

Clemson Rugby Homecoming 2011



Weekend Recap

October 2011

Dear Jim,

We are excited to send you this weekend recap as the events of Homecoming 2011 were a huge success for Clemson Rugby. The weekend's events saw a great mix of current players, alumni, parents, and faculty, as well as strong representation of both the Men's and Women's teams.

Events from the weekend included, the 2nd annual Founder's Dinner, the Annual General Meeting, the Saturday Tailgate, the Alumni Match on Sunday and the BBQ held shortly after.

Always looking to improve upon itself the CRF would like to heard any input or feedback from its members regarding the weekend as we have already begun planning for next year.

2nd Annual Founder's Dinner

The second annual Founder's Dinner was held Thursday night and saw over 20 people in attendance. The night started off at around 6:30pm with a warm thank you note from the team and progressed into a cocktail hour and later into dinner. In attendance for the Founder's Dinner were three university employees, two members of the coaching staff, two members from our founding team, Dave Huff and Reade Baxley, and the rest of the patrons were filled out by Alumni. There were many great stories told, and as the night came to a close around 10pm everyone had a fun time and enjoyed the night of camaraderie.

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Annual General Meeting

We kicked off Friday Night with the AGM. Attendance was up from years previous and saw many new faces , great discussion and interest in how we can do more for rugby. The meeting started off with a review of the clubs goals and accomplishments by current CURFC

President, Spencer Hutchinson. Afterwards our Director of Finance, Andras Bende, reviewed the strong financial position of the CRF , our planned support and budget, all were well received by the members who were present. After the presentations a discussion about what the CRF

The Foundation is working on setting up a formal professional networking effort. There are several members looking for jobs and a phone call or knowledge of a job would go along way to help. We are also working on expanding our presence on LinkedIn to also help with this effort.

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could be doing to better support the clubs. Topics ranged from scholarships to field and facility upgrades.

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The meeting progressed into the nominations and voting of the 2011-12 Board members. The previous years board were reelected to the same positions. The newest addition was the Scholarship Committee Chair. Those positions and members are:

President - Jim Gaine
Director of Finance - Andras Bende
Director of Membership - James Baxter
Director of Competitions - Shawn Hanna
Director of Public Relations - Darius Samii

Scholarship Committee Chair - Robert Bortins

After the meeting everyone headed over to the fields to watch the men take on Kennesaw St. The Tigers took an early 3-0 lead only to be tied shortly after. While tied for only a short while, the Tigers put another 3 points on the board to take the lead and they did not look back again. After 7 more tries by Clemson Kennesaw St. put another 5 points on the board late in the game but it was too late at that point with the final score of 56-8. A well deserved Clemson win.



Football Tailgate


The Clemson Rugby Foundation hosted another successful rugby alumni homecoming tailgate this year. The tailgate hosted alumni from many different decades, including one of the original members of the club, Reade Baxley. As in previous years, food and beverages were provided to members of

the foundation and their guests. The tailgate provided a great opportunity for many friends to catch-up in person, discuss the rugby world cup and prepare to watch the football game. After the successful conclusion to the football game against Boston College, many members returned to the tailgate to continue to socialize. Many thanks to CRF member Reed Brogan for organizing the tailgate for the third year in a row.

Alumni Match & BBQ

The Alumni matches started early Sunday morning with the Women's match. The Clemson Old Women (COWs) were well represented and the field was full prepped and cleaned in time for kick off. The Clemson Women put up a nice effort but were no match for the COWs in the end.

The Men's match began shortly after and had a tremendous showing by alumni and players, with at least 45 alumni in attendance. Another tough game fought by the alumni and players but the result was the same as the COWs game and the Men's Alumni came away with a victory from a young college side.

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After both games everyone headed over to Overtime for the post match BBQ social. Another great turnout by both men's and women's players, alumni, families and supporters. Those in attendance held some discussions in regards to the CRF and what we are doing as an organization. The growth of the CRF was stressed, where we are going and how the Foundation is growing to help rugby at Clemson.

As the excitement turned into contributions for the Foundation, the hunger that had been worked up from the earlier games was palpable. Luckily the BBQ was ready to go and was quite delicious and Overtime did a wonderful job hosting the annual family friendly event.

Jim Gaine, James Baxter and Andras Bende made announcements thanking all attendees, CRF Members, coaches and players for their support. Andras then awarded financial support to the Clemson Women with a check for \$750. He also had a check for the Clemson Men for \$375 via the Clemson Partners Program with two local men's clubs (Greenville \$250/Columbia \$125). Andy VanEvera also awarded the Clemson Women with proceeds from ETWAS, the Russ Moore Memorial Fundraiser.

Another Successful Weekend

Overall, the CRF oversaw another very successful weekend. The Foundation did a great job to impress upon the Members and potential Members our professional structure and passion for Clemson Rugby's success. We successfully added new members while increasing the contribution amount of existing Members. We are in a strong financial position, however it is essential to grow our membership to continue our success. This weekend went a long way to achieve our goals this year. The efforts of the CRF are now focused on a strong post homecoming communication so that we can see our goal of 100 members achieved. We know that with your support we can reach the Foundation's goals and in-turn help the Men's and Women's rugby clubs reach their goals.

Thank you for your continued support of the Clemson Rugby Foundation!

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