



Queen City Old Boys – October 2016

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Fall Schedule

Queen City is hoping to bounce back from a disappointing start to the league season that sees us propping up the league table. Hopefully 3 home games in the last 4 fixtures this fall will see things turn around.

Oct 15	Columbus - home
Oct 22	Dayton - away
Oct 29	Lexington - home
Nov 5	Bye
Nov 12	Dayton - home

Midwest South D3 Standings

	P	W	L	Pts
Cincinnati Kelts	5	5	0	25
Columbus	4	4	0	19
Louisville	4	3	1	15
Dayton	4	1	3	7
Lexington	4	1	3	5
Cincinnati Wolfhounds	5	1	4	4
Queen City	4	0	4	3

QCRFC 38 - 36 Ohio University

Queen City opened the scoring when **Chris Schmoyer** burst through the Bobcats defense and offloaded to **Scotty Sherlock** to score between the posts. The rest of the first half proved to be one way traffic as the OU backs ran riot and scored 4 tries leaving QCRFC trailing 24-7 at the half. QCRFC took advantage of an OU yellow card shortly after half time and a pair of **Steve Kurzhals** tries got QCRFC back in the game.

Once back to full strength the Bobcats extended their lead before **Nick Brandt** bullied his way over the goal line from close range to reduce the deficit to 3 points. With 10 minutes remaining the pack drove **Joe Macke** across the line to put QCRFC ahead.

However, OU were not done and their backs created a sixth try to re-take the lead. With time running out it appeared that QCRFC's spirited fight back was going to come up short, but one last attack and good ball handling from the backs put **Joe DeMaris** in the corner for the winning score.

QCRFC 12 - 29 Lexington

Ben Kurzhals put the first points on the board in Lexington with a brilliant switch play engineered with brother Steve. QCRFC rucked well and maintained possession early on, but as the first half proceeded, the Blackstones took control and led 14-7 at the half through costly turnovers and blown tackles. Another well worked move in the backs resulted in a second Kurzhals try that kept QCRFC in touch.

Disappointingly for the Queen City faithful Lexington pulled away and then secured a bonus point for their 4th try in the 80th minute.

QCRFC 20 - 24 Cincinnati Wolfhounds

Queen City came up just short of making it three wins in a row against the Wolfhounds. The Hounds jumped out to an early lead, but a **Ben Kurzhals** try and a penalty from brother Steve kept the deficit to 6 points at the interval.

QCRFC took a one point lead when the **Steve Kurzhals** scored and converted a try after 60 minutes. The Hounds took advantage of a QCRFC yellow card to retake the lead before a late try by rookie **Justin Meineke** pulled the guys in green within one point. As the clock ran down the Hounds scored a late penalty to close out a four point win.

QCRFC 32 - 34 Cincinnati Kelts

Despite scoring six tries to their cross-town rival's 5 tries, an inability to land conversions robbed Queen City of a victory against the Kelts. In an exciting first half QCRFC ran in 5 tries but only converted one. A healthy and rejuvenated **Chris Pennington** bulldozed in from short range twice. A switch from fly-half to outside center allowed **Steve Kurzhals** to claim a pair of tries. While **Scotty Sherlock** broke through the Kelts' and showed that even at 35 he still has the wheels to out run defenders.

The Kelts took control after the interval and built a 7 point lead before a late **Bob Grogan** try pulled QCRFC within 2 points at the final whistle.



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QCRFC 10- 43 Louisville

A promising start with a try from **Joe DeMaris** and conversion & penalty from **Steve Kurzhals** saw QCRFC take an early lead. However, Louisville are much improved this season and after half time the Louisville pack took command. Louisville ran up 35 unanswered points as the young QCRFC side wilted to claim a convincing victory.



A healthy Chris Pennington was made a welcome return to the A-side this fall.

Keg Sponsors

A big thank you to the 5 old boys who have sponsored the kegs for the fall season.

Wolfhounds – Jim DeLapp

Kelts – Sean Cogan

Columbus – Bill Frost

Lexington – Todd Kirk

Dayton – Cap'n Dan Bartley

We heard that one or two old boys are upset that by the time they respond to emails all the keg sponsorship opportunities have gone. If you fall into that category drop Alan Webb a note at qcrfc10@gmail.com and we can take an early reserve on a spring season game.

QCRFC Heads to Chicago

A collection of 30 QCRFC players and Old Boys will be heading to Chicago on November 5 to experience top level international rugby as Ireland take on the All Blacks. **Jim & Suzann DeLapp** are proving to be wonderful hosts yet again by providing the pre-game festivities.

QCRFC To Tour England & Wales

After the success of our spring tour to Canada, Queen City RFC is proud to announce that we will be heading across the Atlantic in **May 2018**. Although the planning is in the preliminary phases we are in discussions with **Usk** (home club of the late, great **Aevion Blackwell**), **Eccleshall** and **Rolls-Royce** about potential fixtures.

More details on the itinerary and payment plans will be forthcoming in future newsletters and on the new club website.

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Craig & Holly Skiba** who recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. What a great reason to share this wonderful photo of the young couple!



Best wishes to former QCRFC front row forward **Taylor Heilbronner** and wife Chesea on the birth of their first child Hudson in September.

Spring Season Awards

The spring season awards were presented at the banquet after the summer golf outing. **Nick Brandt** took home spring season MVP after another excellent season at #8. **Chris Schmoyer** grubba kicked his way to the try of the season award and **Jason Tinch** was awarded hit of the season again for consistent hits on the buffets in local eateries.



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Old Boy Updates

Bob Frommeyer 1985-1994

A drunken Friday night encounter with **Marty Berning** led to Fro joining the newly formed Westside rugby club in 1983. They struggled along with for a couple of years before merging with Queen City in 1985. Bob played #8 with Westside, but **Brian Burke's** presence at QCRFC saw him shift to second row. **Ronnie Creager** suggested Bob move to center and he starred there until he retired in 1994. He actually tried to quit a year earlier but was "volunteered" to play in some games that he only came to watch.

After rugby retirement Fro spent the next phase of his life ferrying his 3 children all over the country to various sporting events.

Bob is the Assistant Deputy Chief United States Probation Officer for the Southern District of Ohio and has 4 years to go until retirement. In this role he swears that he has never had any QCRFC player as a customer.

Rich Uhle 1980-1981

Rich caught the rugby bug in at Wittenberg University in 1977. Wittenberg played Queen City regularly and Rich got to know many of the QCRFC roster. The word was that QCRFC were much more fun than the Wolfhounds, so upon graduation Rich wore the green and white.

Rich recalls with great pride beating the Hounds soundly in September 1980. However, the Hounds did get revenge in a rematch later that season.

After two seasons with QCRFC Rich defected to the Hounds. He played with them for 8 years, originally as #8 and then in the backs after **Jake Burkhart** also defected across town and took his position. Rich also played in British Columbia, the Bahamas and Ireland.

Despite spending most of his rugby career with the Hounds, Rich readily admits that Queen City really is more fun than the team in blue and he loves catching up with his old QCRFC friends.

Rich grew up in Wyoming, still calls that home and is an attorney in private practice.

Get Well Soon

Alex Whitacre's second season with Queen City ended in Lexington with a nasty knee injury. He had his knee rebuilt on October 6 and is getting ready for a long rehab stint. In the meantime he aims on heckling opponents from the sidelines.

Here's wishing Old Boy **Jim DeLapp** a speedy recovery from the broken wrist he sustained tripping on a curb. Do you really think it will be wise to lace up your boots for the Old Boys game in May?



Old Boys Scott Morgan, Alan Webb, Steve Morris & Rob Overbeck made the trip to Athens for some B-side action against the OU Bobcats.

A Home of Our Own

For 40 years Queen City has begged, borrowed and sometimes stolen field time. Rob Overbeck says it is time for us to get our own damn field! He is asking for help locating a suitable place to call home. Dimensions are vague, but a minimum of 5 acres and would prefer land with some sort of structure on it. If you have any ideas please email Rob at president@qcrugby.com.

www.qcrugby.com

We are back in the website business. We will use the site to promote Queen City and as a source for schedules and events. The current president has also promised to keep advertisements for "Canadian Xanax" off of the site!



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Westside Rugby Club 1983-1984

We recently caught up with **Marty “Stubby” Berning** and he recalled his memories of the short lived Westside RFC and the merger with Queen City.

“The idea for a new men’s rugby club came about after the Elder & St. Xavier teams met on the pitch four times in the spring of 1982. So in the winter of 1983 a group of recent high school grads from Elder, St.X, Roger Bacon plus one from Oak Hills went to the Ohio RFU meeting and Westside rugby was born. We picked up fixtures against UC Law & Hiram College (who we owned), Xavier (who we held our own with), Queen City (who we could play tough for the first 60 minutes) and UC, Dayton Argyles, Wright Patt. and UK (who thumped us).

“Numbers were always an issue for Westside with just 10 to 12 regulars at practice. Sometimes we could scrape together 15 on game days, but often we would have to borrow a player or two or let the occasional girlfriend onto the field. As the team comprised of a dozen broke guys aged 20 and under finances were always an ongoing issue. I think I am still out around \$300 from those 3 seasons.

“Our short existence was characterized by the sheer determination and leadership of the Elder contingent (note that Marty is a proud Panther!). We may not have won you over, but we pissed off a bunch of teams and quite a few referees! The best showing for the Black & Grey was a runner-up placing at the University of Kentucky’s Derby Tournament. **Mike “Pee Wee” Roettker** coined Westside’s motto, “Our future won’t be long, but our history will be legendary!”

“It was after we hosted Queen City at Three Rivers Grade School in the spring of 1984 that talk of a possible merger began. **Mike Nicolai’s** mom must have been out of town as we held the party on the deck at her house and **Ronnie Creager & Lenny French** approached me. That was quite amusing as I had been carefully avoiding Lenny at the party. I had bloodied his nose pretty badly when I fly hacked a loose ball straight into his substantial beak from about two feet away. Typical me, I had managed a really good, but unintentional cheap shot! Lenny just laughed off our on-field incident and gave me a beer. Note that it was a beer that Westside had bought!”

“That party proved two things. Firstly, the Queen City guys were down to earth and all round good guys. Secondly, Westside just didn’t have the money to throw a good rugby party. Once Ronnie realized we had limited numbers and funding he recruited the hell out of us.

“After three seasons Westside disbanded and a group of us traded black & grey for green and white. **Tim Cassidy, Bob Frommeyer, Mark Jacobs, Mike “Pee Wee” Roettker, Paul Rolfes** and myself went on to play with Queen City for a number of years. If I am missing anyone I apologize, but a lot of brain cells have been killed off over the last 30 years.

“At Mike Nicolai’s wedding Lenny told me “You brought enough guys to help out Queen City, but more importantly you brought a ton of attitude”. That we certainly did, as we all thought we were much better than we were. The run with Westside was fun, but our years with Queen City were absolutely outstanding. I’m sure we all agree that if we ever get enshrined into a rugby hall of fame our busts will be in Queen City colors!”



Marty Berning and fellow “Westsider” Tim Cassidy with Bruce Connett and Lenny French on the 1993 England Tour