



# Queen City Old Boys – January 2017

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## Seasons Greetings

Here's hoping that each and every one of you had a merry Christmas and are set for a prosperous 2017. Several Old Boys made it back to Cincinnati for the holidays and we trust you took the opportunity to catch up and tell tall tales of your former rugby prowess.

## Midwest South D3 Standings

The fall season did not go as hoped, but we still have 4 league games in the spring to pull ourselves out of the basement of the league standings. As can be seen below the Columbus Castaways continue their recent dominance of the Midwest South division, remaining unbeaten after the fall season.

	P	W	L	Pts
Columbus	7	7	0	33
Cincinnati Kelts	8	6	2	31
Dayton	8	5	3	26
Louisville	7	4	3	22
Lexington	8	2	6	12
Cincinnati Wolfhounds	8	2	6	10
<b>Queen City</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>

## Trick or Treat?

What could possibly be better than watching your dad play rugby? Watching your dad play while wearing your favorite Halloween costume and doing some early trick or treating! After the Lexington game the QCRFC players held a trick or treat session for all the kids in attendance.



## QCRFC 7 - 46 Columbus

Columbus set the tone with a the first minute try and were 24 points ahead after 20 minutes. However, constant questioning of referee Mike Mers' decisions resulted in numerous penalties and a yellow card. Queen City took advantage of this with a **Chris Pennington** try at the 30 minute point.

The game was pretty evenly matched until the 60 minute mark, then Columbus regained the upper hand and ran in 4 unanswered tries.

## QCRFC 11 - 32 Dayton

Queen City again started slowly, conceding 3 tries in the opening 12 minutes. However, QCRFC played themselves back into the game and after two **Steve Kurzhals** penalties had gotten back within 12 points by half time.

Despite playing well against the team recently relegated from D2, Dayton scored two second half tries to pull clear. There was no quit in this QCRFC effort and in the 79<sup>th</sup> minute **Nick Klaserner, Ryan Webb & Gabe Shriver** linked up well to put **Chris Pennington** in for a well deserved try.

## QCRFC 45 - 10 Lexington

On a beautiful late fall day with a large Old Boy presence, QCRFC finally produced the display coach Lee Burton has been looking for. A closely contested first half saw QCRFC hold a 2 point lead after tries from **Nick Klaserner & Bob Grogan**. The second half saw QCRFC turn on the style with tries from **Ryan Krallman, Nick Baltimore, Steve Kurzhals, Nick Klaserner & Chris Schmoyer**. Klaserner put in a bid for try of the season with an individual 80 yard gallop through the Blackstone's defense from a kick-off. **Steve Kurzhals** had a better day from the tee, converting 5 of 7 tries.

## QCRFC 7 – 34 Dayton

The large Dayton pack dominated the early proceedings with The Flying Pigs leading scoring 3 tries before a **Joe Macke** try got QCRFC on the scoreboard. The QCRFC stiffened in the second half, conceding just 2 tries. Unfortunately, the game became a little "chippy" near the end and a melee in the last 10 minutes saw **Nick Baltimore** dismissed.



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## Fall Season Awards

The Fall season banquet was moved forward to early December this year. It has been a pleasure to see **Chris Pennington** return to good health this season and the second row forward capped a remarkable return with a well deserved MVP trophy.

**Justin Meineke** made quite an impression in his first season of rugby and claimed Rookie of the Year and try of the season. Touching down a through kick by out sprinting the Kelts back line is not what is normally expected from a prop!

**Joe DeMaris** took hit of the season for knocking out teammate **Stephen Moore** against the Kelts. Check the team Facebook page for video.



MVP Chris Pennington & ROTY Justin Meineke

## QCRFC Witnesses History in Chicago

A large contingent from Queen City descended on Chicago to witness Ireland beat the All Blacks for the first time after 113 years of trying. For the third year in a row **Jim & Sue DeLapp** hosted a fantastic pre-game party. Cheers!



## QCRFC Brings Christmas Cheer

The club adopted two needy families through Our Lord Christ The King Church in Linwood. The club raised over \$550 through donations of the players, old boys and other club contacts to buy gifts and food for the holiday season. Thank you to **Bob Grogan, John Lengyel, Scott Eisenhower & Jason Tinch** for shopping and wrapping the gifts.



Bob Grogan Christmas shopping for our adopted families

A couple of weeks before Christmas we had a party for our youngest fans. Thanks to the players who donated the gifts and the QCRFC's very own Santa Claus **Pete Brimelow**.





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### AGM

The AGM was held at O'Malley's on November 19. The meeting was run at a very brisk pace and there are no changes to the club leadership.

President: **Rob Overbeck**

Vice president: **Jason Tinch**

Treasurer: **Chris Schmoyer**

Social Chairman: **John Lengyel**

Captain: **Nick Klaserner**

### Winter Training Schedule

**Saturday February 11 – Scavenger Hunt.** Meet at the Blind Pig at 7 pm with your DD and join the mad dash around Cincinnati to see who can scavenge the most bras and panties. This a great event for non rugby aficionados, so bring your friends.

**Saturday February 25 – Westside Pub Crawl.** Find out what it is about the Westside that makes the Kurzhals and the Klaserners claim it is the best side. Check Facebook for more details.

**Saturday March 4 – Poker Night at Overbeck's.** Sunglasses wearing douches, perennial first players out and total rookies are all invited to the Overbeck estate for a Texas Hold 'Em evening. Beer drinking starts at 6pm with the first hand dealt at 7pm. The address is 9432 Brehm Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45252.

### Pete's Guy Fawkes Party

The annual party was delayed 2 weeks because of the Chicago international so it was colder than ever. Despite the change in date the shenanigans remained the same!



Dom Ali & Bob Grogan get re-acquainted



Chris Pennington attempts to keep warm

### England/Wales Tour 2018

Here are more details as promised in the last newsletter.

We plan to leave Wednesday May 16 or Thursday May 17, landing somewhere in the UK or Ireland the next day. We will return on Sunday May 27, which will give us Memorial Day to recover before going back to work. We hope to play Usk, Rolls-Royce & Eccleshall. In addition we hope to field an Old Boys side against Eccleshall Old Boys.

Cost numbers are being crunched, but we are looking at a slightly higher cost for Old Boys to account for more suitable accommodation. This would include your own bed so you don't trip over 6 passed out youngsters when you get up to piss 5 times each night. Subject to change, we are looking around \$2200 for active players and \$2600 for old boys.

To reserve your tour spot send a check payable to Queen City Rugby for \$200 to **Chris Schmoyer**, 115 Winding Way Apt D, Covington, Ky 41011. Deposits are refundable until we start purchasing flights and reserving accommodation.

Further details will be made available as plans solidify. If you have any questions contact The Cringer at [mike.nicolai22@gmail.com](mailto:mike.nicolai22@gmail.com).

### Old Boys Weekend May 12-15

The spring season schedule is coming together nicely and we are looking at **May 13** for the Old Boys game. The youngsters have won the last couple of games, so we have four months to get into shape and shame those Old Boys who live elsewhere into returning to the Tri-State for the weekend.

This spring **Tad Steen** will be the Old Boys captain in recognition of his loyal support for our club.

Also a social event at the Blind Pig on Friday night and possibly a golf outing on Sunday are being considered. Send any comments to Jason Tinch [tinch\\_2004@yahoo.com](mailto:tinch_2004@yahoo.com) and look for more details in the next newsletter.

### Kick-Off Time

We are getting a lot of pressure from our opposition to start our home games at 1pm in line with every other club in the region. If any Old Boys have a strong opinion about changing this Queen City tradition please contact Jason Tinch.



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www.qcrfc.com

### Player profiles

#### Nils Herdelin – Hooker



Nils is originally from Louisville and took up rugby at Western Kentucky University. Nils took 8 years off from rugby after graduation. He wishes he could say it was to concentrate on his career as an attorney at American Legal Publishing, but it was entirely due to laziness.

In the spring of 2016 Nils decided it was time to get back in shape and use his hooking skills again. So he headed for a Wolfhounds practice at Brimelow Field but ended up in Woodlawn by mistake. Nils quickly decided that Queen City had great guys and we have been stuck with him ever since.

### Old Boy Update

#### Steve Cook 1977-1982

Steve is not too sure on the exact dates as it was an awful long time and many beers ago. He was first recruited to play rugby because he was drinking beer at UC and if you did that you played rugby too. He learned his rugby skills from the likes of Ron Creager and Jim DeLapp and after Queen City played for a couple of seasons with South Pittsburgh.

After rugby Steve moved to the country and rehabbed farm houses in his spare time. He married a wonderful woman and had 2 sons who are now grown. He is still in the construction business and has about 4 years to retirement. Then it is off to Mexico!

#### Justin Meineke – Prop



A former teammate of Bob Grogan on the Mt. St. Joseph football team, Justin thought “if Grogan can be a star at this rugby lark (Grogan’s words not ours) I should be freaking awesome!” Justin’s best position is still up for debate as he has the speed to be a back, the aggression to play back row and strength to play front row. This year he claimed rookie of the year as a prop.

Being an Elder grad from the Westside, we have high hopes that Justin will never leave Cincinnati and will become a fixture in the Queen City line up for years to come. However, we thought the same about Matt Gatherwright too!

#### John Critzer 2000-2002

Playing with Queen City was one of the most fun times of Tiny’s life. He knows there are many wonderful stories about him so ask someone who played in that time frame. Payback is hell and he admits he deserves it.

After QCRFC Tiny moved to Dayton for 2 years and then the Hounds for 5 until retiring due to injury. With nothing better to do after retirement he got married to Kara in 2009 and has 4 sons. With the twins being 2 years old he doesn’t get out much other than work at MPW Industrial Services as an Operations Manager.

This past spring Tiny coached the Lakota Jets HS team forwards where his freshman son Brody is a wing. The Jets won the D2 state title, beating D1 teams Moeller and St. Xavier along the way.



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### QCRFC Late 80's

Thanks to **PJ Haas** of this team photo from Woodward High School from the late 1980's. Memories are fading fast so we need some help identifying a handful of unknowns in this picture.

If you have any old gems stashed away in a photo album please scan them and send them to [qcrfc10@gmail.com](mailto:qcrfc10@gmail.com) so we can share them for posterity.



Standing: Brock Ellwood, Skip Rasfeld, Kim Patton, Lee Burton, Lenny French, Big Marty Boscaci, Unknown, Mark Jacob, Bob Kelley, Tim Cassidy, Todd Bittner, Mike Pee Wee Roettker, Don Versteeg, Bruce Connett, Unknown, Mark Fischer  
Kneeling: Dan Ehoodin, Burke from the Hounds, Don Night Train Tessian, Brian Bradford, Dave Wirth  
On the ground: Marty Berning, Dave Ritze, PJ Haas, Marty Macke, Willy Landrigan, Ronnie Creager, Unknown