstra Footy Country Tour teamed up with the Wests Tigers and NRL team to provide an amazing experience for all who attended.

By the time game day rolled around on the Saturday, the whole community was ready for the main game. Pregame, the NRL team held an exclusive School Ambassador event. This event was a reward for all teachers who have supported rugby league in their schools.

This was followed by the NRL game between the Tigers and Knights. However, the Telstra Footy Country Tour had a couple of surprises left. One lucky volunteer had the chance to 'toss the coin' for the captains and present the game ball, at half time 40 junior rugby league participants were able to provide entertainment for the whole crowd and form a guard of honour for their favourite players.

**Thank you Tamworth and WHAT A WEEK!**

## MAJOR MOMENTS

### 4 DAYS OF SCHOOL AMBASSADOR FUNCTIONS!

A huge thank you to all of our School Ambassadors who travelled to Brisbane for our appreciation events over the course of Magic Round! We were lucky enough to engage with School Ambassadors at pre-game functions on every day of Magic Round as well as before the first game of the 2024 Women's State of Origin Series. It was a great week, allowing us to connect with our amazing School Ambassadors from all over Queensland and provide them each with tickets to these blockbuster games as a way of showing our appreciation for all they do to make Rugby League the Greatest Game for All.



## REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Take a look at what's been happening in schools around the country!

### NORTH QUEENSLAND



#### STARS FOUNDATION!

In Term 2 of 2024 the Townsville Game Development Team have been delivering engagement clinics to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Females in Grades 7-12 with the culmination being a League Tag Gala Day for the Students.

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA



#### ELLENBROOK TACKLE GALA DAY!

In May, we held our first ever Ellenbrook Rabbitohs Legends Carnival. 6 Primary Schools attended, with over 150 students participating. All of the students who attended completed the Tackle Ready program, to ensure they were Confident and Competent!

## REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

### CENTRAL QUEENSLAND



#### BELLMERE STATE SCHOOL - LEAGUE STARS!

This term Bellmere State School hosted their first Leagues Stars program. In a new and exciting initiative, Bellmere are the first school on the Sunshine Coast to accept FairPlay Vouchers for registering participants.

### NSW CENTRAL HUNTER

#### 8 SCHOOLS WILL BATTLE IT OUT FOR COFFS HARBOUR TRIP!

Schools from across Newcastle and the Hunter have recently been battling it out for a chance to take part in the Northern Country Cup Semi Finals to be held in Coffs Harbour in July. A total of fifty U13's and U15's teams (25 in each age group) have taken part in the NRL Game Development run events.

The regional event to decide what schools travel to Coffs Harbour is to be held at Baddeley Park, Cessnock on the 30th May and what makes this year's regional event even more special is that 8 different schools will take part in the day. A real credit to the competition structure.

Congratulations to the following schools who will battle it out in the semi-finals on the 30th of May at Baddeley Park, Cessnock:

#### **Newcastle Country Cup Semi-Finals**

- 9:30am U/13s – Mount View High School vs St Francis Xavier College, Hamilton
- 10:40am U/13s – St Mary's Catholic College, Gateshead vs Tomaree High School
- 11:50am U/15s – Warners Bay High School vs Catherine McAuley Catholic College, Medowie
- 1:00pm U/15s – All Saints' College, Maitland vs Callaghan College Waratah Campus



A massive thank you to all the schools that have taken part this year, and to the Newcastle Coalfields Referees Association who have assisted with the officiating!

# REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

## SOUTHERN NSW



## GILBERT/CROCKER LEGENDS DAY!

Last week saw NRL Canberra's biggest Gilbert/Crocker Legends Day in years! Held in Goulburn, the day was a huge success with schools entering the competition that had not been in attendance for some years. Students of Years 3/4 and 5/6 gave both the contact and non-contact forms of the game their best efforts. With forty-six teams, from seven schools, across ten fields, North Park was a buzz! These numbers were more than double that seen in previous years, especially since the coronavirus pandemic.

Some highlights from the day include having Ashley Gilbert, Raider #32 on hand to cheer on the teams and sign some memorabilia for the local clubs. NRL staff also conducted our Tackle Ready program before the first game for all those competing in tackle, to ensure that all participants were adequately prepared. The local Rugby League club the Goulburn Stockmen were also involved, assisting in the running of this successful day, solidifying strong connections between local sport and local schools. It was fantastic to see a country town supporting such an event off the back of a very successful inaugural K-2 Gala Day last year in Goulburn!



## REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

### SYDNEY METRO

#### GLADESVILLE LEAGUE TAG GALA DAY!

On the 21st of May 2024, we invited St Charles Catholic Primary School - Ryde and Putney Public School down to Bedlam Oval, Gladesville for a League Tag Gala Day. The schools brought 40 students each consisting of 20 Year 1 and 20 Year 2 students. The event comprised of each team playing 4 games of League Tag against the other school. The Game Development team also treated participants, teachers, and spectators to a sausage sizzle.

On top of this the Wests Tigers featured with visits from NRL players Solomona Faataape, Brandon Tumeth and Solomone Saukuru and NRLW players Botille Vette-Welsh and Kezie Apps. Their contribution was amazing, providing a pass the ball activation for all and allowing the students to gain insight into being a professional rugby league player through a Q&A.

Overall, the day was a great success, with both schools wanting to make it an annual event!



## RESOURCES

Take a look at what's available to you as a  
NRL School Ambassador!

## Book a Program!



## SCHOOLS

Want to host an opportunity  
for your students to try Rugby League?  
Click [here](#) to book a program!



## The NRL Introductory Teacher Coaching Course has launched!

The [course](#) is designed for all Primary School teachers who are taking a tag/touch/tackle team to an event, teaching Rugby League in school or want to learn more on how to teach Rugby League.

The course is online only with no face to face components. If you wish to further develop your knowledge and obtain an accreditation, please complete a community coach course via [learn.playrugbyleague.com](https://learn.playrugbyleague.com).

## SOCIALS

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### SCHOOLS

AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Being a part of the NRL School Ambassador Program, is your one stop shop for all information, offers, opportunities & money can't buy experiences for you, your students and your school. Make sure you sign up for 2024 [here](#) and have your colleagues do the same.

Bronze	Silver	Gold
<p>Who</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; All School Staff</li><li>&gt; Fans</li><li>&gt; Supporting Sports Coordinators/Rugby League Teacher</li></ul>	<p>Who</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; NRL Session Host (Main Contact)</li><li>&gt; School team Coach</li><li>&gt; Principal</li></ul>	<p>Who</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; School Competition Convenor</li><li>&gt; League Stars Before/After School Host (Main Contact)</li><li>&gt; League Stars Inspire Host (Main Contact)</li><li>&gt; School Boy/Girl Cup Head Coach</li></ul>

## FEEDBACK

For all feedback & enquiries, please email [schools@nrl.com.au](mailto:schools@nrl.com.au)