



Queen City Old Boys – February 2017

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Spring Schedule

The spring season has been a tough one to date. Knoxville cried off a couple of days before the home opener and league play hasn't gone as well as hoped with 3 straight losses. That leaves just two away games and the Old Boys game

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|------|-------------------------|
| 4/22 | Cincinnati Kelts (away) |
| 4/29 | Cleveland Rovers (away) |
| 5/6 | Open |
| 5/13 | Old Boys Game |

Old Boys Weekend

It's time to get fired up for the upcoming Old Boys game. Honorary captain **Tad Steen** is hoping to have a large roster of available players on May 13. If you are too old to lace up those boots one more time, or maybe too smart to do that, please come along provide moral support. The Old Boys will be pushing for their first victory since 2011.



Rob Overbeck prepared for the Old Boys game with a brief run out against Louisville.

The weekend will kick-off with a meet and greet at **Juan Imeroni's** restaurant Che (1342 Walnut St, Downtown) starting at 6:30 pm. The beer is on the club, thank you **Derek Simmons** for transferring your keg sponsorship from the cancelled Knoxville game. This provides an opportunity for out of town Old Boys to experience the gentrified Over the Rhine.

The game itself will be at our Woodlawn field with a **1:30 pm kick-off**. Players and spectators will receive a warm welcome.

We will round off the weekend with a round of Golf at Devou Park starting at 1 pm. Those wishing to play golf should contact John Lengyel at jlengyel12@gmail.com to secure a spot.

QCRFC 25 – 35 Wolfhounds

Despite QCRFC having plenty of possession, turnovers led to the Wolfhounds scoring on long runs. An **RJ Groh** penalty scored the only points as the Wolfhounds led 35-3 early in the second half. However, QCRFC showed plenty of character to score 4 unanswered tries through **Nick Brandt, Ryan Krallman, Chris Montgomery & Steve Kurzhals** and reduce the deficit to 10 points by the final whistle.

QCRFC 0 – 74 Columbus Castaways

The Castaways have been the dominant team in our division since their formation, so traveling to Columbus without numerous regular starters was always going to be a challenge. QCRFC were simply overmatched and ended up on the receiving end of a 12 try shellacking.

QCRFC 5 – 34 Louisville

QCRFC hosted a Louisville side who have been in fine form this spring, scoring 125 points in their two league game.

In a similar vein to the Wolfhounds game QCRFC had plenty of possession, but turnovers at key times resulted in breakaway tries. After conceding 5 first tries, QCRFC's resolve stiffened in the second half conceding only one more try. The effort was rewarded when a break by **Ryan Webb & Chris Montgomery**, was capped off by **Sean Kehl's** first QCRFC try. **Ben Kurzhals** had an outstanding game at full-back making several try saving tackles. While **Joey Roetting** was awarded Man of the Match honors for a particularly combative display at hooker.

Also, veteran replacement props **John Klosinski & Rob Overbeck** would like to point out that QCRFC actually won the portion of the game when they were both on the field!



Ryan Krallman on the charge against Louisville



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Old Boy Update

Mike Czirr 1974-1980's

We knew getting Mike to say anything in 100 words was going to be a challenge. Needless to say he over-achieved with this long format old boy update.

“Ronnie **Ronnie Creager** (Captain for life) said I was the 13th player to sign up for the new cub. I met Ronnie in a Mount Adams bar after walking up the steps of the Church of the Immaculata on Good Friday back in 1974. I had just graduated from UK where I played in college and with Ronnie's ha ha ha kind of laugh I thought what the hell and went out to practice up in Eden Park.

I am not sure how long I played but let's say early 80s I was on and off. In 1976 **Shaun Gaffney** and I did go to Ireland as part of a Cincinnati contingent playing 5 games we won 3 and lost 2. My dad passed away while on that trip and I came back a couple of days early.

I loved playing. The team members kept changing which meant there was always that bit of excitement as to what the team might look like in upcoming games. I remember that Indianapolis would not schedule us for an A game. They killed us one year and I thought they had 2 guys who played pro football playing for them. They were good. But we kept playing their B side and one year we killed their B side and they started scheduling A games with us. We were competitive.

I remember Louisville and **Jimmie Delapp**. I thought they were a bunch of thugs but grew to love them. I played them at UK and with Queen City.

Our first Queen City awards banquet was in the driveway of **Bobbie Breen** (God rest his soul). We had them every year that I played and some of them we had special quests but that is another story. Fort Wayne was always exciting. Especially the parties. They would work the “Alouette” song like I have never heard it before. Ronnie Ronnie Ronnie would agree.

But we soon got our own song birds from Princeton's **Willie Landrigan** and **Bob Mast**. They would sing 1000 songs without sheet music. They were poetry in motion not to mention their parties with the dry ice and pure grain alcohol for the girls.

The road trips to Canada, Rehoboth Beach, New Orleans and others killed a lot of brain cells I am sure

but I would not change much if having to do it all over again.

I worked for Square D/Schneider Electric for 37 years in IT before retiring this past June. My wife Barb and I are traveling and loving our grandson Chase. My son Nick and his wife Brittany are expecting a second child in June. More joy to come.

Thank you Queen City for the wonderful memories and may you create many more, for many more years.

Get Well Soon El Presidente

Club founder **Ron Creager** thought one of his shoes was squeaking when he walked. However, he soon realized the squeak was still there when he was barefoot and it turned out to be the rod in his leg! Ron under went surgery to have a new rod inserted on April 17.

England/Wales Tour 2018

Just 13 months to the England/Wales tour and more details are available. To date 20 tourists have put down their deposits, including 10 Old Boys. Several Old Boys have also verbally committed so we should have our first Old Boys game on foreign soil when we take on Eccleshall Old Boys. If you plan to go get hold of Rob Overbeck as soon as possible.

Preliminary Itinerary:

3/23 Leave CVG for Dublin

3/25 Guinness Brewery Tour

3/26 Fly to Cardiff –Play Usk RFC

5/28 Train to Derby

5/30 Play Rolls-Royce RFC

6/2 Play Eccleshall RFC (A side & Old Boys fixtures)

6/3 Return to Cincinnati

Autism Speaks

We are now a corporate sponsor of Autism Speaks as a result of the StreetCar Pub Crawl Donation. They have offered us a fund raising opportunity at the annual **Autism Walk on Sunday, April 21 at Coney Island from 9am to 2 pm**. We need to provide 25 volunteers to keep people out of the lake. To volunteer contact John Lengyel, jlengyel@gmail.com.



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Player profiles

Josh Crowthers – Wing



Josh is from Oxford and moves furniture for a living. Working with **Ty Morris**, Josh had to listen all day about how great rugby is and how fantastic Ty is at it. Having played football while growing up, Josh was missing contact sports and decided to give rugby a try last year.

Josh admits that Ty was right on one account, rugby is a great sport! In the fall Josh was broken in on the wing as he learns the game and he is now telling everyone he knows who played football that they need to try rugby and get out to some Queen City practices.

Ryan Webb – Fly Half



Ryan returns to Queen City after 4 seasons playing open side wing forward for the Wolfhounds D1 team. His time with the Hounds was punctuated by a shoulder injury. Rushing back too soon after surgery saw a recurrence of the injury, effectively finishing his time at D1.

Having seen his dad turn out for QCRFC in his 50's with no shoulder issues, Ryan is trying to ply his skills at fly-half this spring. To prepare for the spring season he has been growing his hair out and investing in multiple hair products.

Off the field, the self-employed electrician lives rent free in his dad's basement and spends his weekends at the Liberty Inn working on his mommy issues.

Old Boy Update

Bob Mast 1976-1978

Bob and Princeton roommate **Willy Landrigan** moved to Cincinnati when they got jobs at P&G. They joined QCRFC after running into some team members late one night at a Skyline Chili.

In 1978 Bob joined Schlumberger and left Cincinnati for the oil industry in Africa. In 1980 Bob left Schlumberger to go to the Harvard Business school, where he played rugby until he graduated in 1982. He remains a member of HBSOBRFC to this day although he doesn't play in the Old Boys games any more.

He joined a Boston based financial startup called Monument Group in 1996 and has been with them ever since. Throw in a few more jobs, a couple of wives and 3 kids and that is pretty much Bob's story since he left QCRFC.



At the Louisville game Ron Creager turned back the years when he led off the QCRFC boat race against the team from Kentucky.



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Savannah 2017

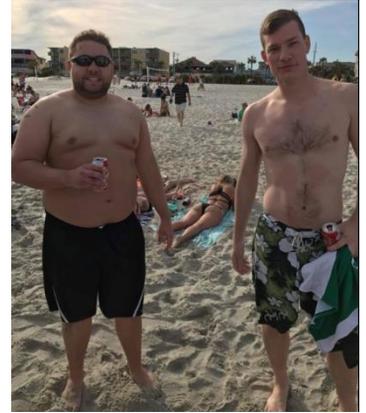
QCRFC decided to head south in search of sunshine to get some pre-season team building and warm weather games under their belts. So 18 players headed to Savannah, Ga the weekend of March 11/12 to participate in the annual St. Patrick's Day Tournament. As was to be expected, the boys excelled off the field and plenty of stories are available that could not be included in such a well respected publication as this.

QCRFC kicked off the tournament against **Western Suburbs** from Virginia. QCRFC played well, scrum-half **Jason Tinch** scored an early try. However, the failure to capitalize on point scoring opportunities resulted in a 5-19 loss.

QCRFC should really have won their next game against the **Nomads** out of Charlotte, NC. QCRFC led the whole game behind tries from **Ryan Krallman**, **Chris Schmoyer & Javier Taverez**. However, ill-discipline resulted in 3 yellow cards, including two in the final minutes. QCRFC eventually relinquished the lead in the final seconds of the game when the short handed QCRFC could not prevent the Nomads scoring from a penalty 5 yards from the goal line.



Bob Grogan keeping his playing weight up



Jason Tinch & Nick Brandt enjoy the beach views

Two losses resulted in an 8:30 am Sunday kick-off against the **Finlay Scars**. QCRFC jumped off to a fast start and after two tries by **Chris Schmoyer** and one each for **Chris Pennington & Ryan Webb** led 26-5 at half time. At this point Findlay picked up a bunch of rugby whores from Fort Bragg (who won this bracket convincingly) and proceeded to score 31 unanswered points in the second half.



Back Row: Ian Marsh, Kyle Connelly, Scott Wesson, Nick Brandt, Scott Eisenhower, Justin Meineke, Joe DeMaris, Bob Grogan, Ty Morris, Jason Tinch, Ryan Webb, Josh Crowthers, RJ Groh
Front Row: Chris Schmoyer, Chris Pennington