

St Carthage's Rugby 10's Champions

St Carthage's Primary School 10's 2019 Rugby Union team was victorious in the recent finals of the NSW Catholic School Rugby Union competition. These finals which were held at St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill Sydney, provided the ideal setting for teams to have an enjoyable Rugby experience. The school's team performance was on a level with the school's teams from 2004, 2006 and 2007.

Teams from across NSW Catholic schools who had won their regional carnivals played in this tournament. These included teams from Randwick, Singleton, Tamworth, Terrigal, Orange, Forbes, Nowra and Lismore.

Our team started the day's game by losing 29-0 to Randwick. With each game our team improved their Rugby games with determination and team work. The closeness of the scores indicate how even the teams were in this competition. This included scores like; Orange (12-7), Tamworth (17-14) and Singleton (14-12). These wins allowed St Carthage's team to go to the grand final which was against Randwick again. The boys demonstrated a 'never give up' attitude with a try and conversion on the final siren, securing a win by 26-12.

The team work and skills from the boys was commendable. A few key moments were when Billy Drooger chased a player 50m and tackled him 5m from the try line in the grand final. The determined charges from Riley Flood and the constant backing up of Zane Taylor and Billy Beston were crucial to our overall game success. The consistent tackling efforts from Keenan Faber and Kody McQuilty deserves a mention as well. Overall, all the St Carthage's players put in action, commitment and drive which allowed them to make their best effort possible.

The success of this team has been built up over a period of time with the assistance of some very committed coaching volunteers. During this time the team has had the expertise of Dylan Tulk, a Year 12 student from Woodlawn, Liam McQuilty and John Gordon. The boys really appreciate the time and effort these people have willingly offered to assist them to reach their sporting potential.

The parental support for the St Carthage's 10's Rugby team was outstanding, which made this trip to Sydney and other venues previously, a very memorable experience for each of us.

On behalf of St Carthage's school Rugby 10's team and families I would like to thank our generous sponsors including: Telstra Lismore - for supplying the team with new jerseys, shorts and socks for the trip, Greg Clark Building, Evans Head Veterinary Service, La Baracca Espresso Bar & Trattoria - Lismore, Lismore Diocesan Investment Fund. This financial support was greatly appreciated as it assisted with the cost of travel, accommodation and meals for the boys' trip to Sydney.

Jack Sheridan - St Carthage's Primary School Rugby Manager

