



Queen City Old Boys – March 2018

www.qcrugby.com

Spring 2018 Schedule

The Spring 2018 League schedule has arrived!!

(**Home Match**)

3/24-3/25: Nash Bash in Nashville, TN

3/31: BYE (Holiday Weekend)

4/7-4/8: Columbus Castaways Tournament

4/14: Ohio University Bobcats

4/21: Canton MadDogs

4/28: Lexington Blackstones

5/5: Columbus Rhinos

5/12: Columbus Castaways

5/23-6/3: Wales/England Tour 2018

Winter Banquet

The Winter Banquet was held at the Butcher & Barrel in downtown Cincinnati on Saturday, January 27th. Old boys, current players, and better halves were all in attendance. Most Valuable Player for the Fall 2017 season was awarded to **Justin Meineke**, **Jason Tinch** won the Hit of the Season, and **Chris Pennington** earned the Try of the Season. Along with the club awards was a wooden rugby ball hand-crafted by **Robert Grogan** given to **Lee Burton** for his dedication to the club as coach over the past two years.



Lee Burton and his wooden rugby ball.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday January 13th at the Butcher & Barrel in downtown Cincinnati. The topics of discussion were Tour Committee for Wales/England, Social Schedule, Club Financial Report, Match Schedule, Board Member Responsibilities, and Board Elections. The Board Elections at this past AGM were as follows:

- President – **Robert Overbeck**
- Vice President – **Lee Burton**
- Secretary – **Robert Grogan**
- Treasurer – **John Lengyel**
- Field Chair – **Scott Eisenhower**
- Social Chair – **Chris Pennington**
- Captain – **Jason Tinch**

In addition to these elections, **Scott “Pokey” Morgan** has volunteered his time to coach the club starting this Spring Season. Additionally, **Alex MacLeod** has stepped up to volunteer his time to coach Summer 7's. We would like to thank **Lee Burton** for his dedication to the club in coaching us over the last two years, and we look forward to his leadership as Vice President of the club.

The new responsibilities for the Captain of the Club is to work with the coach to nominate and choose two Co-Captains each season. This Spring season we would like to welcome **Justin Meineke** and **Joey Roetting** as Co-Captains.

Another important topic of discussion was the club's non-profit status as a 501(c)3. The club board members met in April 2017 to vote on amendments to the club Constitution and were passed unanimously. These necessary amendments were passed to fulfill the requirements as a 501(c)3 organization in the eyes of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The club has received a notice in January 2018 from the IRS that the club 501(c)3 status is under review over the next 90 days. We hope that your future donations to the club will be tax deductible this year!

If you would like a copy of the AGM meeting minutes or of the updated Constitution, please send an email to Robert Grogan, Secretary, at

rfcqueency@gmail.com.



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Autism Rocks

Queen City has been getting around town in a more positive light recently in our efforts to show our support for Autism. Along with our Queen City Pub Crawl and working with Coney Island for the Autism Walks event, a few of our members were approached by Dave Kahle, who is an avid member in the Cincinnati area for autism awareness. He has run the Autism Rocks fundraiser for the past 9 Years and asked us to volunteer as security for the event. Old boys, young guns, and QC better halves alike stepped up to the plate to answer the call on Sunday, February 11th at the Autism Rocks concert. Due to us volunteering, the event staff didn't have to hire private security, which helped cut down on costs and in the end saved money to be donated. With our combined efforts I am proud to announce that Autism Rocks 9 was a huge success in raising \$20,000. May our hard work and determination to keep fundraisers like these alive and thriving continue. A big thank you again to all of those who helped run this event, including **Ty Morris** for organizing the volunteers.



Keg Sponsors

Thank you again to the generosity from our Old Boys below who stepped up and sponsored the kegs for our home games this Spring. Also, thank you to all the other old boys who volunteered but couldn't be accommodated this season.

- 4/21: Canton MadDogs – **Randy Reedy**
- 4/28: Lexington Blackstones – **Jim DeLapp**
- 5/12: Columbus Castaways – **Keith Gilland**

This Spring the team will continue to hold true to the tradition of great social rugby by providing sideline refreshments for all. Your continued support is greatly appreciated!

Congratulations Joe & Christina Bosley!

Queen City Rugby's newest recruit was born this past December. Congratulations are in order for Joe and Christina Bosley!



Adopt a Family

Thank you to all the individuals for their donations of time and/or money to support our adoption of a family for Christmas. Together the club collected gifts and food for a family of 8 to help make their holiday a little bit brighter. Endeavors like this make us even more proud to be a part of Queen City RFC! Special thanks to **Jason Tinch** for collecting donations and organizing this event with a local church to adopt a family.



Gifts and food gathered at the West Side Estate before being donated to the Adopt a Family during Christmas.



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Captain's Corner

Although the 2017 fall season ended without a win, the team demonstrated much potential and reason for optimism for the seasons to come. I want to thank Lee Burton for the coaching and direction that he provided over the past five seasons. I am thrilled that he will continue to serve the club as Vice President. Close scores determined several matches and the club has a favorable mix of crafty veterans and young athleticism. The return of some talented players from time off for various reasons will further our abilities on the pitch.

As we look to the spring season and beyond, I want to see us return to being a competitive-social team. Queen City RFC has never, and I'm confident will never, lack for the social proficiencies of rugby. When I joined in 2004, we fell one win shy of winning the league. We will return to such prowess on the field.

In order to achieve this we need many things. Chief amongst these needs are numbers and dedication. We need players for both A and B matches. A healthy availability of players for the A matches breeds competition for playing time, which gives our coach the ability to put the best team on the pitch. B matches are just as important. They help keep new players around and get them experience at a game in which most are not well versed. They also give players the chance to show that they deserve A side time.

Dedication means showing up fit, putting in an effort at practice, and striving to be better. Our team fitness is not where it needs to be. As I said at the AGM, I am the first one to admit that I am not where I need to be. We have a few weeks until our first match, which gives everyone time to get themselves into better shape. I could not agree more with the selection of Scott "Pokey" Morgan as coach. Besides his rugby knowledge, Pokey brings a strong fitness mentality to coaching. As captain, I will hold players accountable for their dedication on and off the field. As co-captains, Pokey and I selected Joey Roetting and Justin Meineke. Both are young, fit, and bring a tenacious ferocity on the field. They will both do a fine job.

For the old boys that are able, attendance at practice and matches would be beneficial. There is strength in numbers, and even those that don't look to play in A matches can help at practice under Pokey's guidance, and/or by playing B matches. For those that feel they are too old or too beat up to play, your attendance at matches means more than you know. Please support the club when you're able.

I have loved rugby since I first starting playing in high school under the coaching of Josh DeHart, who brought me to Queen City. I love this club. I love the players, old boys, families, and fans! It was an honor to be elected captain, and I look forward to serving the club in this capacity.

*Cheers,
Tinch*

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ROB OVERBECK: roboverbeck2@gmail.com

Chris Pennington: pennington822@gmail.com



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Skip Rasfeld 1976 – 1991

I don't know if anyone has ever met Skip or heard of him, but he was certainly a Top 5 all-time player since I joined the team in 1983. He would also be in the conversation for best all-time player, period. When Lee Burton joined the club, Skip was an auto mechanic, but had dreams of becoming a police officer. And, at age 50, he did become one and is a member of the Miami Township Police Department in Clermont County.

Skip was fortunate to play with some legendary QCRFC players back before rugby became civilized. QCRFC was a bit bi-polar, sometimes having state championship caliber teams and at other times struggling to even field one. We went one season without giving up a try and other seasons we were scoring machines. Either way, it was always fun to play!

As best as I can figure, Skip (mostly) survived about 600 games, playing seven years at fullback and eight at scrumhalf. I had some big hits, one called shot, lots of kicks, played half-frozen and once seeing double. There were epic parties, a few good fights, lots of stitches, a few concussions, broken face, broken bones, dislocations, and thankfully lots of free beer. There were people falling off of floats, jumping off of balconies, lawsuits, scrumhalf bowling, halftime wedding, bar crawls the length of High Street, more than a few random arrests, awards banquets, halftime speeches, ugly red jerseys, the College Football Hall of Fame tourney, a West Virginia raffle, tornado, sunken houseboat, and Williebago trips. Given the chance, Skip wouldn't change a thing. Well, maybe the countless injuries, but the rest was awesome!



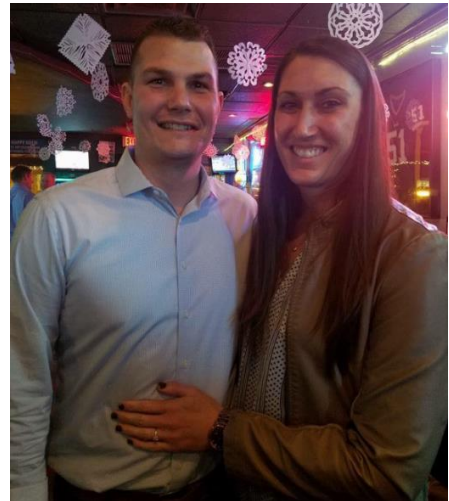
Skip keeping our local playgrounds safe

Clarence Stringer (BDC) 1997 – 1999

Leaving the comradery of the Queen City Rugby Club was the hardest part of moving from Cincinnati to Philadelphia for Clarence. But ultimately, he honored the "request" from his girlfriend there. Clarence played another 6 years in Philly before moving again at the "request" of his girlfriend to Puerto Rico. After six years in Puerto Rico, there was another "request." Clarence and Heidi now reside in the Turks & Caicos Islands on South Caicos Island. Heidi the Director at a marine Lab and Clarence is the Marine Operations Coordinator and PADI Scuba Instructor reporting to Heidi. Clarence can facilitate setting up a match versus the Turks & Caicos National Side if anyone is interested. They lost by a ton to the Old White (Atlanta) Old Boys last year.

Congratulations to Nick Baltimore

Congratulations are in order for Nick Baltimore and his new fiancé, Ashley. Nick proposed in January and plans to get married in November. Congratulations, Nick!



Congratulations to Jack Heyob

Congratulations to Jack Heyob son of Queen City's own **Ray Heyob**. Jack (Senior) earned second place in OHSAA State wrestling tournament Div.I (wt 285). Jack wrestles for St. Xavier High School and has committed to Northwestern University to continue his wrestling career. Good luck, Jack!



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Rookie Rugby in Cincinnati

Cincinnati has seen a rise in Rookie Rugby becoming a large part of the youth organizations in the city. Rookie rugby teaches rugby to boys and girls of all ages and has grown in the last three years creating a higher demand for coaches.

Queen City has answered this need for coaches as **Jeff Marshall** started coaching Rookie Rugby in the Fall season. Recently we have seen 3 current players (**Robert Grogan**, **Jason Tinch**, and **Fred Lawrence**) commit to becoming level 200 certified coaches to help the need for coaches in this youth organization.

This Spring, **Jason Tinch** and **Robert Grogan** were asked to coach a youth girls 7's rugby team. We wish them the best of luck as they head into this season to teach these young ladies how to play rugby. The Panthers will compete within Cincinnati with the goal of Rookie Rugby putting together a select Cincinnati team for a youth girls 7's tournament.

If you have a young boy or girl who is interested in playing rookie rugby, please email cincinnatirookie@rugbyohio.com.

New faces with old names...

Rookie Rugby has seen a lot of new young kids coming out from all over the Tri-state area. Most notably, the daughters of **George Ward** and **Kent "Mole" Wells**, have started playing girls 7's this Spring. We would like to wish a warm welcome and a safe season as they jump in to the sport and follow in their father's footsteps.



Adelaide Ward on the left and Molly Wells on the right.
Jennifer Ward (Mother) in the back.

Upcoming Social Events

Come join us around town for these social events!

3/17 – St. Patrick's Day at The Blind Pig

3/29 – Reds Opening Day at The Blind Pig

5/19 – Autism Walk at Coney Island

Challenge Coins

Tad Steen has taken the liberty to design and put together a Challenge Coin for QCRFC. A challenge coin is a small coin or medallion (usually military), bearing an organization's insignia or emblem and carried by the organization's members. Traditionally, they are given to prove membership when challenged and to enhance morale. In addition, they are also collected by service members. In practice, challenge coins are normally presented by unit commanders in recognition of special achievement by a member of the unit. They are also exchanged in recognition of visits to an organization.

We have ordered 100 coins and all Old Boys are welcome to have a coin. The only stipulation is you must follow the rules that come with the coin. Please email joinqueencity@gmail.com if you would like to receive your QCRFC Challenge Coin.

